

Judge Advocate General's Department -- War Department

United States of America

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In the matter of the surrender
of American Forces on Bataan
on 9 April, 1942.

Perpetuation of Testimony of
 Edward P. King, Jr., Major General
 A.U.S. - 02442.

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Taken at: Room 2225 Munitions Building,
 War Department, Washington, D. C.

Date: 14 January, 1946

In the Presence of: Captain E. J. Connolly, JAGD, and
 Captain Philip L. Smith, Captain, JAGD.

Reporter: Arthur C. Hendrix, Civilian, Office of
 The Judge Advocate General, War Crimes
 Office.

Questions by: Captain E. J. Connolly, JAGD.

Q Will you please give your name and serial number, sir?

A Edward P. King, Jr., 02442, Major General, A.U.S.

Q Were you the Commanding General of the American forces on
 Bataan in April 1942.

A I was.

Q At what time did your forces surrender to the Japanese?

A At about 2 A.M., April 9, 1942, I sent forward with a flag of
 truce Col. E. C. Williams, Colonel J. K. Collier, my G-3, and
 Major Marshall Hurt, my Assistant G-3, to make an appointment
 for me to meet the Japanese Commander of their forces on Bataan
 with a view to surrendering. Colonel Williams was to make the
 appointment. Colonel Collier and Major Hurt were to get word
 back to me of the appointment. Colonel Collier and Major Hurt
 returned shortly after daylight and I started forward with my
 two sides, Major Cothran and Captain Achilles C. Tisdelle, Jr.
 Colonel Collier and Major Hurt accompanied us in another car.
 On the way forward, although carrying large white flags on our
 cars, we were attacked repeatedly by light bomb and machine gun
 fire from low-flying Japanese planes so that we were compelled
 often to stop and take cover. It must have been close to 10
 o'clock when I reached Lamao, the place to which Colonel Collier
 had directed me. At that place I was received by a Japanese
 Major General who informed me, through a very poor interpreter,
 that he commanded one division of the Japanese forces; that he
 had reported my coming to Japanese headquarters in the Philip-
 pines and that he had no authority to treat with me; that
 another officer would be sent from Japanese headquarters to
 treat with me and that he would make no further advance for
 thirty minutes while I decided what to do.

Q Do you know the Japanese General's name?

A I do not know the name of the Japanese General. After some
 time, no Japanese officer having arrived from Japanese head-
 quarters, Colonel Williams called my attention to the fact that
 the Japanese troops had resumed their advance, and I immediate-
 ly sent Colonel Collier and Major Hurt back with instructions to

direct my units in the line of the Japanese advance to display the white flag and to surrender and to go to my Command Post and direct General Funk, my Chief of Staff, to order all units to display the white flag and to give themselves up to the first Japanese who approached them. Shortly after, an officer with an interpreter arrived and I was told that the officer was a Colonel and that he was General Homma's Chief of Staff, and that he had come to discuss my surrender with me, as General Homma's representative. I was concerned only with the treatment that my men would receive and whether they would be treated as prisoners of war. The Japanese officer demanded my unconditional surrender. I attempted to secure from him an assurance that my men would be treated as prisoners of war. He accused me of declining to surrender unconditionally and of trying to make a condition. We talked back and forth in this vein for some time I should guess about a half hour. Finally, he said to me, through the interpreter, "The Imperial Japanese Army are not barbarians". With that assurance I had to content myself and surrender.

In destroying arms and equipment in preparation for surrender, I had reserved enough motor transportation and gasoline to transport all of my troops out of Bataan. I endeavored prior to surrender, to secure an assurance that this might be done. I plead, after my surrender, that this be done, offering to furnish personnel as might be required by the Japanese for this purpose or to assist in any way that they might require. The Japanese told me that they would handle the movement of the prisoners as they desired; that I would have nothing to do with it, and that my wishes in that connection would not be considered.

- Q Did your men on Bataan, at that time, have any rations?
- A For some time we had been on one-fourth rations in Bataan. At the time of my surrender, I had remaining two days of issue on that limited basis, that is, one-half a ration per man.
- Q Did you at any time, General, consult with General Homma during these negotiations?
- A I have never seen him in my life so far as I know.
- Q Did the Japanese to whom you surrendered agree to accept the surrender of your whole command?
- A They would not treat with me at all until after some time and effort I convinced them that I would continue to insist that I was surrendering without General Wainwright's knowledge or authority. Then the Japanese said I could surrender myself and send my staff officers, Colonel Collier and Major Hurt back to direct my units to surrender in which case they would discontinue their attack.
- Q Did the Japanese agree to treat your men as prisoners of war?
- A I was able to get nothing from them except the assurance, "The Imperial Japanese Army are not barbarians".

Q General, what happened after your negotiations of surrender with the Japanese were completed?

A I was taken to Balanga where I was held all afternoon, and just before dark I was carried to Orani where I was kept until Sunday evening, April 12th, when I was carried by motor car to Camp O'Donnell.

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City of Washington)
District of Columbia) SS

I, Edward P. King, Jr., of lawful age, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation, and all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ E P King, Jr.
Edward P. King, Jr.,
Major General, A.U.S.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of January 1946.

/s/ Edward J. Connolly, Jr.
Edward J. Connolly, JAGD.
Capt. O-2052369

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, ARTHUR A. SANDUSKY, hereby certify:

1. That I am Chief of the Document Division of the International Prosecution Section, GHQ, SCAP, and as such have possession, custody and control of original or copies of all documents obtained by the said Section.

2. That the attached photostat copy of Document 2713, consisting of a 3-page affidavit of EDWARD P. KING, Jr., Major General, A.U.S., was procured by the International Prosecution Section from the War Crimes Branch, Civil Affairs Division, Office of the Chief of Staff, War Department.

/s/ Arthur A. Sandusky
ARTHUR A. SANDUSKY

1449
DIRECT EXAMINATION

Q (By Lieutenant Raff) Will you state your name, grade, organization, and your present assignment?

A Basilio Hernandez, Major, AGA; presently Chief of Casualty Division, AGO.

Q Where do you live?

A In Manila; 949 Benavides, Santa Cruz, Manila.

Q Major, were you with the American and Filipino forces at the time of the surrender in April, 1942, on Bataan?

A Yes, I was.

Q Now, based on the records presently in the A. G. Office, and from your knowledge, having been on Bataan at the time of the surrender, can you tell the Commission the number of Filipinos, Philippine Army forces, in Bataan at the time of the surrender?

A Approximately 53,000.

Q Will you repeat that?

A Approximately 53,000.

Q Can you estimate the number of Philippine Scouts that were in Bataan at that time?

A I quite remember there were 12,000 Philippine Scouts before the outbreak of the war. I understand they were all committed to Bataan at the date of surrender, but I can't tell the exact number at the date of surrender. I know they were committed before the date of surrender.

Q Can you give us an estimate?

A Around six or seven thousand.

LIEUTENANT RAFF: You may cross examine.

CAPTAIN OTT: No cross examination.

GENERAL DONOVAN: Any questions by the Commission?

(No response.)

GENERAL DONOVAN: The witness is excused.

(Witness excused).

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Alva C. Carpenter, Chief, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that Document 2879 is a true and correct copy of the transcript of the testimony offered by BASILIO HERNANDEZ in the trial of the case against Masaharu HOMMA, General, Imperial Japanese Army, before a Military Commission in Manila; and that the whole record of the case, including the transcript of all testimonies taken, as well as the affidavits admitted in evidence, are now on file with this Section.

/s/ Alva C. Carpenter
Alva C. Carpenter,
Chief, Legal Section

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 21st day
of November 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

John R. Pritchard

Capt., Inf.
Summary Court.

1450

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APO 500
17 October 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report # 75)
THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT: Offenses Committed by the Japanese at
Camp O'Donnell.

