

1857
Evidentiary Document No. 5445.

SYNOPSIS - NEW BRITAIN

The next section deals with the treatment of prisoners of war and civilians in New Britain. The proof offered will be entirely documentary.

Prosecution Document No. 5311 is record of evidence given by Private William Cook of 2/10 Australian Field Ambulance. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

The deponent says that on 4th February, 1942, the Japanese captured a party of 24 Australian soldiers and one civilian at Tol in New Britain. The soldiers were Army Medical Corps men and drew the attention of the Japanese to their Red Cross armbands. The Japs ripped their armbands off. I will now read the third, fourth and fifth paragraphs on page 3 of the document.

Prosecution Document No. 5312 is a record of evidence of Driver Wilkie Desmond Collins of 2/10 Australian Field Ambulance. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence

Collins was one of a party of 123 Australian soldiers captured by the Japs at Tol. They were broken up into parties of ten or twelve and marched into the bush. The members of his party were bayoneted or shot. He himself was shot but escaped after feigning death.

Prosecution Document No. 5313 is a record of the evidence of Private Hugh Joseph Webster of 2/22nd. Australian Infantry Battalion. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

The deponent says that on 4th February, 1942, he and eleven other Australian soldiers were captured by the Japanese at Waitavlo in New Britain, tied up and shot. Ten were killed. The deponent and one other man were wounded.

Prosecution Document No. 5400 is an affidavit made by Lieutenant WONG YO SIN of 200 Battalion, 67 Division, Chinese National Army. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

The deponent says that ten Chinese soldiers, whom he names, were shot and killed by the Japs at Labaul on 29th January, 1943, because they were too sick to work.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5402 is an affidavit made by Major LEE WAI SIN of 3rd. Field Volunteer Army. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent says that on 4th February, 1943, at Labaul the Japanese shot and killed six Chinese officers and soldiers because they were too ill to work.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5393 is record of evidence given by Captain LIU WEI TAO of the Chinese National Army. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The affiant states that at Labaul on 3rd. March, 1943, the Japanese took 24 sick Chinese soldiers from the sick quarters, forced them into a grave that had already been dug and shot them all. On the 10th March, 1943, a further batch of six Chinese soldiers who were ill were killed by the Japanese in the same manner.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5404 is an affidavit made by Captain YUNG FANG TAE of Central Volunteer Chinese Army Headquarters. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent states that on 3rd. April, 1943, eleven sick Chinese soldiers were executed with swords, because they were too ill to work.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5405 is record of evidence of Corporal Shier Tchen TSE of Chinese National Army. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The document refers to the same killing as the previous exhibit. It fixes KOKOPO as the place of execution.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5406 is an affidavit made by Captain CHEUNG YEE YU of 3rd. Fd. Volunteer Army. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

I will read the first two paragraphs of this affidavit.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5407 is an affidavit made by Lieutenant Tan Bai Ming of Central Chinese Volunteer Army. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent states that on 2nd. November, 1943, at KAI AWAT Aerodrome the Japanese killed by shooting a Chinese soldier who was too ill to work.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5408 is an affidavit by Corporal PANG NAM TING of 88th Division. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

Deponent states that on 26th July, 1944, at Rabaul a Chinese soldier was clubbed to death by the Japanese because he was too ill to work.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5409 is a record of evidence of Mrs. LEE YITSAI KUNYANG of Chinatown, Rabaul. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence

.....

The deponent is 59 years of age. In April, 1943, because of having a radio set she was beaten by the Japanese until she fainted. Her six sons were also beaten and finally one was beheaded.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5217 is an affidavit made jointly by 1st. Lieutenant James A. McLUKHA, 2nd. Lieutenant Jose L. HOLQUIN and 2nd. Lieutenant Alphonse D. QUINONES all of 5th U.S. Air Force. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

I will read the 4th paragraph of the affidavit.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5438 is a statement made by Captain John J. MURPHY of Allied Intelligence Bureau. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence

.....

I will read this statement.

Prosecution Document No. 5410 is an affidavit made by MAUTA LEONARD, a native boy. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent states that at Tobera Airfield a Japanese struck a native who retaliated by punching the Japanese in the eye. The native boy and four other native boys were tied up. The Japanese then struck them all on the head with a mallet. Three were killed in this manner. The whole five, including two who were still alive were then buried.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5433 is a record of an Australian Military Court in relation to trial of Navy Workman KIKAWA, Haruo on two charges of murder. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

This refers to the same happening as the previous exhibit. It fixes the time of the happening as August, 1943.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5412 consists of affidavits of Sweeper GIANI and Pioneer LUNCI KOBE, both of Indian Army. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponents say that in May, 1944, an Indian named FAKIRA was beaten by the Japs and then hung.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5414 is a record of the evidence of JEM QUTUBUDDIN of 1st. Battalion Hyderabad Infantry. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent with a party of 35 Indian was at NISHIZAKIYAMA in November, 1944, as prisoners of war. They were starved by the Japanese. Two sepcoys were alleged by the Japanese to have stolen rice. They were taken away and executed by the Japanese without any trial.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5413 is a Statutory Declaration made by a native named NUMA. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The declarant states that between December, 1944, and March, 1945, at NANGAGUA Japanese took a mosquito net and some calico from three Indian prisoners of war. The Indians objected to this, whereupon the Japanese had them beheaded.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5411 is affidavit of Pioneer PARASURAM of the Indian Army. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent states that on 12 February, 1945, an Indian BINDHU LISTHI became exhausted at his work and asked the Japanese commander for permission to rest. The prisoner was then beaten into unconsciousness by the Japanese Commander. The prisoner died two days later as a result of this treatment.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5416 is an affidavit by Havildar Chandgi RAM of the Indian Army. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

I will read the 2nd. and third paragraphs.

.....

THAT COMPLETES THE EVIDENCE FOR THE NEW BRITAIN SECTION OF THIS PHASE.

WILLIAM COOK

NX56978, PRIVATE WILLIAM COOK, Details, 2/10 Field Ambulance, being duly sworn, states:

I am NX56978, Private William Cook of Details, 2/10 Field Ambulance.

I was a member of the original Details of 2/10 Field Ambulance which was sent to RABAU, sailing from here on the 12th March, 1941, and I remained with the Field Ambulance in NEW BRITAIN until the evacuation.

I was present with the Field Ambulance when orders were given on the 22nd. January, 1942, at about 1500 hours for the hospital to be evacuated from NAMANULA to the VUNAPOPE Mission site. I assisted during the movement of patients and equipment. I was in charge of the Isolation Dysentery ward at NAMANULA, and afterwards at VUNAPOPE.

On the morning of the 24th January, at about 0600 hours I received orders from Major Palmer, O.C. of the Ambulance, for the evacuation of the Ambulance personnel to MALABUNGA. It was understood that all sick and wounded patients were being left at VUNAPOPE, and, in order that they might be looked after, volunteers from the Ambulance personnel were called for to remain to look after the patients, and from those who volunteered, two were chosen - Private Max Langdon and Corporal L. Hudson. In addition to our own military patients who were being left behind, I know that the following civilian personnel also remained at VUNAPOPE when our party left, that is, two civilian medical assistants from the RAPENDIK Native Hospital two male members of the Public Health Department and seven civilian nurses from the RABAU District, together with a few civilians whose names I do not recall.

At about 0700 hours a convoy of the Details of the 2/10 Field Ambulance left from VUNAPOPE, and the party proceeded towards MALABUNGA.

Just before we got to MALABUNGA, we met a party of troops with a patient who had a broken leg. We took him on to MALABUNGA with us. At MALABUNGA, Major Palmer divided us into two parties. Five of the Details of the 2/10 Field Ambulance, two of the Dental Unit and one civilian stayed at MALABUNGA. The rest of the party proceeded towards the coast. I stayed with the first named party.

During the afternoon, two members of the Dental Unit and a civilian made off, leaving us, with the permission of Captain Robertson who was in charge of that party. About an hour later one of the Dental party returned. During the afternoon, Japanese planes flew very low overhead, and the same

the next morning, so Captain Robertson decided to push on. One of the 2/10 - the Dental Unit man who had returned - volunteered to stay behind with the patients. Captain Robertson, Robert Hennessey and Pearsall and myself then moved off towards the south coast at about midday on Saturday the 24th. We proceeded to LAMINGI MISSION where our party caught up with Major Palmer and the bulk of the details of the 2/10 Field Ambulance. There were also other troops in this body and, after we arrived, the total strength would be about 18. From here the party moved on under arrangements supervised by Major Palmer in parties of varying numbers, each party being separated some distance from the other. I was in one of the leading parties, and Major Palmer with a party brought up the rear to watch for stragglers and to generally supervise and control.

About the 29th my party arrived at ADLER BAY and we stayed there for three days.

The first party to leave ADLER BAY was Captain Robertson's comprising two of the 2/10, one man temporarily attached to the 2/10, with Captain Robertson. They left about the morning of the 31st. January. Another party of three left on the Saturday night, and six of us left on the Sunday morning, all making in the direction of WIDE BAY. Major Palmer with his party which consisted of a Sergeant and a Private went by another track right round ADLER BAY. He moved off on the Sunday morning and on Monday morning, 2nd. February, we caught up with the two men who were with Major Palmer, they having waited behind for us. That was about a day's journey from TOL.

The next day - the 2nd. February - we continued towards TOL. At this stage we saw the Japanese landing craft at about 0900 hours proceeding towards TOL, although we did not know that at the time. We then left a notice on a piece of paper on a bush on the track warning any troops following that the Japanese had been seen.

On Wednesday the 4th, when going along the track at about 0930 hours, we met Staff Sergeant Bower of the 2/22 Battalion. He informed us that the Japanese had left TOL, but not to move on until he made sure. He went on ahead - on reconnaissance. We waited just off the track, four of us having a game of cards and the other four cooking some food. Our first intimation that the Japs were there was when the four who were cooking ran past us, muttering "The Japs are on us." We were at the edge of the jungle. I myself ran into the jungle and hid. I saw my seven mates walk out with their hands up, so I went back with them. This was roughly about 1030 hours. We were taken to the main track under a party of Japanese in charge of whom was a Sergeant. He indicated by signs that he was a Sergeant.

We were searched for firearms and were allowed to sit down awaiting the rest of the Japanese party. Small parties

of Japanese came up with us with other prisoners until there were 23 prisoners in all.

Our identification discs were taken. By an officer we were given a book in which to sign our names and numbers.

When the party was about to move off, another Australian soldier crawled up to us, showing signs of fatigue, and complaining of hunger. We were told to treat him, and two of our men were detailed to carry him. The rest of us carried ammunition and a few rifles which the Japanese had capture.

About a quarter of a mile along the track, the two who were carrying the patient were, by signs, told to leave him on the ground, and we were marched off, a Japanese soldier staying behind with the patient. Shortly after, the Japanese soldier caught up with us, and we saw no more of the patient.

Just before reaching TOL, a civilian European policeman from RABAU and another soldier were added to our party, making it 25 all told. On arriving at TOL, the Japanese soldiers were allowed to ransack our packs and to search for anything which may have been of value to them. Rings and watches were taken from us.

We were told to put everything out of our pockets on to the ground, and our pay books were collected. They then tied our hands behind our backs with fishing cord, and we were tied together in parties of twos and threes. They then separated from us the European member of the police force. They then took off our tin hats, and as we were marched off, they were questioning the member of the police force. They marked us to a plantation about half a mile from TOL in the direction of RABAU. We were, by signs, told to sit down on a slight rise on the track leading into the plantation, with our back towards the plantation. At this stage we protested against the treatment, as we were of the Red Cross, and each of us wore a Red Cross arm band. The officer-in-charge just ripped our arm bands off our sleeves and kept them in his hand.

They started to take the men down the track in parties, but the first man was taken down separately. Then we followed in groups of two or three. I was in the second last party consisting of three. There were two in the last party.

The officer, by signs, asked us would we sooner be bayoneted or shot. We asked to be shot. We were taken down the track. When we reached the bottom of the track, three other Japanese with fixed bayonets intercepted us and walked behind us. The first blow knocked the

They then stabbed us in the back with their bayonets. The first blow knocked the three of us to the ground. Our thumbs were tied behind our backs and native lap lops were used to connect us together through our arms. They stood above us and stabbed us several more times. I received five stabs. I pretended death and held my breath.