Surrendered at Bataan
.....
II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

april 1942
Over nine thousand American and about forty-seven thousand Filipino prisoners of war were imprisoned in Camp O'Donnell, and all had surrendered on April 1942 upon the capitulation of the American Forces on Bataan (R 6, 39). Many of them had made the so-called "Death March" from Bataan to San Fernando and thence on to Camp O'Donnell (R 20, 88, 192). As a result of this trip and the privations they had endured just prior to their surrender, all of the prisoners reached Camp O'Donnell in a state of exhaustion (R 8, 38). Upon arrival at the camp, the prisoners were searched, and some were killed by the Japanese when found to possess Japanese money or souvenirs (21, 37, 38, 105, 112, 161, 163). Other groups of American and Filipino prisoners of war were executed (R 24, 129, 196), or taken from camp under guard and never heard of again (R 7).

Most of the deaths in Camp O'Donnell were due to dysentery and malaria coupled with malnutrition, and many of these deaths could have been prevented had the Japanese furnished adequate food, shelter, clothing, water, sanitation facilities, and medicine and hospital care (R 1, 7, 8, 17, 27, 91, 117, 155, 181). The quarters provided for the prisoners were overcrowded and inadequate to protect them from the weather (R 27, 109, 142, 173). Only open latrines of the "straddle trench" type were available, but many of the prisoners were too weak from illness to use them, and flies and filth were everywhere (R 54, 81). No screens were provided for the kitchen and food was contaminated by flies from the open latrines (R 54, 134). Food was inadequate, consisting only of a bowl of rice sprinkled with salt, camotes, with occasionally a little watery soup made from greens (R 1, 109), but this was later increased until the men began to gain a little weight (R 17). The death rate mounted to

500 died
4-42 to
12-42
26,000
Filipino
died

nearly sixty per day during the first two months of imprisonment (R 27). During the first few months at Camp O'Donnell the prisoners were not allowed to use water for bathing, and conditions in the hospital were most unsanitary due to the inability of the patients to move to the latrines. There were no beds nor bedding, and the patients were crowded on the floor and under the building, with no protection from insects, flies, and the weather (R 54, 96, 99, 109, 110, 134, 158). Repeated requests for medicine and hospital equipment were refused (R 38, 133). More than fifteen hundred American prisoners of war died in Camp O'Donnell between the period 18 April 1942 to December 1942 (Ex. D); and approximately twenty-six thousand Filipino prisoners died during that period (R 9, 209).

American and Filipino prisoners were forced to stand in the hot sun without hats for many hours for minor violations of prison regulations (R 3). Others were beaten with rifles, scabbards, and bamboo poles when they fell, exhausted, while at work (R 88, 119). Beatings of the prisoners on work details by the Japanese guards, with bayonets, clubs, and pick handles were common occurrences (R 100, 121).

Many of the prisoners were forced to bury the dead, build fences, and dig latrines, though they were physically unfit to perform such labor because of illness and malnutrition (R 89, 91, 119, 129, 181).

Upon arrival at Camp O'Donnell, the prisoners were forced to place all their personal belongings on their blankets, and the Japanese confiscated all money, jewelry, watches, and equipment including medical supplies, although some of the officers were allowed to keep a blanket (R 36, 91, 114, 133, 195).

Burned
alive

The prisoners were required to bury their own dead in graves containing twelve to sixty bodies each, without regard to proper identification of the graves or positions of the bodies (R 3, 4, 84, 148). Sixty-five who died were listed as unknown (Ex. D). On some occasions they were forced to bury men who were still alive (R 24, 129). Frequently the Japanese would not grant permission to bury the dead, and bodies were left exposed to the sun for two or three days at a time before permission was granted to bury them (R 3, 54, 78).

On several occasions representatives of the Red Cross and other charitable organizations attempted to bring medicine and supplies to alleviate the condition of the prisoners, but they were turned away at the entrance to the camp (R 9, 27, 38, 55). When supplies were allowed to be brought in by charitable organizations, the Japanese confiscated much of it for their own use and only allowed the prisoners to have what was left (R 8, 38, 39).

1451

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

19 February 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 209)
THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT: Bataan General Hospital Nos. 1 and 2

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

On 9 April 1942, the American forces at Bataan Peninsula surrendered to the Japanese, but it was not until about six weeks later that Corregidor and Fort Drum capitulated. During this interval, Japanese artillery on Bataan was continually duelling with the American guns on Corregidor and Fort Drum.

The chief complaint against the Japanese seems to be that they placed field pieces and tanks in close proximity to the Bataan hospital where approximately seventy-five hundred American and seven thousand Filipino patients were being treated (R 14, 93). The artillery was placed so close to the hospital that it was obvious that the Japanese intended to use the hospital as a shield against answering fire from the American guns (R 19, 25), particularly since the patients could have been evacuated (R 96). One patient saw twenty-three Japanese guns from his place in the hospital (R 34). When complaints were made to the Japanese about the proximity of their artillery, Japanese officers replied that the guns would not be moved until Corregidor surrendered to the Japanese (R 34). As a result of placing these guns so near the hospital, at least five American patients in the hospital were killed and many others wounded by gunfire from the Americans on Corregidor and Fort Drum (R 19, 25).

After the American forces on Bataan surrendered, Japanese confiscated medical supplies and almost all of the food at the hospital, leaving only some fruit juices, canned milk, and dirty, wormy, mouldy rice (R 23, 53, 85). While the prisoners and patients were forced to live on this meager diet, the Japanese soldiers were eating meals which included vegetables and meat (R 53).

An American nurse was raped by Japanese soldiers and apparently no disciplinary action whatever was taken against the offenders (R 1, 2, 15).

American prisoners were forced to haul Japanese field pieces to various locations on Bataan for use against the American forces on Corregidor (R 93).

Filipino patients who were barely able to walk, were forced to leave the hospital and join the "death march" (R 158, 166).

Prisoners' personal effects were looted by Japanese (R 85, 86).

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RESTRICTED

1452

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

4 February 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 189)

THRU : Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch

SUBJECT : Mistreatment and imprisonment under improper conditions of American prisoners of war at Corregidor, P. I., during summer of 1942.

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

The record of investigation in subject case is composed entirely of statements of repatriated American prisoners of war. These statements have been selected from a large number of such statements which were taken either in the United States or at the 29th Replacement Depot on Luzon, and it is believed that these statements accurately portray conditions at the prison camp on Corregidor. The facts are:

Shortly after the capitulation of Corregidor, approximately ten thousand American and Filipino prisoners of war were crowded into a small area, formerly the 92nd Coast Artillery Corps Garage area. Conditions were so crowded that the prisoners were unable to move during the night without disturbing sleeping companions who were packed side by side. No shelter whatsoever was furnished to protect the prisoners from the rain or from the heat of the sun. Sanitary facilities consisted only of an open slit trench, and no chemicals or disinfectants were made available to improve the sanitary conditions. Water was obtained from two wells which were sunk below sea level, and the water was salty and unpalatable. The prisoners were given inadequate food, although ample supplies were available and stored in the tunnels of Corregidor (R 15, 16, 17, 19, 26). The men were forced to load captured American supplies on Japanese ships (R 26). Many of the prisoners were suffering from illness, some had been wounded in combat, and all were suffering from the privations endured in the days preceding the surrender. Yet in spite of the great need for medicine and medical care, none was furnished (R 13, 26). The Japanese guards brutally beat the American prisoners at the slightest provocation or for minor infractions of the rules (R 4, 9, 13, 20, 22). As a result of the above conditions and treatment, many of the prisoners died (R 20, 36).

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For the WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department -- War Department

United States of America

In the matter of torture methods
employed by the Japanese at Pasay
and Nichols Field, P.I., between
8 September 1942 and 14 July 1944.

Perpetuation of Testimony of
James Edward Strawhorn, Sgt.,
ASN 6 398 230, CAC (Unassigned)

* * * * *

Taken at: Greenville Army Air Base, Greenville, S.C.
(Base Intelligence Office)
Date: 16 July 1945
In the presence of: William A. Allen, Jr., Special Agent, Security
Intelligence Corps, Credentials No. 920 (PMGO)
Reporter: Mrs. Martha W. Cochrane, Secretary, Base Intelligence
Officer, Greenville Army Air Base, Greenville, S.C.
Questions by: William A. Allen, Jr., Special Agent, Security
Intelligence Corps, Credentials No. 920 (PMGO)

Q State your name, rank, serial number and permanent home address.

A James Edward Strawhorn, Sgt., ASN 6 398 230. Home address is RFD #3, c/o
J. M. Strawhorn, Pelzer, South Carolina.

Q Are you married?

A No, I am single.

Q Where were you born and on what date?

A New Bedford, Mass., May 1, 1916.

Q What education did you have?

A I finished High School -- eleven grades.

Q What did you do before entering the Army?

A I was just out of school when I enlisted in the Army.

Q Have you recently been returned to the United States from overseas?

A Yes.

Q Were you a prisoner of war?

A Yes.

Q At what places were you held and state the approximate dates.

A We surrendered on May 6, 1942. There is a gap from that date to May 26,
1942 when we were sent to Cabanatuan. In the meantime we were, I believe,
at Waw Waw, Batangas Province. We stayed at Cabanatuan until September 8,
1942 on which date we were moved to Pasay and remained there until July 14,
1944 when we were sent to Bilibid where we remained until February 4, 1945, on
which date we were liberated by troops of the 1st Cavalry Division, Company C,
148th Infantry Regiment of the 37th Infantry Division.

Q Did you witness any atrocities or mistreatment of American citizens at any
time?

A Yes. I would like to tell you about the torture methods employed by the
Japanese at Nichols Field, P.I., between 8 September 1942 and 14 July 1944.

Q State what you know of your own knowledge about those incidents.

A The men were allotted a certain amount of work to be done each day. Due to
physical conditions of the men and to weather conditions, it was in most

instances impossible to perform the required amount of work in the time allotted. If the assigned tasks were not completed within the time limit, the men would be lined up and flogged by Japanese armed with pick handles, rifle butts, etc. In such instances, many arms, legs and backs were broken and if a man fell to the ground, the Japanese would beat him over the head until he was unconscious. This was a common occurrence. It was amazing to me how men could take such punishment and still survive. I personally have been beaten unconscious.

Another form of torture was to make a person stand at attention in the hot sun with a bucket full of water on his head. If any of the water was spilled, the man was beaten as indicated above.

Another common practice was to tie a man to a board with his head lower than his feet and then pour salty water into his mouth. In that position, he had to swallow and the brine solution would cause his stomach to swell. The Japanese would then jump on his stomach with their feet. In like manner the Japanese often forced a water hose down a prisoner's throat and thus filled his stomach with water until he became painfully swollen and then they would jump on his stomach.

Still another form of punishment was to tie a man's hands behind his back and draw his hands up between his shoulders with a rope suspended over the limb of a tree and let him hang with his feet just off the ground. This usually pulled both arms out of socket. While at this camp, I personally hung as long as 24 hours in that position. No food or water was given during that time and I was under no shelter, exposed to the searing sun all day and to a heavy downpour of rain during the night. During this time, I was beaten with plaited rope and hit about the face and head with a pistol butt. This occurred in September 1943.

On one occasion, my hands were tied behind my back and I was forced to kneel on the ground. A piece of timber was placed behind my knees and I was made to squat on that piece of timber. This resulted, as a rule, in dislocation of the knee joints and cut off all circulation. I was forced to remain in that position for about three hours.

It was common practice for any and all Japanese to abuse prisoners of war by hitting them over the head with tent stakes, pistol butts etc., for any and all minor offenses and quite often for no offence whatsoever.

The above recounted torture methods were administered by W/O Kajuki and several of his aides. The aides are recalled only by the names of "Pistol Pete", "Saki Sam" and "Cherry Blossom". There was also a Warrant Officer at this prison camp who was known only as "Harvard" because he was a graduate of Harvard University. He spoke, read, and wrote English exceptionally well. He, too, participated in administering the above described punishments. The above torture methods, it is believed, were committed and witnessed by higher authority, including the Admiral in charge of Pasay Camps, without any interference.

*Harvard Grad =
Beat us*

/s/ James E Strawhorn
/t/ JAMES EDWARD STRAWHORN, Sgt.
ASN - 6398230, CAC (unassigned)

State of:)
County of:) SS

I, James Edward Strawhorn, of lawful age, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation and all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ James E Strawhorn
/t/ James Edward Strawhorn, Sgt.
ASN - 6398230, CAC (unassigned)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of July 1945.

/s/ Eugene J Twindlen, Capt MA
Notary Public, Summary Court
Moore Gen Hosp, Suannanna, NC

I, William A. Allen, Jr., Special Agent, Security Intelligence Corps, Credentials No. 920 (PMGO), certify that on 16 July 1945, personally appeared before me James Edward Strawhorn, Sgt., ASN - 6398230, and gave the foregoing answers to the several questions set forth; after his testimony had been transcribed, the said James Edward Strawhorn read the same and affixed his signature thereto.

Place: Pelzed, S. C.

/s/ William A. Allen, Jr.
Signature
Special Agent, S.I.C.
(Rank and Organization)

Date: 19 July 1945

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY:

James P. Healey, Jr., 1st Lt. JAGD
JAMES P. HEALEY, JR., 1st Lt., JAGD

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, T. R. C. King, Major, Inf. (TD), Executive Officer, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that the attached mimeographed copy of the affidavit of JAMES EDWARD STRAWHORN is a true and correct reproduction of the original affidavit; and that a signed and sworn copy of said affidavit is presently on file with this Section.

/s/ T. R. C. King
T. R. C. King,
Major, Inf. (TD)

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 15th day
of November 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard
Capt. Inf.
Summary Court

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
LEGAL SECTION, MANILA

APD 500
17 April 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 285)
THRU: Executive Officer, Legal Section, Manila
SUBJECT: Death march of prisoners of war from Camp Keithley
to Iligan, Lanao, Mindanao, P. I., 4 July 1942.

* * *

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

The Filipino and American forces which surrendered to the Japanese in the Lanao area on 27 May 1942 were concentrated in Camp Keithley (Report No. 284). On 4 July 1942, the prisoners were made to march from Camp Keithley to Iligan, Lanao, a distance of about thirty-six kilometers, for the purpose of taking them from there to Malaybalay, Budidnon (R 1). During the march, a prisoner who was sick and unable to keep pace with the rest was shot. No food or water was given the prisoners. As a consequence, one died from drinking dirty water which he tried to purify with iodine (R 2)

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1453

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

AG 000.5 (18 Aug 45) JA

AP0 500
18 August 1945

SUBJECT: Report of War Crimes Branch on Atrocities

TO: The Judge Advocate General
Washington 25, D. C.

* * *

IV. SUMMARY OF THE TESTIMONY:

On 1 August 1942, Barta, Bogue, and McDole arrived at Puerto Princesa, Philippine Islands (pp. 3, 5, Ex. B; p. 6, Ex. C) and presumably, Balchus, Koblos, Neilsen, Pacheco and Smith arrived at the same time (par. 10, p. 2, Ex. A) while Petry arrived sometime after 16 August 1943 (par. 25, p. 4, Ex. A). All prisoners present were put to work on an airfield (pp. 2, 5, 8, Ex. B) in the scorching sun, with inadequate food, water, clothing and the simplest of tools (p. 6, Ex. C). On 9 or 11 August 1942, six men, viz Buddy Henderson, USMC, Sidney Wright, USMC, Davies, USMC, Bobby Hodges, USN, Elliot, USN and the sixth unknown, attempted an escape, whereupon all prisoners were placed on one-third rations for three days, enclosures reinforced, sentries increased, and movements restricted. (Par. 27, p. 4, Ex. A; p. 5, Ex. B; p. 6, Ex. C).