9 The Japanese then walked away. The soldier who was lying next to me groaned. One Japanese came back and stabbed him again. I could not hold my breath any longer, and when I breathed he heard it and stabbed me another six times. The last thrust went through my ear, face and into my mouth, severing an artery which caused the blood to gush out of my mouth. He then placed cocoanut fronds and vines over the three of us. I lay there and heard the last two men being shot.

I lay there for approximately one hour, when I decided to try to escape. I untied the cloth which connected me with the other two and walked towards the sea, which was about 50 yards away. After a few steps, I collapsed. It seemed only a short time before I regained consciousness. I then tried to saw the bonds from my thumbs on the iron heel of my boot, but could not do so because my thumbs were swollen. After a short while, I managed to get my leg between my two hands and I chewed at the knot until it became undone. I then walked towards the beach. I made my way along the beach, walking as much as possible in the water to avoid leaving traces of blood and at the same time bathing my back in the salt water. Just at dusk I sighted the smoke of a camp fire in the jungle near the beach, and made towards it.

After about 10 hours - as far as I can gather - I rested as near as I could judge near to where the fire was and had a few hours sleep. When I awoke I found the path leading towards this camp, and I followed it and found a small party of soldiers camped there. Colonel Scanlan was in charge of this party. I told him what had happened, and he dressed two of my wounds, not having sufficient material to do the rest.

I was allowed to sleep for a few hours, and when I awoke I was given some food to eat and then sent from there along the track with a native to find another party. Before meeting up with anybody else, the native left me and I walked a short distance and went into the bush for a rest.

Shortly afterwards a party of three soldiers came along the track. I attracted their attention and after a short conversation we decided to climb the mountains so as to go around the Japanese at TOL. After a week spent trying to climb the mountains we finished up exactly where we started. Then a native told us the Japanese had left and offered to guid us to the next mission. We passed through TOL till we came to a big river and were taken across by canoe and landed on a small island. We

stayed there for the night and next morning were making arrangements with other natives who had come along in the meantime to make a raft and so to cross another river.

Just then, a Japanese cruiser was sighted coming into TOL, so we swam on to the mainland and went bush for a while. We met another party of soldiers and the four of us kept on. Eventually I met up with Major Palmer. That was about the end of February, and from then on I was with his party until the evacuation. We came out from the South Coast.

BY THE COURT: After shaming dead at TOL, on your escape did you see any dead bodies of other Australian soldiers?---Yes, I saw three. I did not see others on account of the parties being taken to separate parts of the plantation.

You do not know the names of any of these three?---No, I do not.

Was there anything, to your knowledge, done by our troops when taken prisoner to warrant this massacre?---Definitely not.

(sgd) NX56978
Pte. W. Cook
5/6/42.

Certified true copy

(sgd) T. F. Mornane Lieut. Col.
Australian Military Forces.

WILKIE DESMOND COLLINS.

SYDNEY, MONDAY, 8th JUNE, 1942, AT 12 NOON.

NX57343 DRIVER WILKIE DESMOND COLLINS, 2/10 F.A., being duly sworn, states:

I am NX57343, DRIVER WILKIE DESMOND COLLINS, 2/10 Field Ambulance. I arrived in New Britain in March, 1941, and remained with the 2/10 Field Ambulance until evacuated. Throughout this period I was at the hospital at NAMANULA, RABAU, until the day before the Japanese landing. On that date I took a load of wounded to VUNAPOE MISSION near KOKOPO where they were taken in. The civilian nurses were already at VUNAPOE. The Army nurses arrived while I was there. The hospital was set up at the Mission Hospital. The Army and civilian nurses were quartered at the Mission two or three hundred yards from the hospital.

I left about 0800 on the day of the landing with an ambulance to go to TOMA expecting to pick up wounded. I was in a convoy with several trucks. We got to TOMA but there was nothing there so we went to MALABUNGA and set up a hospital at the Mission there under Major Palmer and Captain Robertson. We were there nearly all day, and then all troops were evacuated from the north to the hills and expected to continue fighting there. One of our medical officers picked out a number of medical volunteers to go with the troops, and I volunteered. We walked for two days in the hills and carried supplies and kept on going without any organisation, and could not find headquarters; so we kept going. Someone sprang a rumour that we were going to be evacuated from some point on the coast. We reached the coast at ADLER BAY. We were there for two days, and many of the chaps were footsore and a couple of our chaps remained with them, and we were going further down the coast where there was supposed to be a teleradio. I did not get down that far, but was captured at TOL.

BY THE COURT: What happened when you got to Tol? Tell us how you came to be captured, what happened afterwards, and how you got away?---We were just past ROSS's plantation, and on the edge of the first of three rivers a lot of men were trying to cross. We were awaiting our turn, and five Japanese barges came into the bay and started shelling troops in the village, and machine gunning them, so we ran up the river to a point where we were able to wade across. We eventually crossed the three rivers, and at a Mission there there were Clissold and myself. Two barges landed, and we were caught there. We did not see them coming into the beach. They fired mortars and machine guns across the Mission and we dived into a creek. There was a party of Japanese above us, and they took us back and put us on one of the barges and took us to another plantation further south in the direction in which we were originally going. It was dark when they reached the shore, so they went back to Ross's plantation, just near TOL.

Were there any other Australians on the barges besides you two?---A civilian policeman named Noltz. They put us ashore at Ross's near TOL.

Up to that time, had they treated you well?---Yes, quite well.

Had they fed you?---No; but one chap gave us some of his rations; and they gave us cigarettes.

T.D. Collins (cont.)

Did they put you ashore at TOL?---Yes, at midnight, and all the troops they had captured in the morning were in that village. They put us in a hut in which there were about 60. At daybreak they took us out and took our names and numbers on a piece of paper, and later they lined us up and counted us, and they marched us to TOL. There were 123. The Japanese counted us in English and he said there should be more, and asked what happened to them. Then they marched the whole party to TOL about a mile away. At TOL we sat down for a while and then they took our identity discs and gave some of them back and then took them again, and then they took all our personal belongings and pay books and tied us up in parties of 10 or 12 after having tied our hands behind our backs. Some more chaps walked down then, and they were captured. They marched us back towards RABAU on the track of the plantation and the parties broke off the track into the undergrowth.

How far was that from the house?---About a quarter of a mile.

What time of day was this?---About 1000 hours. Then they told us to sit down. All the parties went in different directions, and I could see only our own party of 12. An officer pulled out a sword and he cut one joker loose and he walked him into the bush signalling him to go. He followed with a fixed bayonet. I heard a scream, and the Japanese soldier came back wiping his bayonet. Another two or three went like that. One broke loose and jumped up and tried to run for it, and the officer hit him with his sword and then shot him. One chap asked to be shot - in my presence - and the officer shot him with an automatic revolver. Clissold got up with the Red Cross on his arm and tried to tell him that he was in the 2/10 Field Ambulance, but the Japanese just ripped off the arm band and took it.

Did the Japanese say anything?---No. I was the last one left, and the Japanese troops were away in the bush and the officer was left by himself. He put away his sword and took a rifle. He motioned me to get up and to walk. I took a few paces and he shot me through the shoulder. I fell on the ground and kept still. He fired again and he hit me through both wrists and in the back. He decided he had finished me, and he went away. I could not move for about a quarter of an hour. The bullet which went through my wrist had cut the line with which I had been tied, and I got up and made off into the bush.

Did you see any of the bodies of your mates before you left?---I saw about half a dozen bodies of my mates on the ground.

Had they covered you with leaves?---No.

Had they covered any of the others?---No. The men were just lying on the ground. I got up and walked about a mile and crawled into a big clump of bush at the foot of a range of hills and remained there for a few days. Then I climbed up to the top of the range and walked along, and came back through the bush to the house on Ross's plantation where they had been and the Japs had gone. I went into the hut and found a lot of bananas so I stayed there a couple of days and went to the place where we had been searched, to try to find any equipment that would be of use, but I found everything had been burned. I found two chaps, who had been bayoneted, in one of the huts.

W.D. Collins (cont.)

Do you know their names?---I had nothing with which to write their names down. They told me their names. I took them back to Ross's place where the bananas were and put them in the house. One of them was very bad, and the other chap might have lived. After putting them there I stayed there for a while, and eventually a party of civilians came. The party comprised W.O. Feetun, Mr. Crawley, Mr. Sexton and Mr. Palmer. I had been trying to get to the missionary to get the priest to look after these chaps, and I could not get over the rivers. When the civilians came, I went with them towards the mission. We just crossed the last of the rivers when a destroyer came into the harbour, and we went into the bush and stayed there two days. When we came out to see what was doing, the destroyer was just going out of ADLER BAY, and Ross's house was on fire. That was two days after I left the TOL plantation. We went on from there and came to a plantation, and just before the missionary had made arrangements with the planter there to feed us. Then a party from the north coast came to pick us up. It was Mr. Holland's party, and he went back to the north coast. Some other chaps who came along said they found two bodies in the house. I then came under Captain Appel's orders and eventually went to IBOKE and from there I was evacuated on the "Lakatoi".

What was your condition when you came out on the "Lakatoi"?---I was still pretty sick.

How was the treatment from the time you got back to the north coast?---It was good.

And on the "Lakatoi"?---Good. I could not have got better treatment. Mrs. Baker, Mr. Frank Holland and Capt. Appel did everything they could for us.

Did you see any officer there dressed in Australian uniform with the Japanese? ---No, but one of the wounded I took to Mrs. Ross's house told me that there was a Scotsman with the Japanese who said he had joined the Japanese to fight the Chinese, and could not get out of fighting the Australians for the Japs. This man did not say how that officer was dressed.

Do you know anything about a party of 23 who surrendered on the beach?---I did not see it; but I saw the Japanese separating them.

When they lined you up and counted you, did they separate them?--- When they took us to TOL plantation and took our discs away, I think it was an attempt then to find those who had surrendered. They separated those chaps.

Was anything said about it?---The Japanese were arguing about it, and the Australians were arguing, too.

What was the argument about?---There were 22 surrendered in one place on the beach and another 20 somewhere else, and they all reckoned they all surrendered at the same time, and they were arguing about that. The Japanese did not agree, and said there were only 22. They separated 22 from the rest.

Did you see any incident or anything happen which might have led to some Japanese retaliation?---No, I did not see anything at all.

5312

4.

W.D. Collins (cont.)

was there any resistance by any of you after you were taken prisoner - any breakaway, or anything?---Unless it was that when they counted us and found there were 123 and said there should be more. Some of them might have escaped in the night.

However, the Japanese gave you no explanation nor did they say anything which would give you an idea of what was in their minds?---No.

As far as you could see, the behaviour of the troops after capture was correct and as it should have been?---Yes. I have no idea why it was done.

Is there anything else you could bring in which would help us?---I think I gave Colonel Hoare a statement.

Did you see any of the men actually being bayoneted?---Yes.

Not being taken into the bush at all?---Only the last couple, who were just near me.

I suppose the Japanese soldiers who did the bayoneting were ordered to do it?---I did not hear an order given by anyone at any time.

It was apparently all pre-arranged?---Yes.

(Sgd.) NX57343
W.D. Collins.

Certified true copy.

J.F. Mornane
..... Lieut. Col.
Australian Military Forces.

HUGH JOSEPH WEBSTER.

VX23821, PRIVATE HUGH JOSEPH WEBSTER, 2/22nd Battalion, D Company, being duly sworn, states:-

I am VX23821, Private Hugh Joseph Webster, 2/22nd Battalion, D Company.

I went to RABAU with the 2/22 Battalion and was there till after the Japanese landing.

After the Japanese landing the Company retired into the bush and I went with it, and I made my way down to the South Coast with other members of the battalion.

We arrived in the vicinity of TOL about February the 3rd, in the late afternoon. There were eight in our party, all of the 2/22.

On arrival at TOL we set about trying to get some food. We got a sheep and a bit of corn and cooked it. We slept the night in a native hut in the TOL plantation. There were eight of us in the hut.

Next morning we ate for breakfast what food was left from the night before, and lay down again. There was a river ahead, and we were trying to organise a crossing of the river. While we were lying on the bunks there was a bit of a commotion outside. We went out to have a look and looked out to sea and could see sampans out in the Bay. We packed all our stuff in a hurry and went into the bush again. On the way to the bush we heard a type of mortar firing. We slept in the bush on the night of the 4th.

In the morning, it was our idea that the Japs would not stay long, so we posted two sentries to watch the Japs at the native huts. The sentries came rushing back and said a Japanese patrol was coming up. The patrol surrounded us and took us prisoners. We had picked up three more men by this time and were a party of eleven, and the only arms in the party was a revolver carried by Cpl. Walker. The Japs surrounded us and took us prisoner at about 9 or 10 in the morning. They made a search of the surrounding bush to see if there were any more and then took us to Japanese headquarters at WAITAVLO.