Two prisoners sustained broken arms for picking a papaya from a tree within the compound, the punishment being inflicted by a cook named Nishitani (p. 6, Ex. C). Staff Sergeant Mullin's arm was broken because he refused to admit defeat and was forced to work with his arm in a sling (p. 7, Ex. C).

Another escape on 29 August 1942 by Joe Paul Little, USN, and Charlie Watkins, USN, resulted in a similar reduction of rations (p. 5, Ex. B; p. 7, Ex. C). For possessing a small portion of corned beef and talking to a Filipino, six men, Jimmy Barna, USMC, Laidlaw, USN, Jack Taylor, USMC, Yoder, USN, Robert Brown, USMC, the sixth unknown, were tied to a coconut tree in the center of the compound and were beaten with a small wire whip and a pole 3" or 4" in diameter until loss of consciousness, whereupon they were revived with water and the torture continued. The six were then returned to Manila (p. 7, Ex. C; p. 5, Ex. B). The prisoners had no access to medical supplies, one or two men were beaten every day and an appendectomy was performed on McDole without anaesthetic (p. 5, Ex. B).

In February, 1943, Sergeant Swift, USMC, Robert Pryor, MM 1c, Private Sloat, MC, U.S. Army and Hansen U.S. Army, escaped during the night and were missed the following morning, but a search resulted in the capture of Sloat and Hansen, who were placed in a Kempei (Jap Military Police) dungeon. It was later learned that Pryor was decapitated in

northern Palawan and his head placed on exhibition. (p. 7, Ex. C). On 28 June 1943, Pfc. Seldon T. White, USMC, and Wilson, USN, temporarily escaped but were recaptured on 4 July 1943, and severely beaten before being turned over to the Japanese Military Police, who put them on a truck which drove off. They did not return, and the Filipinos and Japanese stated that they were shot (pp. 7, 8, Ex. C).

One afternoon Charles Street was missing from muster and ten men were immediately locked in the brig and subjected to severe beatings. Jack Ward was beaten with a section of an iron pipe. Street had not tried to escape but had lost his way back to camp and when he returned the prisoners were released from the brig and Street incarcerated and beaten (p. 2, Ex. B).

John M. Stanley, for no reason at all, was struck over the head with a pick handle, causing a gash three inches long (p. 3, Ex. B). Men were required to work on the airstrip during raids (p. 2, Ex. B).

In September 1943 Jim Flynn, Boatswain Mlc USN, was accidentally killed by a landing dive bomber, and he was denied a decent burial (p. 8, Ex. C).

A rule was imposed providing for the execution of ten prisoners for each one that escaped (pp. 2, 8, Ex. B; p. 8, Ex. C).

Following raids by 17 B-24's on 19 and 28 October 1944, the prisoners were ordered to build air-raid shelters consisting of three trenches, five feet deep, four feet wide, and of sufficient length to accommodate 50 men. There was to be an overhead covering with only one entrance but due to American officers' continual suggestions, two entrances were permitted, one at each end. Some men had individual fox-holes in the small enclosures surrounded by double barbed-wire strands two meters high and closely interwoven. (Par. 30, p. 4, Ex. A; pp. 1, 3, 9, Ex. B; p. 9, Ex. C). The Special Company shelter was near the fence in the rear of the compound, from which a passageway led into the one for "B" Company, about one meter away. The third for the use of "A" Company was near the side fence of the compound (p. 3, Ex. B; pp. 10, 11, Ex. C).

After each raid the Japs seemed to take the attitude that the prisoners were the cause of the bombings and treatment became worse (par. 29, p. 4, Ex. A). The number of prisoners varied from time to time as new prisoners arrived and replacements were sent to Manila. However, on 14 December 1944 there were 150 in prison (par. 29, p. 4, Ex. A; pp. 1, 9, Ex. B). About 0200 14 December 1944 two Jap officers informed the men while in barracks that they were going to work early the next morning. So, they began at dawn but were called back at noon, which caused the Americans to sense something strange. There were two air raids during lunch and extra guards were placed around the compound. During the early afternoon another air raid warning was sounded and the men were forced into their shelters (par. 29, p. 4, Ex. A; p. 10, Ex. C) and required to remain under cover, the Japs saying that there were hundreds of American planes approaching (p. 5, Ex. B; pp. 9, 11, Ex. C). When everyone was securely below the ground, between 50 and 60 Jap soldiers, armed with light machine-guns, rifles, and

carrying buckets of gasoline, attacked the unsuspecting, defenseless prisoners in the first shelter where there were approximately 40 of "A" Company. They first threw a lighted torch into the entrance and followed it with a bucket or two of gasoline (par. 29, p. 4, Ex. A; p. 3, Ex. B) which exploded, setting everyone within on fire (pp. 5, 9, Ex. B; p. 10, Ex. C). As screaming men ran from the shelter, they were mowed down by machine guns and rifles (pp. 1, 6, 9, Ex. B; p. 10, Ex. C) while others, realizing they were trapped, ran to the Japs and asked to be shot in the head, but the Japs laughingly would shoot or bayonet them in the stomach. When the men cried out for another bullet to put them out of their misery the Japs continued to make merry and left the men to suffer, twelve men being killed in this manner (par. 31, p. 5, Ex. A). Captain Sato, commander of the Jap garrison at the camp, walked over to C. C. Smith, Signal 2c, USN, and split his head open with his saber (par. 29, p. 4, Ex. A). The Japs started shooting everything in sight, poked guns into the foxholes and fired them, threw hand grenades, while throughout Sato was laughing and shouting, urging the men to greater effort (par. 29, p. 5, Ex. A). Men were thrown into holes while still alive and covered with coconut husks (par. 31, p. 5, Ex. A). Some escaped through a hole in their dugout, while 30 or 40 others successively tore barehanded through barbed wire fences and ran to the water's edge (par. 29, p. 4, Ex. A; p. 9, Ex. B; p. 10, Ex. C). Those who attempted to swim the bay were shot in the water from the shore or from a barge moving just off shore (par. 30, p. 4, Ex. A). Still others who sought refuge in crevices were hunted down and dynamited (pp. 1, 9, Ex. B; p. 10, Ex. C). Bogue located Barta, Petry, Pacheco, and Martyn, and about 2100 hours they swam the bay to safety. For five days and nights, without food or water except rain, Bogue tramped through the jungle until rescued by Filipino prisoners at Iwahig Penal Colony where he met McDole. They were taken further south to Aborlan where Barta joined them, whereupon the three proceeded to Brooke's Point and were picked up 21 January 1945 by a PBY from Leyte (p. 10, Ex. C).

Neilsen reached the beach and covered himself with coconut husks for three hours. He was discovered but feigned death and was left by the Japs and crawled into a cove, finding 15 Americans, eight of whom were subsequently killed from a barge. When a group of Japs approached the cove Neilsen dived into the water, was struck in the leg, head, and ribs by bullets, but nevertheless kept on swimming as the Japs continued shooting, was washed seaward by a strong current, finally reached the other side of the five-mile bay at 3:00 p.m. and remained in a mangrove swamp until noon the next day when he moved into a coconut grove where he was found by a Filipino who led him to Petry and Pacheco, and was later joined by Balchus (par. 31, p. 5, Ex. A). The latter had been hiding in the underbrush with Deal, while the Japs were firing at Neilsen. They moved along the beach and picked up Williams and Daniels. Balchus and Deal separated from the others when an argument arose as to the best plan for an escape, and decided to approach the top of the cliff, giving up the idea of swimming the bay as Deal had a shoulder wound (par. 32, p. 5, Ex. A). Five Japs heard them and started to investigate; two of the Japs moved further down the cliff but the three others came directly towards the two men. It was quite dark at this time and the Japs were

using torches. As one of them came within a few feet of the two men, Balchus hit him on the head with a big piece of coral and they then jumped the other two. These Japs were killed but reinforcements started moving towards the vicinity of the row. Balchus and Deal moved a short distance from each other and when some Japs got in between them, Deal ran over the cliff and Balchus ran down the beach, dived into the water and swam the bay. Hearing gunfire back on the beach he assumed that the Japs had killed Daniels and Williams (par. 32, p. 5, Ex.A).

The Filipinos had the four men change to civilian clothing and took them to Brooke's Point, picking up Smith at the southern Penal Colony and Koblos at Aborlan. They stayed at Brooke's Point until 6 January 1945 when they were picked up by the "Catalina" (par. 33, p. 5, Ex.A).

Barta with four others, including Pacheco, Petry and Bogue started to swim the bay between 2000 and 2100. He became unconscious about half-way across and when he regained his senses he was floating out of the mouth of the bay but only about 50 yards from the shore which he managed to reach about sunrise the next morning. After being in the jungle 10 days he reached the Philippine Penal Colony from which he was taken to Aborlan, where he met McDole and Bogue and all were then taken to Brooke's Point (pp. 4, 6, 10, Ex. B; pp. 10, 11, 12, Ex. C).

Bogue, after being in the jungle five days and nights was also rescued by the Filipino prisoners at Iwahig Penal Colony (p. 10, Ex. B).

McDole saw six Japs torturing one American with bayonets when another Jap joined the group with a bucket and torch. While the American screamed to be shot, the Japs poured burning gasoline on one foot, then on the other until he collapsed, whereupon they poured gasoline over his body and ignited it (p. 6, Ex. B).

McDole stayed with Hamrick, whom he found on the beach, until the latter died of gangrene on 18 December 1944 from a bullet wound in the arm. Covering the body, McDole swam the bay to Iwahig Penal Colony shortly after dawn and in the late afternoon started out again but because of exhaustion had to remain on a fish trap all night, from which he was rescued by Iwahig prisoners gathering their fish, and he, with Bogue, was sent to Brooke's Point on 7 January 1945, from whence the PBY picked them up 21 January 1945 (pp. 6, 7, Ex. B; p. 12, Ex. C). Martyn swam the bay but did not contact the others (p. 13, Ex. C).

That night the Kojima Tai officers, in company with personnel from the Kempei Tai and the Obayashi Tai, held a celebration to commemorate the incident (p. 2, Ex. E).

Following the landing by American Forces at Puerto Princesa, Palawan, on 28 February 1945 a search of the POW enclosure was made and identification tags, certain personal items, and fragmentary records concerning American personnel were obtained (p. 1, Ex. D).

Between the 15 and 23 of March 1945, seventy-nine individual skeletons were buried by the 3rd Platoon,

601st QM Co. (GR). Twenty-six of these skeletons were found piled four and five high in one excavation. Bullets had pierced the skulls and they had been crushed with blunt instruments. Nine dugouts were inspected and the supporting planks were charred near the openings indicating a flash fire of intense heat but of short duration, resembling the results of a gasoline fire.

The smallest number of bodies were found in the largest dugouts which were closest to the cliff and furthest away from the prison buildings. Most of the bodies were huddled together at a place furthest away from the entrance where twenty-six bodies were taken from one hole which was not a dugout. In two dugouts (closest to the cliff) bodies were in prone positions, arms extended with small conical holes in the fingertips showing that these men were trying to dig their way to freedom (pp. 1, 2, Ex. 2 of Ex. D).

* * *

For the War Crimes Office

Judge Advocate General's Department -- War Department

United States of America

* * * * *

In the matter of the failure of the Japanese to provide adequate medical treatment and adequate medical supplies and food at Tayabas, Luzon, resulting in the death of unknown numbers of American soldiers.

1456
*Perpetuation of Testimony
of Charles Thomas Brown,
Major, O-301813

* * * * *

Taken at: District Intelligence Office, San Antonio, Texas.
Date: 10 May 1945.
In the Presence of: Special Agent James C. Fitzgerald, Security and Intelligence Division, Headquarters Eighth Service Command, ASF. Maxine B. Stitt, Clerk-Stenographer, District Intelligence Office, San Antonio, Texas

Questions by: James C. Fitzgerald, Special Agent, SIC.

Q State your name, rank, serial number and permanent home address.

A My name is Charles Thomas Brown, Major, M.C., ASN O-301813, and my address is 311½ Bluebonnet Boulevard, San Antonio, Texas.

Q Have you recently been returned to the United States from overseas?

A Yes, I returned to Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, California, on 16 March 1945.

Q Were you a prisoner of war?

A Yes, a prisoner of the Japanese.

Q At what places were you held and state the approximate dates?

A I was captured on 10 April 1942, at Mariveles on Bataan. I remained on Bataan at Field Hospital No. 1, until 18 June 1942. On that date I was moved to Bilibid Prison in Manila and on 19 June I went on a work detail to Tayabas and remained there until 10 July 1942. On this date I was returned to Bilibid Prison and remained there until 4 February 1945, when I was liberated by the American Forces.

Q Are you a practicing physician?

A Yes, I am.

Q Outline your medical education and your previous practice.

A I attended Baylor University, School of Medicine, at Dallas, Texas, and received my M.D. degree in 1932. Upon graduation I began my internship at Robert B. Green Memorial Hospital San Antonio, Texas, and remained there for one year. I began private practice in medicine in 1933, at San Marcos, Texas, and after practicing for one year there I went on active duty with the U. S. Army Medical Corps, and I have remained on active duty as an officer in the Army Medical Corps since that time.

- Q Are you familiar with the circumstances surrounding the failure of the Japanese to furnish proper medical treatment, supplies and food to American soldiers on work details at Tayabas, Luzon, which resulted in the death of an unknown number of American soldiers?
- A Yes, I am.

Q State what you know of your own knowledge about such failure on the part of the Japanese.