There was only our party at the Japanese headquarters at WAITAVLO at the time. There they gave us two sheets of paper. We had to sign our names and numbers twice. They took our identification discs from us and also all our personal belongings. Then they tied our hands behind our backs with rope and marched us just up behind WAITAVLO House, about 200 yards. There was a big group of Japanese at the Headquarters, cleaning machine guns and rifles and doing odd jobs and the Japanese that went with us behind WAITAVLO House numbered between 20 and 30.

There was a bit of cliff and they lined us up along that. They would not let us face them. We were not linked together. They then opened on us with rifles and light machine guns. I was wounded in the arm and side and fell down and lost consciousness.

at cliff
edge
machine
gun

H.J. Webster. (cont.)

I eventually recovered consciousness, and the Japs had gone. On recovering consciousness, I definitely saw the other ten of my mates lying there on the ground. I examined them and found that Private Walkley was still alive. I got him to his feet and he and I went down into a bit of a gully. We were there for about three days. We then decided to set off, and we went through the thick bush. Walkley was in pretty bad condition. I was going ahead and missed him. I came back to find him, sang out and looked for him, but I was not able to find him at all and I thought he must have died in the bush.

I then went on by myself. While going on by myself I had only gone a short distance when I came on a number of bodies of other victims. I could not say definitely the number but, on a rough estimate, there would be about eight or nine. They were covered with coconut fronds. They were definitely Australian troops. I did not see them sufficiently to identify them.

I was eventually picked up by a party with Col. Scanlon and ultimately came out on the south coast with Major Palmer and Major Owen. I made a quick recovery from my bullet wounds.

I did not see anything which might have given the Japanese any ground for attack on our party. We were an unarmed party as far as they were concerned. We even throw away the revolver before they came up.

There was a Japanese officer who spoke English. I did not see any officer with them dressed in Australian uniform. There were local natives working for the Japanese at the headquarters.

I have given the names of my party to Records.

The evidence is read over to the witness.

(Sgd.) HUGH J. WEBSTER.

Certified true copy.

T. F. Moran
.....Lieut. Col.
Australian Military Forces.

1855A

Evidentiary Document No. 5400.

Lieut. WONG YO SIN of 200 Bn. 67 Div. Chinese National Army,
having been called on 16 Oct. 1945 and duly sworn, states:-

Pte CHOW KWONG PIT of my Battalion and Pte LONG MIN of my Battalion were killed by shooting by Japanese because they were too ill to work. They were shot by Pte SHIGEO and two Formosans, TAIWUN LIN YE and ORGABA YASI. All are from Jap Supplies Depot. This occurred in RABAU on 25 Jan 43. They were both shot at the same time.

These men with others had been confined in a small space in the ship's hold since leaving SHANGHAI. There was insufficient ventilation and the men became ill. On arrival at RABAU when all were disembarked, these two men were too sick to move and the Japanese immediately took them off the ship and shot them in the bush. I saw this happen. The shooting occurred two hours after we disembarked.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by him.

(Signed) WONG YO SIN

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, TIMOTHY MAK do hereby certify that this statement was made by Lieut WONG YO SIN in Chinese and after same had been written in English was read back to Witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of the Witness' evidence.

(Signed) TIMOTHY MAK
Timothy Mak

(Signed) A. A. McLennan Capt.
CA.T A. A. McLELLAN

18576A

Evidentiary Document No. 5401.

Major LEE WAI SIN of the 3rd. Fd. Volunteer Army, having been ~~examined~~
on 17 Oct. 45 and duly sworn, states:-

called

Private SO LIN SUNG
" SUI YOONG CHEONG
" SIN SIT MING
" GOR TAI YEE
" CHAI SEE DOE
" YEE SUNG PING
" GO TAI YORE
" CHOW KUI SANG
" PAN YOUNG MING
" CHICK CHUI SUNG

The above mentioned names, members of 3rd. Fd. Volunteer Army, were killed by shooting by Japanese because they were too ill to work. They were shot by Corporal AYIZAWA HARUSAKO and a Formosan, HAYASI HACHIMA both from Supplies Depot. This occurred in RABAU Jan 29th 43. They were shot at the same time.

These men with others had been confined in a small space in the ship's hold since leaving SHANGHAI. There was insufficient ventilation and little to eat. These men became ill. On arrival at RABAU when all were disembarked, the above mentioned men were too sick to move and had no strength to work for the Japs. They have no medical men to attend them, no medicines and little to eat. The Japs took them into the bush and shot them. I saw this happen.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by him.

(Signed) LEE WAI SIN
2 i/c

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, TIMOTHY MAK do hereby certify that this statement was made by Major LEE WAI SIN in Chinese and after same had been written down in English was read back to Witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of the Witness' evidence.

(Signed) TIMOTHY MAK

(Signed) Capt. Lan Yet Chai.

Major LEE WAI SIN of the 3rd. Fd. Volunteer Army, having been called on 18 Oct. 45 and duly sworn, states:

Private CHEE YOKE LIN
" LOOK SOON CHING
" SING JEE MING
Serjeant PUN CHAN MING
2nd.Ltd. CHAN KUE MING
" PUN YEN JOONG

The above mentioned men, members of my formation, were killed by shooting by Japanese because they were too ill to work. They were shot by Corporal AYIZAWA HARU SAKO and a Formosan, TAKE HYASHI TSURUICHI, both are from Supplies Depot. This occurred in RABAU 4 Feb 43. They were shot at the same time.

These men with others had been confined in a small space in a ship's hold since leaving SHANGHAI. There was insufficient ventilation and little to eat. These men became ill. On arrival at RABAU when all men were disembarked the above mentioned were too sick to move and had no strength to work for the Japs. They have no medical men to attend them, no medicines and very little to eat. The Japs took them into the bush and shot them.

I saw this happen.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by Witness.

(Signed) LEE WAI SIN
2 i/c.

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, TIMOTHY MAK do hereby certify that this statement was made by Major LEE WAI SIN in Chinese and after same had been written down in English was read back to Witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of the Witness' evidence.

(Signed) TIMOTHY MAK

(Signed) Capt. LAN YET CHAI

EXHIBIT "A"

E.C. MILLIKIN Major
President

10 April, 1946.

"We cannot understand the Japanese"

LIU WEI PAO being duly sworn is examined by the Prosecutor through interpreter J.S.R. Ferguson.

My full name and rank is Liu Wei Pao. I am a Capt. in the Chinese National Army. I came to Rabaul in 1943. It was in Jan. 1943. I was a POW controlled by the Japanese Army. I was living in Rabaul on 3rd. March 43. I know all of the men referred to as deceased in charge one. All these men were soldiers in the Chinese National Army. All these men were POW the same as myself. I last saw these men on 3rd. March 43. I know a Japanese named Matsushima. On the first day we arrived in Rabaul I met Matsushima. I can now see the man referred to as Matsushima (witness indicates accused Matsushima) I know a Japanese Ayizawa. I can now see him. (witness indicates accused Ayizawa). Those two men are members of a Japanese Supply Depot. I know a Formosan named Hayasi. I can now see him. (witness indicates accused Hayasi) I know a man called Okabayashi (witness indicates accused Okabayashi). I know a man named Kiohara (witness indicates accused Kiohara) I know a man named Yanagawa. (witness indicates accused Yanagawa) I know a Formosan known as Shimura. (witness indicates accused Shimura) I know a Formosan known as Furuya. (witness indicates accused Okabayashi) Witness points to each accused and identifies each by name. On 3rd. March 43 at about 8 o'clock I remember a Japanese truck coming into our camp. When the truck arrived in our camp area, Japanese and Formosans got down from the truck. There were approximately 14 in the truck, seven of whom would be Japanese and 7 Formosans. Those men came across to our living quarters. With me in the living quarters was Major Lee and Lt. Wong. All these accused were among the fourteen men. Ayizawa said to Major Lee and Lt. Wong and myself "Come with us to where the sick Chinese are." We three Chinese officers did as we were instructed. Each of the accused in court were with the party including us three Chinese officers which went to the place where the sick men were. Ayizawa instructed me to detail eight Chinese proceed to the mountain and dig a pit. I went with the eight Chinese soldiers and supervised the digging of the pit. After the Chinese had dug a very large pit I returned to our quarters and reported to Ayizawa. When I came back and reported to Ayizawa, Major Lee and Lt. Wong were with me. Ayizawa was at our quarters at this time. The party including the three Chinese officers as well as Ayizawa and each of the accused in Court together with a few others went to the sick Chinese quarters. The other few whom I referred to were a few of our own Chinese troops who were working around the area. Ayizawa instructed all the sick Chinese to get outside the sick quarters. He then proceeded to count them and counted 26. Ayizawa left the party for a few minutes and went in the direction

of his quarters. By quarters I mean in the direction of the building which the Japanese occupied when they were on duty. Within a few minutes he returned with two rifles and two pistols. He had the assistance of a Formosan to bring back these weapons. Ayizawa then instructed Major Lee to have each of the sick men taken to the mountain. When we had completed approximately half the journey to the pit, two Chinese soldiers ran away. Chiu Youn Sie and Bie Din Youn were the two men who ran away. I know these two men because they are at present living with us. These two men were among the 26 who were counted outside the sick quarters. To my memory they were suffering from Malaria. Two of the sick people were carried on the backs of others because of ulcers on the feet. The remaining 24 including the two that escaped went on foot. Major Lee and Lt. Wong were with me together with this party when we arrived at the hole. I know: Pte DOU CHIN CHUA, Pte Woo Shi Chan, Pte WIN VIE TSUN, Pte LO CHEE SUN, Pte FUO LAE KIN, Pte LOU SUN FONA, Pte CHUN SUE GEN, Pte WONG SUN TOI, Pte FONG WEI SIE, Pte LIU PAO SUN, Cpl TSON VIN LING. The men to whom I referred were all at the pit at this time. Each of the accused were present at the pit. Ayizawa instructed the sick Chinese to go into the hole. At this time Major Lee and Lt. Wong were standing a few feet from the mouth of the hole.

Upon receiving instructions to get into the hole the Chinese refused to do so. They were then set upon by the whole party and using their hands and sticks and their boots and also with the butts of the two rifles were forced into the hole. The injuries to the sick people were extreme. Blood was flowing very freely from several ugly wounds inflicted by the kickings and punchings and one man's head had a large wound. The man who inflicted the large wound in the man's head was the accused Okabayashi. At this time Okabayash was using a stick. Ayizawa fired several shots into the hole and then four of the accused took the two rifles and the two pistols and together the four of them shot into the hole. The guns were then handed over to the other accused who then shot into the hole. Each group fired several rounds into the hole. I was a witness together with the other two Chinese officers of all this and when it was apparent that each of the twenty four men were dead Ayizawa said "Each of you (referring to the Japanese and Formosan party) may have another shot." Each of the accused did as was suggested. Ayizawa was the last in the party to shoot with the pistol, instructed us to fill in the hole and told the party to return to camp. I looked into the hole and whilst there were a few quiverings among the deceased it was evidence that each one was dead. We waited until these quiverings had ceased. We then filled in the hole. After we filled in the hole the Chinese who were in the party paid our last respects to the deceased and returned to camp.

On 11th March, 1943, in the morning a Japanese truck pulled up outside our quarters and a number of Japanese and Formosans left the truck. I heard Ayizawa give instructions for the day's work. Ayizawa said to Major Lee, Lt. Wong and I,

"We want to see the sick troops." Ayizawa and some of his party together with Major Lee Lt. Wong and myself went to the sick quarters of the Chinese troops. There were ten people lying ill in the hut. Ayizawa said "Send a Chinese working party out to the mountain to prepare a pit." Lt. Wong and I went with the working party. Major Lee remained behind. Ayizawa went with the working party. There were other Japanese and Formosans who sent with the working party. When the hole was quite large Ayizawa instructed the Formosans to return to the camp. Ayizawa instructed the Formosans to return to camp and escort the ten sick Chinese to the hole. Each of the Formosan party returned bringing with them only six of the ten sick men. I know each of: Pte TAI TSU WU, Pte CHUN MEI SUN, Pte KUO DJEN DEI, Pte WONG HONG QUE, Pte TSUN SIE SUNG, Pte HONG LIANG CHUI. The six men who I have mentioned were the men who were escorted by the Formosans to the hole. Each of these men were Privates in the Chinese National Army. These men were captured in China by the Japanese and were brought to Rabaul by them. There were seven Japanese at the pit. There are two Japanese who were in that party present in court today. One is called Ayizawa and the other is Matsushima. Each of the accused in Court today were present at the hole on 11th March, 1943. When the Formosans returned escorting the Chinese soldiers they were carrying with them two Japanese rifles and two pistols. Ayizawa instructed the six men to get into the pit. The six sick Chinese tried to break away and the Formosans and party set upon them with sticks and with the assistance of hands and feet forced them into the pit. Four of the accused then stepped forward in line and shot with their rifles and pistol. After firing several rounds handed the weapons over to the other accused who also fired into the pit. Ayizawa then took the pistol and firing several rounds into the pit instructed us to fill in the hole. I was standing a few feet from the mouth of the pit together with Major Lee and Lt. Wong and saw each of the six men were dead. We filled in the hole and paid our respects and returned to camp. On returning to camp Ayizawa came to Major Lee and said, "Where are the other four." Major Lee replied, "I do not know where they are." Ayizawa then said "If you do not find these four men I will shoot you." The next morning with two Chinese soldiers we set out in search of the four missing soldiers. After searching for several hours we came upon one named Lee Lo Yuen hanging from a tree. On the 15th March with some Chinese soldiers I set out for a further search for the missing men. We found the three men near to each other hanging from a tree. Among the three was a Chinese and two Privates. The Lt's name was Ching Hei Pen, and the two soldiers were named Chin Yee Pu and the third Yuen Ying Tsu. On the person of Lt. Ching I found a letter addressed to Col Woo Yien.

At first opportunity I gave this letter to Col Woo Yien. The letter was burnt by myself for fear of it falling into the hands of the Japanese. Col Woo Yien was with me when I burnt the letter. The gist of the letter was "We cannot understand the Japanese. We four have talked the matter over as to whether we should return, but as we know we shall be killed we feel it better to hang ourselves." The twenty four men named in the first charge are the twenty four men whom I saw shot in the pit and buried.

I CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of a sworn statement made by Capt LTU WEI PAO tendered, read to him, admitted in evidence, marked Exhibit "A", signed by the President and annexed to the proceedings of a Military Court on the trial of Sgt. MATSUSHIMA Tozaburo and others held at RABAU on 10/16 April, 1946.

(Signed) A. F. Scott Capt.
Officer having the custody of the
Original proceedings.

Cpl. SHIER TCHEM TSE being duly sworn is examined by Prosecuting officer through interpreter J.S.R. Ferguson.

I am SHIER TCHEM TSE, a Cpl in the Chinese National Army. In April 43 I was a POW of the Japanese then living at Kokopo. I know a Chinese soldier named Yeh Fong Chien. I last saw him alive on 3rd. April 43. When at Kokopo I came to know a Japanese warrant officer in charge of the Chinese prisoners. I can now see him.

Witness indicates accused and identifies him by name of Kamitabe. On the day that Yeh Fong Chien met his death, he and some other Chinese soldiers were sick. Yeh was suffering from a sore on the leg and the others had light illnesses. I saw the accused on that day. As we were coming together on the late morning of 3rd. April for our food the accused arrived with two other Japanese and two Formosans. These were the people who were in charge of us at Kokopo. He asked the Chinese officer in charge of us how many sick people there were. Our officer replied there were 11 people who were a little sick and he said "I am going to send them to hospital". Our officer asked the accused whether he wanted them to take the personal equipment with them and he was told this was not necessary. The accused and his party then went to the sick men's quarters, and instructions were given for the sick men to leave their quarters. The Chinese did not come out quickly and the accused shouted to the interpreter and the interpreter shouted out to the men in the sick quarters "If you don't hurry up I will kill you here". Capt. Shiung went to him and tried to reason with him explaining that the men were not very ill and would be able to work again within a few days. The accused would not accept the reasoning of our officer and threatened to kill him if he said too much. The party of sick Chinese were then escorted by the accused and the other four people who were in control of us to a place not very far away. They were carrying three swords, a long rifle, and a revolver. Although we were instructed by the accused not to accompany the party we followed them. We went to a place which would be in the vicinity of about 50 feet from where the party had halted where there were some depressions in the ground. We were standing on an elevated position from where the party were standing and we saw quite clearly what followed. They had no sooner arrived at this place than the Japanese party started to behead the Chinese soldiers. A couple of them were not completely decapitated and the accused using the revolver which he was carrying fired one round at each of the two men.

Defending officer declines to cross-examine.

No questions by the Court.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

(Signed) T. MORNANE
Lt-Col.

Documentary Evidence No. 5405.

Page 2

I CERTIFY that this is a true copy of the official record of the evidence of Corporal SHIER TCHEN TSE contained in the proceedings of the Military Court relating to the trial of Lieutenant UETOGE KONOSUKE of 26 Supply Depot on the charge of murder in that he at KOKOP0 on about 3rd. April, 1943, murdered Pte YEH FONG CHIEN and ten other members of the Chinese Army.

T. MORNANE
(Signed) LT. COL.
Australian Imperial Force

1861A

Evidentiary Document No. 5406.

Captain CHEUNG YEE YU of the 3rd. Fd. Volunteer Army, having been called on 9 Oct. 45 and duly sworn, states:-

Pte LO YAH CHEUNG of my 3rd. Fd. Volunteer Army, was shot by Japanese because he was too ill to work. He was shot by Lt. SASAKI, member of the (YANG Butai) No. 9644 KEREVAT Aerodrome. This occurred in KEREVAT 9 Oct 43. He was shot by rifles.

This man with his comrades was working together in KEREVAT Aerodrome - treated him like a slave, lived in filthy places, bitten by mosquitoes and became ill. No doctor attended him while he is sick, besides no medicine was given to him, supply insufficient food for him to eat - on account of this, he could not work, so this Lt. SASAKI, officer in charge of this party, take him into the bush and shot him through the skull.

I saw this happen.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by him.

(Signed) CHEUNG YEE YU

Interpreter's Certificate.

I XAVIER CHOI do hereby certify that this statement was made by Capt. CHEUNG YEE YU in Chinese and after some had been written down in English was read back to witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of Witness' evidence.

(Signed) XAVIER CHOI

(Signed) Maj LEE WAI SIN

18627

Lieut TAN BAI MING of the Central Chinese Volunteer Army, having been called on 18 Oct 45 and duly sworn, states:

Private CHIANG JIM LIN of my Central Chinese Volunteer Army was killed by shooting by Japanese, because he was too ill to work. He was shot by Lieut SASAKI, he was a member of (YANG BATN) No. 9644 KARAWAT Aerodrome. This occurred in KARAWAT, Nov. 2nd. 43. He was shot by rifle.

This man with others was working in KARAWAT 'drome, bitten by mosquitoes fell ill, no medicines was given to him, and no doctor attended to him, the Japs gave him little to eat, because he could not work; so this Lieut SASAKI who was in charge of working party, took Pte CHIANG JIN LIM into the bush and shot him through his skull.

I saw this happen.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by him.

(Signed) TAN BAI MING

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, TIMOTHY MAK do hereby certify that this statement was made by Lt. TAN BAI MING in Chinese and after same had been written down in English was read back to him in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of Witness' evidence.

(Signed) TIMOTHY MAK

(Signed) Maj LEE WAI SIN

186317

Corporal PANG NAM TING of the 88th Division, having been called on 18 Oct. 45 and duly sworn, states:

Pte WONG SHUI CHUNG of my 88th Division was killed by beating with club by Japanese because he was too ill to work. He was beaten to death by Cpl OKAZAKI MAZUO, a member of the Supplies Depot. This occurred in RABAU on 26 Jul. 44. He was beaten to death. This man has been given little food to eat, bitten by mosquitoes became ill, no medical attention was given, he was forced to work carrying big heavy boxes, he could not carry them because he is too weak by illness, so the Corporal OKAZAKI beat him with a big club until he vomits blood and died.

I saw this happen.

Evidence is read over to witness and signed by him.

(Signed) PANG NAM TING

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, PETER CHAN do hereby certify that this statement was made by Corporal PANG NAM TING in Chinese and after same had been written down in English was read back to witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of witness' evidence.

(Signed) PETER CHAN

(Signed) Maj. LEE WAI SIN

1864A

Mrs. LEE YITSAI KUNYANG, Chinatown, RABAU, having been called on 20th October, 1945 and duly sworn, states:

I am a married woman and lived at RABAU before the war for 44 years. My husband traded but has died during the War. I have a family of 9 children - six sons and three daughters. We were living at BAINING before the War and stayed there when the Japs came.

The native boys told the Military Police (Jap) that we had a radio in the house and were communicating with Americans; we had no radio. The Japs came out and took me and my family to RABAU. We were put in a prison in Chinatown. The Jap police questioned me about the radio every day, 3 times a day. Each day they gave beatings to my sons. I was beaten 3 times. I was made to bend down and I was questioned. If I said "No" they beat me. They beat me with a thick stick. I got about 30 or 40 stroke. When I fainted they stopped beating me. The beating was done by two Jap policemen. I do not know their names. MATSI MOTO was there when they beat me. The beatings took place in April 43. After the first beating they beat me again two days later and again after another 2 days. MATSI MOTO was present on the first and third occasion but not on the second. I had black and red marks where I had been beaten. They were very painful. I am 59 years of age. The Japs gave me no treatment or medicine. My sons were beaten every day. I did not actually see the beatings but I heard them crying out. Afterwards they came to me and they were bleeding on the head, the side and the back. My sons told me they had been beaten. My sons names are WOO CHING KONG (43 years), WOO CHING FOOK (38), WOO CHING WAH (34), WOO CHING CHEONG (32) WOO CHING KEONG (23) WOO CHING ON (21).

My son KEONG was beheaded by the Japs. I did not see him killed. I have not found his body. I was told by two Chinese girls, ANNA CHAN and BETTY PANG, who had been told that KEONG had been beheaded.

While my sons and I were in prison we were given nothing but small quantities of rice and vegetables. We slept on the ground.

Statement is read over to Complainant and signed by Complainant.

Witness mark.

Signature of Complainant

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, AUGUST CHAN of Chinatown, RABAU, do hereby certify that this statement was made by Mrs. LEE YITSAI KUNYANG in Chinese and after same had been written down in English was read back to Complainant in her own language before she signed it and the translation is a correct translation of Complainant's statement.

(sig. illegible) Major.
Interrogating Officer.

(Sgd) AUGUST CHAN (Interpreter)

RESTRICTED.

Classification changed
from "CONFIDENTIAL" to
"RESTRICTED" by order
of the Secretary of
War by /s/ T.R.C.King,
Lt. Col., Inf.

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
COUNTY OF PIERCE) SS

We, James A. McMurria, Josel. Holguin, and
Alphonse D. Quinones, of Lawful age, being duly sworn, on oath
depose and say:

I am 1st. Lt. James A. McMurria, ASN 0-372644. My
permanent address is 933 Benning Blvd., Columbus, Ga. I was
captured by the Japanese of 3 March, 1943, in New Guinea while
serving with the 90th Bomb Group, 5th Air Force. I was taken to
Rabaul in May, 1943, and remained there until March, 1944, when I
was transferred to Tunnel Hill, where I remained until 7 September,
1945.

I am Jose L. Holguin, 2nd. Lt., ASN 0-72838. My
permanent address is 1448 Court St., Los Angeles, Calif. I was
captured on 19 July, 1943, at New Britain while serving with the
43rd. Bomb Group 5th Air Force. I was first taken to the town of
Rabaul and in March of 1944 was transferred to Tunnel Hill, where
I remained until liberated on 7 September, 1945.

I am Alphonse D. Quinones, 2nd. Lt., ASN 0-748875.
My permanent address is 1448 Court St., Los Angeles, Calif. I was
captured by the Japanese on Rabaul, New Britain, on 7 November, 1943,
while serving with the 38th Fighter Squadron, 5th Air Force. I
was held at the town of Rabaul until March, 1944, when I was
transferred to Tunnel Hill, where I remained until liberated on 7
September, 1945.