A On 19 June 1942, the Japanese ordered the Senior medical officer at Bilibid Prison, Manila, to furnish two medical officers and four medical corpsmen to go on detail. I volunteered to go on this requested detail. At that time thirty dying Americans had been brought into the prison hospital by the Japanese and we were told that other men were dying and hence the necessity for sending medical personnel to the suffering prisoners on the work detail. On or about the morning of 20 June, Captain Paul Ashton and four medical detachment corpsmen, whose names I do not now recall, and I were taken by truck to the province of Tayabas in southern Luzon to a point twenty kilometers from a town called Calauag. We arrived there at night and found in a small creek bed about three hundred American soldiers, sailors and marines in most pitiful conditions, some at the point of death, three already dead, and the living suffering from malaria, dysentery and malnutrition. The Japanese furnished us no medical supplies and Captain Ashton had only a small medical field pouch. This was all of the medicine we had. The Japanese then told us that medicine would come later. These three hundred men had been here for about three weeks having been picked at random from the survivors of the "Death March" at Camp O'Donnell. All were in poor physical condition when they were taken from Camp O'Donnell by truck. They were removed from Tayabas for the purpose of building a road through an almost impenetrable jungle. When we arrived we were told that thirty men had already died from dysentery, malaria and exposure, and the survivors were sleeping on the ground in the rocky creek bed, drinking filthy water from the creek, and living in the open without cover. These men were forced to work from daylight to dark. Men who were almost dead from malaria and dysentery were forced to work in the sun without clothing, cover or shoes, with a wheelbarrow, pick and shovel. Men were frequently beaten by guards for stopping to relieve themselves. Men too weak to work were beaten and prodded along by Japanese guards with pick handles, bayonet scabbards, or any other object they found around. When we arrived this had been going on for three weeks. Captain Ashton, who was in charge of our medical detail, immediately requested the Japanese to allow the medical detachment a free hand and asked that the dying men be allowed to rest and asked for supplies. I also interceded with the Japanese at various times on behalf of the sick. The food at the time of our arrival might be considered sufficient and had been for the previous three weeks, but due to severe illness from malaria and dysentery, men were unable to eat. This food was a stack pile of captured American food consisting of various canned goods. After the arrival of the medical detachment the food began to run out and at the end the detail survived on rice alone. It was impossible to prepare food due to the lack of cooking facilities and all food was prepared in one iron wheelbarrow with a fire built under it. The death rate for the next three weeks after my arrival was from three to four men a day. These men were buried near the camp site and given a decent burial. In order to keep the living clothed they had to strip the dead of their clothes. An accurate list of the dead was kept all the while by Captain Paul Ashton and has been, I believe, turned in to authorities at Letterman General Hospital. As time went on at the camp, conditions became worse and with flies and mosquitoes it was impossible to maintain sanitary conditions. We had no netting, no beds, although the Japanese guards had tents or Nipo barracks. On two occasions, in the last of June, as I remember, the Japanese medical officers inspected this work camp but did nothing to ameliorate conditions, although they promised aid. I do not remember the officer allowed us to send back to the prison hospital at Bilibid, thirty of the men in the most serious physical condition. Also on or about 1 July I believe the truck that took the thirty men to Bilibid brought the supplies back. We received some medical supplies from the Japanese which consisted only of a few hundred quinine tablets and a small amount of bandages, gauze and iodine, and possibly a few other items of no consequence. There were not enough medical supplies

sent by the Japanese to take care of ten men and there was not over five pounds of supplies in all. Captain Ashton made daily requests for medical supplies without success. Every effort was made on the part of the medical detachment to relieve conditions of the sick but without medical supplies little could be accomplished. On 10 July 1942, the Japanese medical officer again allowed us to send thirty men in the most serious condition to Bilibid Prison. I accompanied these men to Bilibid at the order of Captain Ashton, due to the fact that I was suffering from severe beri beri. Captain Ashton and the four corps men remained at the camp for about two or three weeks longer and then they were brought in with the survivors. I do not remember how many survived out of the original three hundred men. During the period I was there possibly fifty men died. I do not remember exactly how many. Had we been furnished with medical supplies and had we been able to improve living conditions, many of these men could have been saved. In my opinion, it was criminal to send these men to Tayabas from Camp O'Donnell as they had not received from the privations of Bataan and almost all of them had made the "Death March" from Bataan. I state unqualifiably that I hold the Japanese government responsible for the death of every American who died at this camp. We called the attention of the Japanese to the terrible conditions daily and told them that these men would all die unless the Japanese would provide necessary clothing, quarters, food and medical supplies. Upon arrival at Bilibid Prison many of the survivors died as a result of their privations at Tayabas. I cannot state who the Japanese were who operated this camp, but I believe that Captain Ashton, who is now at Corona, California, has information as to the identity of these Japanese. As I recall, it was the general opinion that the troops in charge of this work detail were engineer troops from Osaka, but I cannot be sure about that.

/s/ Charles Thomas Brown
Charles Thomas Brown, Maj.,
USA

State of Texas)
) SS
County of Bexar)

I, Charles Thomas Brown, of lawful age, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation and all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Charles Thomas Brown
Charles Thomas Brown, Maj., USA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12 day of May 1945.

/s/ A. C. Mogford
A. C. Mogford
Captain, Inf.
Summary Court Officer

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, James C. Fitzgerald, Special Agent, Security and Intelligence Division, Headquarters Eighth Service Command, ASF, certify that on 10 May 1945, personally appeared before me Charles Thomas Brown, Major, O-301813, and gave the foregoing answers to the several questions set forth; that after his testimony had been transcribed, the said Charles Thomas Brown read the same and affixed his signature thereto in my presence.

/s/ James C. Fitzgerald
JAMES C. FITZGERALD

Place: San Antonio, Texas
Date: May 12, 1945
CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:
E. T. Edrington
WOJG, AUS

Special Agent, SIC

U.S.A. vs. Masaharu HOMMA
Prosecution Exhibit No. 322
Received 15 January 1946

RESTRICTED

1457

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

19 February 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 210)

THRU : Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch.

SUBJECT : Transportation of prisoners of war under improper conditions from Davao Penal Colony, Mindanao, P.I. to Manila, P.I. from June 6 to June 26, 1944.

* * * *

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

Sometime during the first week in June, 1944 between 1,200 and 1,500 American prisoners of war were transported by truck from the Davao Penal Colony to Davao City. The men were tied together by rope around their waists and crowded into trucks. They were blindfolded and required to keep their hands in view. Many of the sick prisoners and even amputees on crutches were required to stand during the 25-mile-trip. If it was thought that any of the men were peeking, they were struck with clubs or rifle butts by the guards. Many were suffering from beri-beri and during the rough trip their flesh was rubbed raw against the sides of the trucks. Some men fainted and were held up only by the rope, tying the prisoners together, and this in turn, cut off the circulation of blood of the prisoners near by. (R 1, 6, 11, 17, 26, 27, 30, 37, 44). When they arrived in the port at Davao, the men were loaded into two holds of a small unmarked freight ship that had not been cleaned since carrying a cargo of coal. The ship stayed in the harbor a few days and then sailed with a convoy. The more seriously ill were in one hold where there was room for them to lie down in a crowded condition. The ship traveled close to the shore during the day and anchored at night. The prisoners were allowed a free run of the ship until they were near Zamboanga where a Lt. Colonel John MAGEE and a Lt. ILLIS escaped over the side of the ship. For the remaining days of the trip the prisoners were required to stay in the hold. There was not enough room for them to lie down and it was necessary for them to sleep in shifts. The only latrine facilities were a few 5-gallon cans that were lowered into the hold. As many of the men were suffering from dysentery and diarrhea they often were forced to relieve themselves before these latrine cans became available. The hatches were kept almost completely covered. The men never had enough water to drink and what was provided was not completely distilled. The temperature of the hold was estimated at 120 to 125 degrees Fahrenheit and many suffered from heat prostration. The food consisted of small amount of rice and thin soup. Some of the soup had been made from spoiled meat which probably aggravated the sickened condition of the men. After the escape of the two officers, the rations were decreased so that it was estimated that the Americans received about one-sixth of the amount received by the Japanese (R 2, 7, 11, 12, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37, 45, 46, 47, 51, 54).

Around 12 or 14 June 1944, the ship arrived at Cebu where the men were all put ashore. Many of them had to be carried because of their weakened condition. The seriously ill were crowded into a barracks and the others were put into a small open area inside an old Spanish fort believed to have been called Fort San Pedro. It rained part of the time and the prisoners were given no shelter either day or night. There were no latrine facilities and the men had to designate latrine areas on the open ground (R 2, 13, 27, 47, 54).

*AM**6 Weeks - 1 week*

After two or three days at Cebu, the prisoners were loaded into the holds of another larger unmarked former coal ship. It was infested with rats and mice. Though this ship was larger, they were crowded worse than before. The physical condition of the men was worse as they were weak and sick from malnutrition. Some of the men were unable to stand, their nerves were shattered and their rations were so small that fist-fights occurred over a spoonful of rice. The men were not allowed on deck. The sanitary facilities again consisted of 5-gallon cans and because of illness many of the men were unable to control their bowels. The ventilation, food and sanitary conditions on this ship were in general the same as on the previous ship. However, some medical supplies were finally given to American medical officers. About 24 June 1944, they arrived in Manila Bay. On 26 June 1944, Lt. William EEDEN of Minneapolis, Minnesota, died. This is the only death recorded during the voyage. The men disembarked at Pier 7. The litter patients were taken by truck to Old Bilibid Prison in Manila, while the others were compelled to walk through the streets to Bilibid (R 2, 3, 7, 14, 17, 20, 27, 30, 37, 54, 55). Later, most of the men were sent to the Cabanatuan Prison Camp. Bilibid and Cabanatuan are the subjects of separate reports.