While at Rabaul we were quartered in a small wood
building where we slept on the floor. Conditions were very crowded
and at times it was impossible for all of us to lie down. We
received about a coffee cup three-fourths full of rice and half a
cup of soup three times a day. Beating of prisoners was common
at the camp for the slightest infraction of the rules and many times
for no reason at all. These beatings were sometimes rather
severe and Japanese often used bamboo clubs, bayonet cases, belts,
their fists, and ramrods from their rifles. They also used rifle
butts, and often when a prisoner was down they would kick him in the
testicles. Corporal Wada was the worst offender in the beating of
prisoners. He was nicknamed "the Bull." We had no American medical
officer there, and the Japanese furnished practically no medical
attention. At first there were 64 allied prisoners at the camp.
Forty of these were reported by the Japanese as having been killed
by bombing while being transported to another camp. Twelve American
prisoners of war and five other American prisoners died in camp from

starvation, beri beri, dysentery, combined with lack of medical care. There were only six allied prisoners who were alive when the camp was liberated on 7 September, 1945.

The Japanese doctor who was responsible for our medical care was called "the Butcher." He was a captain, and was assigned to the Kempe Tai (Military Police detachment). The executive officer Matsuta in charge of the camp was a Major named Mazuta. There was a colonel over him who was really the commanding officer, but we do not recall his name. We can give no further description of persons responsible for conditions at Rabaul, and we can state no further details concerning the matters described in this affidavit.

/s/ James A McMurria 1st. Lieut
0-372644

/s/ Jose L. Holguin, 2nd. Ltd. A.C.
0-72838.

/s/ Alphonse D. Quinones, 2nd. Ltd.
0-748875

In the presence of

/s/ Donald W. Smith, Agent, SIC

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ Edwin F. Svare
1st. Ltd., Inf.

RESTRICTED /s/ T.R.C.K.

1866 A
Evidentiary Document No. 5438.

(CERTIFIED COPY)
APPENDIX C 15

Statement by Repatriated Prisoners of War at Australian
General Hospital, Jacquinot Bay, 9th September, 1945.

Norman Vickers of the Royal New Zealand Air Force, was with us
as a prisoner of war off Tunnel Hill Road, Rabaul.

He stated that he was shot down in the Bougainville-Shortlands
area I believe.

When he arrived at the prison camp in Rabaul he had been
cruelly ill-treated. He had been bound by ropes to which
fish hooks had been attached in such a way that whenever he
moved his head the fish hooks would pierce his face.

Vickers' health deteriorated and in July, 1944, he died in
my presence as the result of malnutrition and dysentery.

He did not name the person who ill-treated him.

(Signed) James A McMurria
O 372644
1st. Lieutenant
90th Bomber Group
5th U.S. Air Force.

(Signed) John J. Murphy
NGX 310
Captain
A.I.B.

Witnessed:

W. F. Ingram
Flight Lieutenant
R.N.Z.A.F.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

(Signed) T. B. Hunt Brigadier
per Adjutant-General.

1867A

STATEMENT.

MAUTA LEONARD Native Boy of BITAGALIF NEW BRITAIN having been called on 29th October, 1945, and duly sworn states:-

I remember working at the TOBERA AIR Field with a party of natives. We were working with a truck. The engine broke down and one of the boys TO URAVAGIN told the Japanese that the engine would not work. The Japanese called him up and hit him on the head with a stick this was the Japanese interpreter. TO URAVAGIN retaliated by hitting the Japanese in the eye and breaking his glasses. We all then ran away. We were caught and taken back to the air field. There there Japanese tied us up together in two parties. Five together in one party, and the rest in another. The Japanese who had been struck by the Natives then took up a wooden mallet and hit the five who had been tied together on their heads. They all fell down. The Japanese who was with the interpreter and whose name is CHICABA took a stick and hit the natives who had fallen on the ground on the head. Three of them died immediately, but two of them did not die. The names of those who died immediately were, TO LUI, TO MORAC, TO EDIN, and two still alive were TO URAVAGIN and TO VARGIL. The Japanese then told the boys to pick up the five natives and carry them away to bury them. I saw that the two were still alive for I could see them moving. CHICABA told the rest of us not to look. The party went away and some Japanese went with them. Later the boys came back and told me that they had buried them all including the two still alive. They said that one of them had said "Better you kill me and then bury me, but kill me first," but the Japanese took no notice and they were told to hurry on with the burial. I saw all that happen up to the time when the burial party went away.

We were on our way to the MINSABU to complain about the Japanese guards treatment of TO URAVAGIN when he struck him when we were captured by the soldiers. We had been told we could complain of bad treatment to the MINSABU. CHICABA was a Navy Man.

LEONAT

Signature of Witness.

I, Father William Cadogan, Roman Catholic Missionary of RAMALI Mission do hereby certify that this statement was made by MAUTA LEONARD in pidgen and after same had been written down in English was read back to witness in pidgen before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of the witness's evidence.

(sgd) William Cadogan
Signature of Interpreter
29 Oct. 1945.

1868A
Evidentiary Document No. 5433.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
RECORD OF MILITARY COURT (JAPANESE
WAR CRIMINALS)

AAF A117(A)

AWC No: 2676

Aust. M.C. List Ser No:

Accused: Navy Workman KIKAWA, Haruo.

Court Place: RAPAUL

Date and 4 and 10 Jan 46.

Formation: 11 Aust. Div.

<u>Charge (s)</u>	<u>Plea</u>	<u>Finding</u>
<u>First Charge:</u> MURDER at TOBERA about Aug 43 murdered TO LUI TO MOFAG TO EDLIN	Not Guilty	Guilty
<u>Second Charge:</u> MURDER at TOBERA about Aug 43 murdered TO URAVAGI and TO VIRGIL	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: About Aug 43 a number of native boys were employed on earthwork at TOBERA airfield. The accused KIKAWA was in charge of the Camp, welfare of the boys etc. A Jap called NAGAO who wore glasses was apparently in charge of a working party and struck one native with a plank. The native retaliated and broke NAGAO'S glasses. Natives ran away and were brought back to the field. Natives were lined up and the one concerned in the striking incident and four others were fallen out, tied up and hit on the head with a mallet. Three were apparently killed instantly and two still lived. A Japanese then struck all five with a piece of wood. The three dead and two living natives were buried. The evidence of two natives is in agreement except that one stated that KIKAWA used the mallet in the presence of NAGAO and the other states that NAGAO used the mallet and that KIKAWA helped tied the natives and struck them with the piece of wood. The defence is an alibi, supported by Lt. YUI that he arrived at the scene after the incidents detailed.

Sentence: To suffer death by hanging.

and Date: 10 January, 1946.

Confirmation Finding and sentence confirmed and warrant signed by
and by whom: Acting C-in-C. 26 February, 1946.

Promulgation: 17 January, 1946.

Evidentiary Document No. 5433.

Page 2.

Petition: Submitted 23 Jan. 46 against Finding and Sentence of the Court.

J.A.G's Report on Petition: That Finding and Sentence be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.

Certified true copy of official record.

(Sgd) T. MORNANE
Lt. Col.

164314 Sweeper GIANI, C. Coy 13 Pioneer Bn, having been called on 5 Oct. 45 and duly sworn, states:

On 5 May 44 GUTHNU and I saw MATARI GUNSO beating FAKIRA severely and mercilessly in the jungle where petrol dumps were situated. LUNGI came to our hut about 9 pm that night and told us that FAKIRA's whereabouts were unknown and that we were to help look for him.

On 6th and 7th May 44 we all searched but could not find FAKIRA. Then on 8 May 44 FUJITA took us all to our old camp and there we saw the dead body of FAKIRA hanging from a tree. We were told to be careful. Before returning to work I saw that FAKIRA's left leg was broken and his chest, back and hands bore wounds of having been beaten by a stick. The rope round his neck was very loose, touching his chin at a distance of three or four inches from the throat. FUJITA and MATARI admitted that they had killed FAKIRA. They were proud of this fact.

Evidence is read over to witness and signed by witness.

(Finger mark of witness)
Signature of Witness.

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, S/Clerk J. Clattery do hereby certify that this statement was made by GI ANI in Hindustani and after same had been written down in English was read back to witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of Witness' evidence.

(Sgd) J. CLATTERY
Signature of Interpreter.

453 Pioneer LUNGI KOBE having been called on 5 Oct 45 and duly sworn, states:

On 5 May 44 MATARI GUNSO took FAKIRA with him but I did not know why or where he took him. They both left Coastal house where FAKIRA and I were extracting oil at the time. At about 11 o'clock MATARI came and told me that he had killed FAKIRA but I did not believe it. At 1800 hours I went to our men who were working in the garden and enquired about FAKIRA but they knew nothing about him.

At about 1300 hours 8 May 44 MATARI took us to our old camp and there we saw FAKIRA hanging from a tree. FUJITA and MATARI warned us all to be careful, otherwise we would meet deaths similar to FAKIRA's. SHRI RAM and myself buried FAKIRA. FAKIRA's left leg was broken and had been bleeding. There was no

sign of blood on his ears, eyes nor mouth. The rope was very loose and touching the chin about three inches from the throat.

I know that FAKIRA was killed; he did not suicide.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by Witness.

(sgd) LUNGI KOBE.

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, S/Clerk J. Clattery do hereby certify that this statement was made by LUNGI KOBE in Hindustani and after same had been written down in English was read back to Witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of Witness' evidence.

(sgd) J. CLATTERY
Signature of Interpreter.

Certified true copy.

(sgd) T. MORNANE Lt.-Col.

I certify that this sheet contains true copies of the official record of the evidence of 164314 Sweeper GIANI and 453 Pioneer LUNGI KOBE contained in the proceedings of a Military Court held at Rabaul relating to the trial of Sergeant MAWATARI KUNIYOSH on a charge of murder of FAKIRA a mwmber of the Indian Army at Norga on or about 5th May, 1944.

(Sgd) Thomas F. Mornane Lt.-Col.

1870A

Evidentiary Document No. 5414.

Page 1.

SF6267 Jen QUTUBUDDIN 1 Bn. Hyderabad Inf. having been called on 19 September 1945 and duly sworn states:-

In the month of November, 1944, I was at NISHIZAKIYAMA with a party of 35 men. 2/Lt. FUKUHARA NICHOTAI was in charge of us. I and my men used to dig big shelters for coastal guns under CHIK-JEOLI (sappers and miners). Sometimes we used to fetch rations from a distance of 3 to 4 miles.

On 28 November, 1944, I and 29 other ranks were ordered by 2/Lt. GUKUHARA to bring rations from a distance of 4 miles. We brought all rations by 1500 hours. Regtl. No. 186 Sepoy ABDUL GAFFORE and Regtl. No. 830 Sepoy SHEIK SALEIGH BIN MOHD were detailed by the Japanese JOTAHAI FUZIWARA to dump all the rice bags and other articles in a neat manner. After an hour those two Sepoys were returned to their barracks. After the fatigue hours as usual the men were boiling the water, for cleaning their ulcers. At such a time a Ha-ho SHAKOTA (Ha-ho means one who works for Japanese. Indonesians from JAVA and SUMATRA were called Ha-Hos and as such they were Japanese troops) came to the place where my men were boiling their water. SHAKOTA after seeing this went to Japanese JOTOHAI FUZIWARA and complained as usual that Indians were cooking rice. On hearing this JOTOHAI FUZIWARA, JOTOHAI KASIYA (Nursing Orderly) and JOTOHAI MASHUSHU rushed to the scene and searched all the cooking utensils but they could not find a single grain of rice. Failing in the attempt, they ordered all the Indians to fall in. When all the Indians fell in, JOTOHAI FUZIWARA asked who was the one who was cooking rice. Nobody answered this question because nobody was cooking the rice. Some of the men brought the boiling water and showed it to enquiring Japanese. But FUZIWARA and KASIYA did not believe this and started beating brutally all the Indians for three hours. Since Japanese could not find out rice from my soldiers, they dismissed them. My men due to severe beatings and bootings could not sleep that night.

On 29 November, 1944, after Morning Roll-call we were not given usual food but ordered to proceed on fatigue empty stomachs. Whereas the Ha-Hos were given food on that morning even though they also did the fatigue of fetching rations with us.

Japanese used to give the following rations to Indian POW:-

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. Rice - 50 grammes. |) | |
| 2. Sweet potato - 100 grammes |) | No curry to |
| 3. Papaiah - 100 grams |) | Indians |
| 4. Sweet potato leave - 100 grammes) |) | |

Japanese used to give the following rations to Ha-Hos (apart of Japanese troops):

- | | | |
|--|---|------------|
| 1. Rice - 200 grammes |) | |
| 2. Sweet potatoes - 200 grammes |) | Good Curry |
| 3. Papaiah - 200 grammes |) | |
| 4. Sweet potatoe leaves - 100 grammes) |) | |

The abovementioned food was so little and fatigue so tremendous that those human beings can only realize who had been through it. While doing fatigue soldiers used to say "our stomachs are burning with hunger". My stomach too was burning with hunger because I used to get the same food as men. I repeatedly reported to Japanese about the food but 2/Lt. FUKIHARA and the Sigi JOTOHAI FUZIWARA put it on deaf ears. I and my men saw our rice, fish and salt being given to Kanakas daily in exchange of good fruit and fresh vegetables for Japanese.

Under the pressure of extreme hunger my men reported to one CHIK-GEOB officer 2/Lt. TAKAHARA who was in charge of our fatigue. This officer in turn told all the Japanese officers in CHIK-GEOB about the NICHOTAI officer 2/Lt. FUKIHARA who was starving the Indians to death. 2/Lt. TAKAHARA fatigue in charge officer of Indian POW called 2/Lt. FUKIHARA and told him that Indians are doing heavy fatigue and the food is hopelessly insufficient. He ordered 2/Lt. FUKIHARA to give more food to Indians but 2/Lt. FUKIHARA thought that he was offended and never cared to increase the food. Extreme malnutrition and the cry of hungry Indians spread throughout the CHIK-GEOB officers and men. 2/Lt FUKIHARA was humiliated and accused by his brother officer on this issue.

2/Lt FUKIHARA to keep up his prestige and to get rid of the accusation planned the following scheme to revenge us.

Pte FUZIWARA and Nursing Orderly KASIYA under the cover of darkness and with two bags of rice and threw them in the bush in front of our barracks. After an hour a Japanese search party started searching the bush where the Japs had thrown the bags. Hardly they had searched the bush for five minutes before Japanese produced two bags of rice.

We were again ordered to fall in that night. Japanese came out and produced the two bags of rice and told us that Indians alone have stolen them. All of us denied but to no good effect. On the other hand we got severe beating again and then dismissed.

On 29 November, 1944, when we were on fatigue with empty stomachs 2/Lt. FUKUHARA came and took away with him Regtl. No. 186 Sepoy ABDUL GAFFORE and Regtl. No. 830 Sepoy SHEIK SALEIGH BIN MOHD without asking me. When my two men were

thus being taken away, I became suspicious due to yesterday's made up story by Japanese and followed them. We went to our camp After half-an-hours rest in the camp 2/Lt. FUKIHARA took with him my Hav. Major MOHD NAVAZ KHAN, Sepoys ABDUL GAFFORE and SHEIK SALEIGH BIN MOHD without informing me. I saw 2/Lt. FUKUHARA was accompanied by Japanese soldiers KASIYA, MASHUSHI, and KHUDRA with rifles and spades. This sight made me more suspicious and restless and I asked Hav. Major NAVAZ KHAN to find out the full details.

After an hour my Hav Major MD NAVAZ KHAN returned and stated that Sepoys ABDUL GAFFORE and SHEIK SALEIGH BIN MOHD were shot by the orders of 2/Lt. FUKUHARA and 2/Lt. TAKAHEERA. Both these officers told Hav Major NAVAZ KHAN that abovementioned Sepoys were shot because of stealing rice.

I was an officer and was commanding a party of 35 men. 2/Lt. FUKUHARA did not either inform me that he was taking my men for shooting or enquire about them in full details. The abovementioned Japanese officers neither held any court-of-enquiry nor any court-martial but they straight away took two human beings and shot them ruthlessly like wild animals.

The statement is read over to the witness.

(Sgd) SF6267 QUTUBUDDIN Jem
Signature of Witness

Witness withdraws.

Certified true copy.
(sgd) T. MORNANE
Lt.-Col

I certify that this sheet and the preceding sheet bearing my signature is a true copy of the official record of evidence of SF6267 JEM QUTUBUDDIN contained in the proceedings of Military Court held at Rabaul relating to the trial of Captain NAKAMURA, MORIYAKI and Lieutenant FUKUHARA, SHOZO on a charge of murder in that they at NISHI ZAKIYAMA on or about 29th November, 1944, murdered Sepoy ABDUL CAFFORE and Sepoy SHEIK SALEIGH BIN MOHD both of 1 Bn HYDERABAD INFANTRY.

(Sgd) T. F. MORNANE
Lt. Col.

1871A

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, NUM-A of NANGAGUA, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

1. I am a native of NANGAGUA. Between the months of Dec. 44 and Mar 45, a party of about 30 Japanese were living in NANGAGUA.
2. Three Indians, whose names I do not know, were living with the Japanese.
3. One day, between Dec. 44 and Mar 45, some of the JAPANESE took a mosquito net and some calico from the INDIANS. The INDIANS objected to this. This made the JAPANESE angry.
4. The JAPANESE commander, named YAMAMOTO, and his 2 i/c, named MIAKI, then beheaded the three INDIANS and threw their dead bodies into the SCREW RIVER.
5. On 29 Dec. 45, from a line-up of JAPANESE I identified YAMAMOTO (now known to me as Lt. YAMAMOTO Jintaro) and MIAKO (now known to me as Sgt-Maj MIYAKAWA Kazuo) and pointed them out to Captain JOHN DAVID STEED, AALC, att 6 Aust. Div.

AND I MAKE this solemn declaration by virtue of the provisions of the STATUTORY DECLARATIONS ACT 1911-22 conscientiously believing the statements contained herein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED AT MOEM This 2nd. day of)
January, 1946 before me) NUM-A His X MARK

(sgd) JOHN DAVID STEED Capt.
Officer of AMF.

I certify that I, AI-INGO, Tul tul of JAMA, read the contents of the above statement (as interpreted to me by Lt. MacGregor) to NUM-A in his native tongue and that he understood the effect of his declaration.

AI-INGO HIS X MARK

I certify that I read over and explained to the above-named AI-INGO in PIDGIN the above statement of NUM-A and the certificate which he, the said AI-INGO, subscribed.

(sgd) W. A. MACGREGOR LT.
A N G A U

Certified true copy.

(sgd) T. Mornane
Lt.-Col.

18727

Evidentiary Document No. 5411.

164232 Pioneer PARASURAM, 13 Aux Pioneers, having been called on 7 Oct. 45 and duly sworn, states:

On 12 Feb 45, I was working with a fatigue party at THOMA Camp TAKAYA BITHAI. Bindhu Mistri of 13 Pioneers was also in the party, and we were engaged in rolling heavy petrol drum uphill and stacking them in a tunnel. BHINDU was exhausted and requested the Jap Commander to give him 5 minutes rest, after which he would resume his work. The Jap Commander - KISHI GUNZO - was very annoyed at this request and commenced kicking and beating BHINDU MISTRI with a stick, which he kept up for half an hour at the end of which BHINDU MISTRI was unconscious. KHISHI GUNZO ordered me and three others to carry BHINDU MISTRI to Indian house., where after an hour, blood was flowing from his mouth, nose, urine and stools, and continued until the morning of 14th when, at 8 am BHINDU MISTRI died. I was present when he died. No medical treatment had been rendered him by the Japs.

Evidence is read over to witness and signed by
Witness.

(Signed) PARASURAM
(Signature of Witness)

Interpreter's Certificate.

I, S/Clerk J. Clattery do hereby certify that this statement was made by PARASURAM in Hindustani and after same had been written down in English was read back to Witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of Witness's evidence.

(Signed) J. Clattery
(Signature of Interpreter)

Certified True copy.

(sgd) T. Mornane Lt. Col.

I certify that this is a true copy of the official record of the evidence of 164232 Pioneer PARASURAM contained in the proceedings of Military Court relating to the trial of Sergeant KISHI, RYOSHKU of 26 Motor Vehicle Depot on the charge of murdering BINDHU MISTRI of 13 Aux Pioneers, Indian Army at or near TOMA on or about 14th February, 1945.

(sgd) T. Mornane Lt. Col.

6564 HAY CHANDGI RAN of H.K.S.R.A., having been called on 30th October, 1945, and duly sworn, states:-

On 12 Nov 44 I was digging a trench for Japanese truck in TOTABIL Area. About 1600 hours one single engined U.S.A. fighter plane made a forced landing, about 100 yards away from where I was working. The Japanese belonging to GO BUTAI KENLEBO Camp rushed to the spot and got hold of the pilot-aged about 19 years - who had come out of the machine himself before the Japanese reached him. General INAMORA also lived there in the Japanese Army Headquarters.

About half an hour from the time of forced landing, Japanese Military Police - KEMPEITAI - beheaded the Allied pilot. I saw this from behind a tree and noticed Japanese cut his flesh from arms, legs, chest and hips and carried the same to their quarters. I was shocked at the scene and followed the Japanese, just to find out, what they do to the flesh. They cut the flesh to small pieces and fried it. About 1800 hours a Japanese high official (a Major-General) addressed about 150 Japanese mostly officers. At the conclusion of the speech a piece of the fried flesh was given to all present, who ate it on the spot.

I do not know the name of Japanese taking part in the action, but can recognise them. Moreover, KAWAGUCHI TAI of GO BUTAI KENLEBO and MASUDO Gunso of HAMADA TAI were present at the spot and could tell the name of Japanese actually involved in the affair.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by Witness

(Sgd) CHANDGI RAN Hay

(Sgd) A. McLellan Capt.
11 Aust. Div.

300000
3150
90512

1873A

6564 HAY CHANDGI RAM of H.K.S.R.A., having been called on 30th October, 1945, and duly sworn, states:-

On 12 Nov 44 I was digging a trench for Japanese truck in TOTABIL Area. About 1600 hours one single engined U.S.A. fighter plane made a forced landing, about 100 yards away from where I was working. The Japanese belonging to GO BUTAI KENDEBO Camp rushed to the spot and got hold of the pilot-aged about 19 years - who had come out of the machine himself before the Japanese reached him. General INAMORA also lived there in the Japanese Army Headquarters.

About half an hour from the time of forced landing, Japanese Military Police - KEMPEITAI - beheaded the Allied pilot. I saw this from behind a tree and noticed Japanese cut his flesh from arms, legs, chest and hips and carried the same to their quarters. I was shocked at the scene and followed the Japanese, just to find out, what they do to the flesh. They cut the flesh to small pieces and fried it. About 1800 hours a Japanese high official (a Major-General) addressed about 150 Japanese mostly officers. At the conclusion of the speech a piece of the fried flesh was given to all present, who ate it on the spot.

I do not know the name of Japanese taking part in the action, but can recognise them. Moreover, KAWAGUCHI TAI of OO BUTAI KENIMBO and MASUDO Gunso of HAMADA TAI were present at the spot and could tell the name of Japanese actually involved in the affair.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by Witness

(Sgd) CHANDGI RAM Hay

(Sgd) A. McLellan Capt.
11 Aust. Div.

1874

SYNOPSIS - SOLOMONS ISLANDS,
GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS, NAU
AND OCEAN ISLAND.

Prosecution Document No. 5447 is a record of the interrogation of Captain Watanabe, Kaoru and Major Ito, Taichi, both of 17 Army L.P. Unit. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

In the course of the interrogation it was admitted that two American airmen who had come down in the sea between Taiof Island and Porton in Bougainville were beheaded on orders of H.Q. 17 Army. This happened in December, 1943.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5452 is a Netherlands Forces Intelligence Service report. I tender it for identification and marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

This report states that nine Ambonese members of N.E.I. Forces were executed by the Japanese at Bougainville in 1944 for stealing food.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5262 is affidavit of Cher Chee a Chinese civilian captured in Hong Kong. I tender the document for identification and marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

I will read the marked excerpts of this affidavit.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5263 is record of interrogation of KANESHIRO FUKUKAN a Formosan. I tender this document for identification and marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent said that in December, 1942, or January, 1943, 600 white prisoners of war landed on Ballah Island. He was told that one was beheaded by a Japanese GZAKI on the night they landed. On night of 30 June, 1943, Ballah Island was shelled. The Japs were afraid of an allied landing and killed by bayonets or swords the surviving prisoners.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5425 is an affidavit by Lt. Commander OsaKi, Toshi iko of 18th Naval Construction Battalion. I tender it in evidence.

.....

the deponent says that towards the end of 1942, 527 white POWs were brought to Ballah Island. They were to be used as labour for the construction of an aerodrome. He says, "On watching the POWs as they were disembarking from the transport although there were some who were extremely "peppy" the majority of them were so weak that they could not walk by themselves and were only barely able to do so with the help of their comrades." On the night the the prisoners landed one was alleged to have attempted to escape. Upon recapture he was executed on instructions of deponent. Prisoners died rapidly owing to disease. At one stage three deaths were occurring daily. A large number of prisoners were killed by allied bombing.