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Witness = Col -

TABON

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Brooks - 2.10 Refused Jil Judge absent

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, T. R. C. King, Major, Inf. (TD), Executive Officer, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that the attached photostatic copy of the affidavit of MAJOR CHARLES THOMAS BROWN is a true and correct reproduction of the original affidavit; and that a signed and sworn copy of said affidavit is presently on file with this Section.

/s/ T. R. C. King
T. R. C. King,
Major, Inf. (TD)

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 14th day of
November 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard
Capt. Inf.
Summary Court

145-8
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH
UG

APO 500
18 October 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report #76)
THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT: Crimes Against Allied Prisoners of War
at Bilibid Prison, Manila, Luzon, P.I.,
from May 1942 to February 1945.

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

A detailed summary of the evidence contained in the attached fifty-three sworn statements of witnesses and forty-six unsworn statements or memorandums would serve no useful purpose. Suffice it to say that these statements contain ample evidence to prove that from May 1942 until its fall to American forces in February 1945, the conditions at Old Bilibid Prison, Manila, P.I., were atrocious.

a. The cells were grossly over-crowded and sanitation facilities were non-existent or extremely crude (Exhibits 1-11). The regular diet consisted of a maximum of seven hundred to eight hundred calories a day and during the worst periods, the prisoners received only two meals a day consisting of one-half and three-fourths of a canteen cup of rice respectively (R 15-21).

b. The little food actually issued to the prisoners was often contaminated, resulting in many cases of dysentery and diarrhea. Beri-beri was also prevalent (R 11-14). On one occasion eight persons died from dysentery, no hospitalization having been provided (R 24).

c. American prisoners of war frequently resorted to eating garbage from the scrap cans and pig troughs. Captain NOGI, Medical Director, was apparently responsible for these conditions (R 2, 113-115).

d. American prisoners were beaten with sticks and baseball bats, often to insensibility. A Major R. B. PRAGER, 26th Cavalry, was hanged by the wrists for sixty hours and a Major Thomas S. JONES of the same unit for eighteen hours in September and October 1943 (R 89, 90).

e. About three thousand prisoners slept on concrete floors without bedding or mosquitoanets. There were three showers for their use (R 36).

g. In 1942 a prisoner escaped from Old Bilibid. Fifteen hundred prisoners were placed on a diet of straight rice for three months as punishment (R 141-143).

h. On 11 or 12 October 1944 twelve hundred prisoners were evacuated from Bilibid Prison to the dock area in Manila Bay which was then subjected to an Allied bombing raid (R 129-131).

i. On about 19 June 1942, Japanese army personnel at Old Bilibid Prison confiscated all quinine and medical supplies brought by prisoners of war from the hospital at "Little Baguio" (R 15, 16).

j. Confiscated Red Cross supplies originally destined for Allied prisoners of war were stored in General YAMASHITA's Headquarters in Manila. The number of these boxes was estimated to be more than a thousand (R 151-152).

The above mentioned incidents are merely representative examples of the uniformly brutal treatment accorded to prisoners of war at Old Bilibid by the Japanese.

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APO 500
12 November 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 99)
THRU : Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT : Cabanatuan (Tanaka Phase) September 1942 to May 1943.

. . . .

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

There is no evidence in the record to the effect that General TANAKA was in supreme command in the Philippine Islands during the period covered by this report. However, the Prosecution Section advises that the following four Japanese generals were supreme commanders in the Philippine Islands for the periods set out opposite their names:

General HOMMA	May 1942 to August 1942
General TANAKA	September 1942 to May 1943
General KURODA	June 1943 to October 1944
General YAMASHITA	October 1944 to the end of the war.

For the purpose of convenience the report of investigation covering Cabanatuan Prison Camps has been divided into four parts; each one covering the respective period during which one of the above generals was in command in the Philippine Islands. This report covers only the period of September 1942 to May 1943 (The Tanaka Phase).

It would serve no useful purpose to summarize every offense committed by the Japanese during the period of this report, but the following are typical examples and give a complete picture of conditions at Cabanatuan Prison Camps:

Living conditions were poor, and sanitary facilities inadequate. The roofs were wooden frames covered with nipa grass with a strip of tin along the peak. Storms blew holes in the roof and the Nipa rotted, but no supplies were provided for making repairs. Seven men were crowded into compartments 7 x 10 feet, in which they slept on tiers of bamboo platforms, some without any blanket. No clothing was provided, and any extra clothes the prisoners had were taken away by the Japanese (R 27).

The latrines consisted of slit trenches not more than twenty or thirty feet from the buildings. Flies swarmed around these latrines and into the living quarters and mess hall as there were no screens whatsoever (R 27).

Medical supplies were lacking entirely or provided in such small amounts as to be of no value. There was enough quinine to treat only about ten per cent of the patients needing it. Supplies of antiseptics were inadequate and there were very little sulpha drugs (R 1, 79). While the prisoner hospital patients were forced to sleep on shelves of bamboo poles, the Japanese hospital patients had hospital beds with inner spring mattresses, linen, blankets, and mosquito bars (R 179, 180). While prisoners were dying because of lack of medicine (R 134, 140, 170, 171), the Japanese refused to release adequate supplies of adrenalin, although there was sufficient to meet both, their needs, and those of the prisoners. Medical supplies from the Gripsholm were unloaded by prisoners and taken to the Japanese warehouse where large supplies of aspirin, sulpha drugs, organic iodine, emetine, bandages, cotton, and adhesive tape were seen by the prisoners. But despite this vast supply, the Japanese refused to release adequate amounts for the treatment of the prisoners. (R 180).

Though the prisoners were so weakened by malnutrition and inadequate medical treatment that they were physically unable to perform ordinary labor, they were forced to do heavy work and beaten if they collapsed (R 38, 132).

Prisoners of war were forced to work on military installations such as building runways and digging foxholes (R 82, 84).

The prisoners were also forced to submit to medical experiments at the hands of Dr. NOGI (R 184).

In November 1942 American prisoners of war were loaded into steel freight cars, one hundred and fifty to a car, at Capas, Tarlac, and transported to Cabanatuan Prison Camps. The cars were so crowded that the men could not sleep or lie down; the only way they could rest was for half of the car to kneel at a time. The men were kept in the cars in this way during the entire trip which lasted fifteen hours. No latrine facilities whatever were provided (R 175, 176).

In order to prevent attempted escape by the prisoners, the Japanese forced them to sign pledges not to escape (R 108). The squad system of punishment was employed (R 17, 18, 21, 108, 128). Under this system the prisoners were divided into squads of ten. The Japanese announced that if any prisoner escaped and was not apprehended, the remaining men in his squad would be executed. If he were apprehended, he would be executed (R 108).

VG There were innumerable beatings and tortures for minor mistakes or infractions of the rules (R 25, 41, 69, 76). A prisoner who joined the wrong group at the noon bell was slapped on the face with a bamboo stick and then twenty-six American prisoners were forced to pass by the prisoner and slap him in the face. Many of the blows were not sufficiently hard to satisfy the Japanese guard who was supervising the procedure, and he required the slapping to be repeated after first having demonstrated how it should be done (R 44). At other times the prisoners were paired off and forced to slap each other (R 15, 30, 33).