A defence plan of the island was prepared. Under this prisoners of war were to be killed if an allied landing was made on the island. In April, 1943, news was received of the approach of allied ships. The surviving prisoners, about 90, were then bayoneted to death by the Japanese in accordance with plan.

.....

I refer the Tribunal to Prosecution Document No. 409A which is in evidence as Exhibit No.

I propose to read paragraph 8.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5398 contains the proceedings of an inquest held at Tarawa in October, 1944. I tender the proceedings for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The coroner found that twenty-two prisoners were killed by the Japanese at Belio, Tarawa on or about 15th October, 1942. At about that time American planes had bombed Japanese shipping at the island. After this had happened the Japanese beheaded the prisoners eighteen of whom were coast watchers in the service of the New Zealand Government.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5248 is affidavit of Mr. Taua, a civilian. I tender it for identification and marked excerpts in evidence

.....

The deponent says that on the night of the first Allied bombing of Nauru five white prisoners, including Colonel Chalmers were beheaded by the Japanese.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5252 is a statement by LEE CHONG HONG, a Chinese. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent was house boy to Colonel Chalmers. An American bombing raid took place on 25th March, 1943. Deponent never saw Colonel Chalmers or other European prisoners after this. He noticed that there was blood on the floor of the house where the Europeans had lived.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5246 is a record of interrogation of David Murdoch a Gilbertese. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

Murdoch was on Ocean Island up to July, 1943. There were six Europeans on the island. They were beaten and starved by the Japanese. Two of the Europeans had died by July, 1943. The Japs beheaded three natives for stealing early in 1943. Later the same year the Japanese erected an electric wire around Ooma Point. Three natives were told to race to the wire. As the natives touched the wire they were killed by electrocution.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5245 is record of interrogation of KABUNARE a native of NIKUNAU ISLAND. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

Kabunare states that all Europeans on Ocean Island died or were killed. There were about 100 natives on the island when the war ended. The Japanese formed them into sections and marched them away. The hands of the natives of KABUNARE'S section were tied. They were lined up on the edge of a cliff and the Japs opened fire. KABUNARE recovered consciousness in the sea. There were a lot of dead bodies around him. He hid in a cave. Later the Japanese towed the dead bodies out to sea. KABUNARE remained hidden until 2nd. December, 1945, when he first learnt that the Allies were in occupation of the island.

.....

Prosecution Document No. 5247 is a record of interrogation of Lieutenant Sakata, Jiro of 67 Garrison Regiment. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

Sakata says that in October, 1944, the natives on the island, about 100, were rounded up and killed by the Japanese.

.....

Evidentiary Document No. 5446.

Page 4.

Prosecution Document No. 5427 is a statement by Chief Petty Officer ARAI, KARUZO. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

* * * * *

ARAI gives an account of the killing of 8 natives on Ocean Island on 20th August.

* * * * *

That completes the evidence relating to this section of the phase.

1875A

BOUGAINVILLE WAR CRIMES.

EXHIBIT "A"

I, SX10334 Major Douglas John McBAIN of Army Headquarters, Melbourne, make oath and say:

1. I am an officer of the Australian Military Forces.
2. Annexed hereto and marked Exhibit "A" is a true copy of an Interrogation of Capt. WATANABE KAORU and Major ITO, Taichi on 7 November, 1945, which I have in my custody in the course of my duties.
3. The original abovementioned document cannot be made available immediately as it is required for trials of minor war criminals.

Sworn before me at Melbourne)
this 27th day of May, 1946.) (Signed) Douglas McBain
Major.

(Signed) W. Bunsell Capt.
An officer of the Australian
Military Forces.

Capt. WATANABE Kaoru of 17 Army MP Unit and later of 38 Bde MP Unit being questioned with the assistance of Sgt. M. RUGLESS (of HAAF att ATIS) states:

I arrived at RABAU 22 Mar 43.
EREVENTA 28 Mar 43
then to NEW GORGIA until Sep 43
then to EREVENTA until 27 Oct 43
then to TALENA-PORTON area, arriving 6 Nov 43 departing 27 May 45 then to NUMA NUMA until surrender.

Q. At TARIENA did you have a w/o MORITA with you?
A. Yes - before I arrived there, several small MP units were operating under W/O MORITA Hachisaburo. When I arrived I took over from him and he remained with me.

Q. Where is MORITA now?
A. He died of malaria and another fever about 30 May 45 at NUMA NUMA.

Q. How many white prisoners did you know of while you were at TALENA?
A. Three.

Q. Were they under your control or the control of any of your MPs?

A. The orders concerning them came from MP HQ at 17 Army HQ EREVENTA (Major ITO Taichi - now at FAURO ISLAND)

Q. Were they all together,
A. There was one on his own - the other two were together.

Q. When did you first see them?
A. One was at TARLENA when I arrived.

Q. Did you know about him before you arrived?
A. No.

Q. Who was in charge of the prisoners when you arrived?
A. MORITA, acting direct under orders from MP HQ at 17 Army
Q. What was their nationality and arm?

A. US flyers.
Q. What ranks?

A. Two were 2/Lts. and one a Sgt. They were all airmen - I think they were bomber pilots.

Q. Did you hear when and where they had been captured?

A. One, an officer, was captured at TARLENA about the beginning of Nov. 43. The other two in Dec. 43 at PORTON.

Q. Where were you when the latter two were captured?
A. About 6 kilometres from the coast at PORTON.

Q. Did you hear whether the first one came down at TARLENA or whether he was brought there from another island?

A. Natives handed him over to the local MPs.

Q. Was his name NORMAN?
A. I cannot recollect it - it may have been.

Q. What happened to him?
A. He went to RABAU about the end of Nov 43 on a submarine.

Q. Did you see him go aboard the submarine?
A. No. I saw him on his way to it.

Q. Did you hear of him after that?
A. No.

Q. What unit would hold him at KABAUL?
A. No. 6 MP Field Unit.

Q. Were the two captured at PORTON shot down over that place?
A. I didn't see the crash but I heard they came down there.

Q. Crash land or parachutes?
A. Parachutes.

Q. Had there been a raid on PORTON at the time?
A. Yes. There were raids every day in that area.

Q. What type of plane was it?
A. I heard that they were Lightnings escorting the bombers, but I didn't see them.

Q. Did you hear their names?
A. Yes, at the time, but I can't recall them now.

Q. What happened to them?
A. They parachuted into the sea between TAI OF ISLAND and PORTON, and when they reached land they were taken to the MPs. Under Orders from 17 Army they were executed. They had attempted to escape. One of them had a pistol. They were recaptured. They were executed because of that.

Q. Who reported the attempted escape?
A. MORITA reported it to me and I reported it by signal to MP HQ at 17 Army EREVENTA.

Q. How long did it take to get the reply?
A. One week after I sent the wire I received the reply "They must be killed."

Q. Who did you order to carry that out?
A. I gave the order to MORITA who carried it out with two subordinates:

1. S/M ARIKAWA Tatsuo. He later went to KABAUL escorting Japanese soldiers for court-martial. On the way back the submarine was sunk and ARIKAWA drowned.
2. Sgt. SUZUKI Tainiji.

Q. Did MORITA report afterwards having carried out your orders?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you then report that to MP HQ at 17 Army?
A. Yes.

Q. Did MORITA say who had beheaded the prisoners?
A. S/M ARIKAWA beheaded one and KITAMURA the other

Q. Who is KITAMURA?
A. A supply officer - he was at the depot at EREVENTA before going to TARLENA.

Q. What had he to do with the matter?
A. The S/M's sword didn't cut too well so he handed over the 2nd. prisoner to KITAMURA.

Q. Why was KITAMURA at the execution?
A. His house was nearby and he must have gone as a spectator.

Q. Are those 3 the only white prisoners you have seen?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you meet Capt. (Then 1/Lt) IKEBA at TARIENA?
A. Yes.

Q. Were any of these white prisoners taken to IKEBA's hut at any time?
A. No.

Q. Do you speak English?
A. No.

Q. How did you talk to the prisoners?
A. I would use the interpreter OKUSA.

Q. How do you account for IKEBA saying that in Nov. 43 he had given a cup of tea to two US airmen prisoners?
A. IKEBA was at the wharf at PORTON and there saw 2 prisoners and invited them to his house for some tea. I forgot until you reminded me.

Q. Are you in the same compound as Major Ito?
A. Yes - No. 1 area.

MAJOR ITO Taichi of 17 Army MP Unit being questioned with the assistance of Agt. M. RUGLESS (of RAAF att ATIS) says:

Q. In Nov-Dec. 43 were you in charge of MP unit at 17 Army at EREVENTA?
A. Yes - from Oct. 43.

Q. Was WATANABE under your command?
A. Yes.

Q. In Dec. 43 did you receive a signal from WATANABE reference two US airmen?

A. Yes.

Q. What was in the signal?

A. This wire explained that they had tried to escape and offered resistance and asking for orders as to treatment of them.

Q. What did you do on receipt of that signal?

A. I took it to Maj (Now L-Col) MIYAKAWA at the office of Chief of staff 17 Army (Maj-Gen AKINAGA).

Q. Did MIYAKAWA tell you what to do?

A. We conferred and I think I wrote the reply, but I've handled so many signals that I do not remember now. As that was 2 years ago I cannot recall it very well.

Q. Whose decision was it?

A. It was not mine - it was the HQ.

Q. What was the reply?

A. That they should be killed.

Q. Did you or MIYAKAWA discuss the matter with anyone else before sending the reply?

A. I don't know. There were other officers at the HQ who may have come in.

This is the document marked Exhibit "A" referred to in the Affidavit of SX10334, Maj. D. J. McBain, A.H.Q., sworn before me this 27th day of May, 1946, as being produced and shown to him at this time of his swearing his said Affidavit.

(Signed) ..W..BUNSELL...Capt.

187617

C E R T I F I C A T E

The undersigned CHARLES JONGENEEL, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., head of the War Crimes Section of NETHERLANDS FORCES INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (NEFIS), being first duly sworn on oath deposes and states that the annexed reports are full, true, complete and accurate copies of the original documents entitled:

"NEFIS Interrogation Reports, Informants Frederik TAMAELE (No. 1976), Mesak SOPLANTILA (No. 1850), Jacob SIAHAJA (No. 1851/2) and Leonard Frans SAIJA (No. 1853), concerning the maltreatment and murder of ten (or nine) Ambonese N.C.O.'s and Soldiers R.N.I.A. by Japanese, on Bougainville Island, in September, 1944,"

which documents are part of the official records of NEFIS.

SIGNATURE:

Stamp of Intelligence Service
Netherlands Forces.

BATAVIA, June 7th, 1946.

Subscribed and sworn before me K.A. de WEEHD, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., Higher Official attached to the Office of the Attorney-General N.E.I.

SIGNATURE: K. A. de WEEHD (Sgd).

PELUFESSI, Pte., AMBONESE, was maltreated and killed at TANIBABO, Bougainville, 13 Aug. 1944.

Informant: MESAK SOPLANTILA, Ambonese

Reliability: Intelligent; information considered reliable.

Person responsible: Sgt. MATSUASI, Japanese

Sgt. SUSUKI, Japanese

Cpl. KOPIASI, Japanese

Pte. TJOMORA, Japanese

HEARSAY:

On Sunday, 13 Aug. 1944, nine Ambonese members of the Heiho were shot because they had stolen food from a food godown. This had occurred during the past month. Not until three quarters of the stores were stolen were the thefts discovered by the Japanese. After investigation, which was led by the Japanese Commander IKEBA, the nine Ambonese were named as the perpetrators. During the investigation all Ambonese (82 men) were tied with their hands behind their backs, and they were forced to remain thus for 36 hours, during which time no food and no water was given them. All of them were beaten continuously for two hours by the Japanese attached to the Heiho Company. After 6 hours the perpetrators were found,

and taken from the others by the Japanese Sgt. MATSUASI, Japanese Sgt. SUSUKI, Cpl. KOBIASI, Pte. TJOMORA. Matsuasi carried an automatic rifle with him. The nine Ambonese were then shot, some one to 2 km from the place where the other Ambonese remained tied up. This was later told by the British Indians, who had to dig the graves for the victims. Names of the victims are:

Sgt. PATI
Cpl. TONI LOHOLIMA
Pte. PELUPESSI
Pte. SUMOKIL
Pte. 1st. cl. ROMOLEUNE
Pte. LATUMAHENA
Cpl. SOISA,
Cpl. ORELAL
Fus. TALAHATU

INTER. REPORT NO. 1850.

Further to the above reports:

Informant: SIAHAJA, Jacob, Ambonese.
Reliability: Average intelligence, reliable.
Person responsible: Japanese, names not stated.

HEARSAY:

At Kg. Teninbaubau, Bougainville Isl., April 1944, informant witnessed the tying together of all Ambonese Hehio Personnel (about 58). The Japanese picked out nine men at random, and shot them. The rest were tied up for two days. Informant heard that the reason for this action was because some of them had stolen food from the Japanese and thrown it away into the jungle so that the Japanese would starve. The names of the nine men who were killed (Ambonese NEI Army Personnel) are as follows:-

JOHANNES SOUMOKILL,	Private
WILHELMUS LATUMAHINA,	Private
TALAHATU,	Private
ZETH PATTY	Sergeant
SIMON THUNY	Corporal
SOUSA	Corporal
RUMALAIN	Private
ERILAL	Corporal
C. PELUPESSY	Private

INTER. REPORT NO. 1851/2.

Further to the above reports:

Informant: SAIJA, Leonard Frans, Ambonese.
 Reliability: Intelligence above average; his
 information is considered reliable.
 Person responsible: Japanese, names not stated.

FACTUAL:

At Teninbaubau, Bougainville Isl., Aug. 1944, nine Ambonese Heiho's were shot accused of stealing food from the Japanese. The other 58 Ambonese were tied together for 36 hours and received no food or drink during that time. They were beaten by the Japanese with carbines, shoes and sticks, etc.

INTERM. REPORT NO. 1853.

Attached to the above report are the following names of the victims:

PELUPESSY	Private 1st. class
SOUKOKIL	Private
URILAL	Corporal
PATTY	Sergeant
TUNILUHULIMA	Corporal
SUISA	Corporal
HALATU	Private
LATUMAHINA	Private
RUMALAINY	Private 1st. class.

Further to the above reports:

Informant: TAMAELA, Frederik, Ambonese, Cpl R.N.I. Army.
 Reliability: Average intelligence, information is considered to
 be reliable.
 Person responsible: Japanese, names not stated.

Hearsay:

The undermentioned N.E.I. Army personnel have been killed by the Japanese in Teninbaubau (Bougainville Island) in Sept., 1944:

PATTY: Ambonese Sergeant	PELUPESSY: Ambonese Private
SOISA: " Corporal	SOUKOKIL: " "
TUNILUHULIMA " Corporal	LATUMAHINA " "
URILAL: " Corporal	TALAHATTU " "
RUMALOINE " Private 1st. Class.	SAHETAPIJ " "

INTERM. REPORT NO. 1976.

NOTE: Whereas previous informants stated 9 were killed, this informant states 10 were killed.

CHER OFEE being duly sworn with the assistance of the Interpreter WONG YJ of ANGAU gives the following evidence:

I am a Chinese and was residing at HONG KONG and was captured there by the Japanese in December, 1941. I was taken from HONG KONG to CANTON and from there to SAIGON. From there I went to Batavia and then to SOURABAYA. From there I went to SINGAPORE and then to RABAU and then to TULAGI. In November, 1942, I was brought to BUIN area, and remained there until the war finished. I was a member of a labour party attached to the TANAKA battalion. In April or May, 1943, I was engaged in road making. About that time one of the Chinese became sick and was unable to work. I do not know what his name was.

Three or four of the guards took this man tied his thumb together behind his back and pulled him up with a block and tackle attached to his thumbs until he was off the ground. They left him like that for 20 minutes. They then took him down and he died, within a few minutes. I saw all this myself. About ten Chinese witnessed this incident. This took place about one mile from KAHILI, on the road. The guards used to be changed each day and the perpetrators of this incident were guarding us for this day only. The guards were private soldiers. I would not be able to identify them again. They were members of the TANAKA Battalion. Other Chinese took the body away to bury it.

Soon after this event another Chinese whose name I do not know was sick with fever. Allied planes came over BUIN and this Chinese was sick and frightened and made a noise. One of the guards went away and came back with two or three other Japanese. These men were private soldiers of the TANAKA Battalion. I heard them order some Chinese to dig a hole. Some Chinese went away and I heard them digging. When the Chinese came back they told me that the Chinese who was sick and had made a noise had been buried alive. I did not actually witness this. The sick man was quartered in a hut half a mile away and most of what I know of this incident is hearsay.

Some time in 1944 I was employed with other Chinese in felling trees to make a bridge over a small stream in a garden near the Mission Station at MUGUAI. After we had chopped a tree down the bridge was built. We told the guard that the tree was too heavy for two men to carry. The guard wrote the order in Chinese and we replied verbally in Chinese. The guard belonged to a unit the number of which was 4801. They were guarding No. 76 Hospital. Three of the guard struck me in the face with their open hand for about five minutes. They knocked twelve teeth out. They were all good strong teeth. There was only the other Chinese present. They then struck CHANG KOW YE, the other Chinaman in the same way but not so severely.

About April or May, 1943, near KAHILI a Chinese living in the same hut as me had been sick for four or five days and couldn't work. One of the Japanese guards told him that he was all right and was only trying to get out of work. The sick man was lying down and the guard poured a quantity of water down his throat until his stomach was swelled up. After this the guard brought two more Japanese and they place a board across the sick man's stomach while he was lying on the ground and one guard sat on each end of the board. The pressure made the water come back out of the man's mouth. A quantity of water came out of his mouth and a few minutes later he died. I do not know the name of this Chinese. The guards were privates of the TANAKA Battalion I do not know the names of the Japanese but I could recognise the guard who poured water. Four Chinese carried the body away for burial.

In this Field this 3rd. day of October, 1945.

Signature of Witness.

Examined by me with the original affidavit in the Australian Army War Crimes Registry at Melbourne. The original was signed in Chinese Character and certified by the Interpreter.

(sgd) R. B. LAMBE Lt-Col.

I certify that this is a true copy of the original.

(Sgd) R. B. Lambe.
Lt-Col.

17 April, 1946

This is the copy statement marked "R.S.L.6" referred to in the Affidavit of Lt. Col. RICHARD BEVIS LAMBE hereunto annexed, sworn before me this 18th day of April, 1946.

(sgd) E. L. (??).....
Commissioner for Oaths.

R. S. L. 7.

CHEE CHEE on his former oath and with the assistance of the Interpreter LAURIE CHAN of ANGAU give the following evidence:-

In May, 1943, near BUIN I saw a white man dressed in overalls like a Pilot would wear. He was a young man. The Japanese tied his hands behind his back, and made him sit on the ground. They put a drum of boiling water beside him. About nine of them then filed past him and each one emptied a tin of boiling water over

him. The man screamed with pain. I saw him fall flat on the ground and lie still and he stopped screaming. He appeared to me to be dead. The Japanese were soldiers not officers. The white man was tall, of medium build, clean-shaven and fair. The overalls were khaki. I was the only Chinese who witnessed this.

There are Chinese in this Compound who can give evidence of about 300 white men who were either killed by the Japanese or died while they were held as prisoners on Shortlands Islands.

5 Oct. 1945.

Signature of Witness.

Examined by me with the original Affidavit in this War Crimes Registry at Australian Army Headquarters at Melbourne. The original was signed in Chinese Characters and certified by the Interpreter.

I certify that the above is a true copy of the original.

(Sgd) R. B. LAMBE Lt.-Col.
A.Q.G. War Crimes
H.Q. A.L.F.S.E.A.

17th April, 1946.

This is the copy statement marked "R.S.L'7" referred to in the Affidavit of Lt.Col. RICHARD BEVIS LAMBE hereunto annexed, sworn before me this 18th day of April, 1946.

(Sgd) E. L. (?)
Commissioner for Oaths.

INVESTIGATION - BALLALE IS.

Period Nov 42 to Sep 43.

KOREAN - KANESHIRO FUKUKAN

interrogated by NX 70429
Maj. E. C. Millikin. Korean

I was on BALLALE IS from 3 Nov 42 to Aug 43. I was employed in a working gang, but because of my good knowledge of the Japanese language was employed to interpret any orders given by Japanese to my gang. I am NOT sure exactly when the white PW landed at BALLALE, but think it was Dec 42 or early Jan 43. The Japs told me there were about 600 PW. They landed from a large freighter, but I do NOT know the name of it. I was returning from work when I saw the PW marching from the disembarkation point towards their compound.

According to a Jap report current at the time the ship came from SINGAPORE. I have seen the PW at various times. I think they were ENGLISHMEN. Their clothes were light khaki, somewhat similar to clothes worn by Aust troops. Hats were slouchtype, some men wore forage caps and some officers type caps. Boots were of various types. Some of the men had tattoo marks on them. I particularly remember that some were anchors and some were English words. I can NOT remember details of any other tattoos. The general knowledge at the time was that the PW were Englishmen. That is to say it was mentioned by the Japanese and we overheard it. Witness is shown picture of RA badge - he states that he saw some PW wearing badges and he thinks some might have been the RA badge.

I heard a story from the Japanese that either the night of the landing or the next day a PW was beheaded by OZAKI. I do not know why this was done. I overheard a group of Japs discussing the matter. I have seen the grave, indicates on enlargement of BALLALE IS/1: 63360 (see portion of file War Crimes Investigation 13 Nov 45 23 Bde) reference 5025 0550. The grave was beside the road.

There was a group of army men in charge of the PW - I have no idea of the name of the unit nor of the soldiers names. I do NOT know if the army personnel lived with the PWs I only saw them escorting the PWs to and from work. I do NOT know of any illtreatment of the PW apart from the beheading as above, but I did hear from the Japs that if the PW were slow at their work they were beaten with a pole. I do NOT know of any other beheadings or shootings as individual incidents. (NOTE the matter of the mass killing was referred to at this stage, but not taken down, being kept for its proper sequence)

There was a lot of allied bombing and according to the Japs a lot of PW were killed and wounded, as there was a direct hit on the PW compound. I heard that the dead were buried, but I do NOT know where the grave is. I did NOT hear that PW who died of wounds were dumped at sea in rice sacks. The part of the island where the PW were quartered was out of bounds to all personnel except Japanese on duty.

After the air raids I saw only about 70 to 100 white PW.

I did NOT hear about the Jap kitchen being bombed and as a result the PW were all beaten.

The airstrip was never finished, there was always some work to be done repairing bomb damage etc.

/On

On the night of 30 June 43 the place was shelled from the sea, the Japs were afraid of a landing and killed the PW next day. I am certain the shelling was on 30 June. I do NOT know how many PW remained at this stage, but they were all killed by bayonets or swords. I heard that a large pit was dug, I do NOT know by whom and when the PW were killed they were buried there. I do NOT know where the grave is but I understand that it is in the vicinity of the PW compound. I do NOT know by whose order the PW were killed but OZAKI was the senior officer at that time.

I recall an incident when tobacco was fairly plentiful and I and some other Christians wanted to give some to the PW. As the Japs at all times were very harsh in their treatment of the PW we were afraid to approach them on behalf of the white PW.

I think that KONNO SHIGERU would know something about these things because he worked near the Koreans for a period of about a month and in that month the Koreans heard a fair bit about the PW from Japs who were working with KONNO. At this time KONNO was either a 1st or 2nd class P.O.

NOTE KONNO under persistent and repeated questioning gave very little information -

He admitted he was on BALLALE during the period. He was camped in the jungle area and saw some white PW at odd times, but NONE after about May 43. He had no idea of identity of units, nationality, where from, he heard some were killed in air raids but never heard what happened to the remainder.

With regard to other happenings on BALLALE, I have never heard about the American airman who was alleged to have had boiling water poured over him.

I did NOT at any time see any Chinese, but I heard that some came to the island to work on the air strip. I do NOT know how long they were on BALLALE.

With regard to White PW, I do NOT know of them having to work while they were sick. Nor did I at any time hear about any dying of malnutrition. I did NOT at any time hear that the PW used to take their sick mates to work and hide them in the scrub near the strip and then help them back to the compound after the days work was finished.

There was a lot of sickness amongst the Japs and Koreans, and if they had a fever they could rest, however men with tropical ulcers even if they were limping, had to work.

I do NOT know what were the rules about PW working when sick but in the working parties almost all of them appeared weak. I do NOT know anything about their food situation.

The PW were always in separate parties and at no time was I close enough to observe in order to base any opinion as to good or bad treatment of them by the Japs.

The above evidence was taken at No. 11 Compound, Kokopo and at Witnesses Compound, Rabaul.

/s/ E. C. Millikin, Major
Interrogating Officer