At least four prisoners of war were executed for attempted escape (R 4, 5, 119, 155). Lt. Colonel H.E.C. BREITUNG, Lt. Colonel BIGGS and Lt. GILBERT had attempted to escape. A Japanese who was jiu jitsu expert threw the prisoners into the air and on to the ground, kicked them, beat them with a club, and otherwise badly mistreated them for an hour and a half. A Japanese Lt. also beat these men with his hands, an iron pipe, and an encased saber. After the beating, Lt. Colonel BREITUNG had one eye hanging out on his cheek, one ear was almost torn off, his jaw was broken in several places, and his arms and legs appeared useless. Following the beating these officers were tied to fence posts along the road and left there overnight during a typhoon. All Filipinos and Japanese who passed by were required to beat them. The next morning the three prisoners were taken away in a truck with an execution squad of eight Japanese soldiers and four Japanese equipped with picks and shovels. Shortly thereafter shots were heard and the Japanese later returned without the prisoners. The Japanese Lieutenant boasted that he had beheaded Lt. Colonel BIGGS and had the other two shot (R 5). The Commanding Officer at the camp issued a certificate of execution of the three men (R 4, 5, 117).

Also three Filipino prisoners of war were beheaded for alleged attempted escape (R 149). Many other prisoners were executed on the charge of attempted escape, although there was no evidence of any such attempt (R 102, 104, 106, 107, 132, 152, 153). Filipinos threw food to the prisoners, and when one of the Americans reached over to get the food, he and three others with whom he shared it were shot (R 102). Four other prisoners, accused of attempting to escape, were led through the camp with their hands tied behind their back. The rest of the prisoners were called out to witness the execution. The four prisoners were made to kneel at the edge of a trench and the Japanese shot them and buried them in the trench

(R 106, 107). As a further deterrent to escape, the beaten and mutilated bodies of those who had attempted to escape were placed on display. The body of one of these prisoners showed severe beating and torture. There were compound fractures of his left arm and leg, a bullet hole in his chest, and one eye had been gouged out. The body was terribly mangled and had a horrible bayonet wound extending from the left thigh up into the solar plexus. The ribs were broken and the face was mashed in, apparently by rifle butts (R 119, 155).

During the period covered by this report one thousand and sixty-six prisoners of war died (R 87).

A town near Cabanatuan Prison Camp was raided and burned by the Japanese who returned exhibiting heads of Filipinos stuck on the ends of bamboo poles (R 161, 164, 166, 167).

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

18 February 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report No. 207)

THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch

SUBJECT: Deaths of thirty-seven American prisoners of war
at Gapan, Nueva Ecija Province, Luzon, P.I., in
May and June 1942.

* * *

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

In May 1942, about two hundred American prisoners of war were brought to Gapan and stayed for a period of approximately two months. During this time, thirty-seven of them died and were buried in the cemetery of Gapan (R 4, 6). The Americans were sickly when they arrived (R 19, 20), and continued to suffer from dysentery, diarrhea, malaria, beri-beri and malnutrition (R 5, 9, 16, 20). The Japanese became alarmed at the high death rate and called in a Filipino doctor. The Japanese told the doctor not to use medicine that was useful to the army or civilians. However, he treated them with medicine of his own. The Americans began to improve and he was prevented from giving further aid (R 5, 6). The prisoners were poorly clothed, most of them only having an undershirt, drawers, and sometimes overalls (R 9, 13). They were underfed, part of the time receiving "kangkong" leaves, pig-skin, squash, a little dried fish, and an insufficient amount of rice (R 9, 13, 17, 20). The natives were prevented from aiding the prisoners and were punished when caught giving them food or cigarettes (R 10, 14, 17, 21). The evidence shows that the Japanese had eggs and meat to eat and gave the Americans only what was left (R 20).

Some of the prisoners worked at the Japanese garrison and were mistreated if they rested or asked for more food (R 8, 9). Others worked at the Gapan Bridge at duties difficult to perform because of their physical condition (R 9). Forty or fifty men a day hauled gravel, stone and sand in sacks for road and bridge repair (R 14, 16). Some of them were required to dig canals (R 13). The prisoners were whipped, slapped and kicked when they were unable to do the work required (R 13, 14). All of the witnesses agree that the work required was too strenuous for men in their condition (R 9, 14, 16). The Japanese even refused to allow a priest to visit the dying prisoners (R 15).

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APO 500
16 October 1945

VC

MEMORANDUM to: Prosecution Section (Report #72)
THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT: Murder of two American PW's at Cebu City.

* * *

Cebu City

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

On 21 March 1945, American planes bombed the vicinity of Cebu City, P.I., and an American flyer by the name of Paul MANSELLA parachuted into the water from a damaged American plane (R 1, 4). The American was burned on both arms and legs, and either walked or was carried to the Summer House of the Sisters of The Immaculate Conception, about five and one-half kilometers north of Cebu City. He was given first aid by one of the Sisters and a short time later a Japanese member of the Kempei Tai, accompanied by a Filipino undercover agent, appeared at the house and took him away, with his hands tied behind his back (R 2). Between 21 March and 25 March, 1945, the Japanese Kempei Tai at Cebu City captured another American flyer by the name of SCOTT. Although it is not clear from the evidence, it is probable he was a member of the same plane crew as MANSELLA (R 6, 9). Both men were confined at the Cebu Normal School and on the morning of 26 March 1945 were taken to a point approximately one hundred and fifty (150) feet directly East of the Southeast corner of the school building, where a foxhole had been dug (R 9, 10, 15, 17). They were forced to kneel by the edge of the foxhole with heads bent forward while a Japanese sergeant took a saber in both hands, and struck each of them across the back of the neck. The Americans fell forward into the foxhole and a Japanese officer stepped up and fired a number of shots into their bodies (R 10, 15, 17, 24).

On the same morning, and shortly prior to the execution of the Americans, five (5) Filipino civilians were killed by the same Japanese, in the same method, and their bodies left in a foxhole on the Normal School grounds, a short distance from where the Americans were executed (R 12, 13, 15, 17, 19).

VC
Around noon on 27 March the Japanese piled wood on top of the bodies of the Americans in the foxhole, poured gasoline on the wood, and lighted it (R 18). Between the time of the execution and the burning of the bodies it appears that one of the Americans managed to crawl out of the foxhole and was seen sitting on the ground attempting to wave to an American plane overhead; but he was thrown back into the foxhole, either dead or alive, before the fire was started (R 17, 18, 19).

On the morning of 28 March, 1945, when American forces arrived in Cebu City, an officer and two enlisted men of the 110th Quartermaster Company, Graves Registration Platoon, found three open foxholes with dead bodies in them on the grounds of the Cebu Normal School. One of the foxholes contained the bodies of two Filipinos and another the bodies of three more Filipinos. All five of these bodies had their hands tied behind their backs. The bodies were not mutilated or covered, and although no examination was made to determine the cause of death or the nature of the wounds, it was observed that each of them had numerous stab wounds, apparently made by bayonets or sabers (R 28). In the third foxhole, located approximately one hundred (100) feet northeast of the other two holes, the charred bodies of two men were found. The lower body was lying face upward with the upper body directly on top of it and lying face downward. The hands of both corpses were tied behind their backs with ropes. Fire had consumed most of the clothing on the upper

body, and only a few small shreds of what appeared to be underwear remained; clothing on the lower body had not been entirely consumed by the fire and it was ascertained that it had been dressed in a pair of regulation army issue khaki trousers worn underneath blue fatigue trousers similar to those issued by the navy (R 28, 29). The bodies were examined for items of identification but the only thing found was a metal belt buckle in the ashes at the bottom of the foxhole (R 29). On the face of this belt buckle appears the emblem of a spread eagle and the figures 1942 (Exhibit D). Pictures were taken of the two bodies (Exhibits E, F, G) and they were then buried as unidentified dead (R 29, 30).

* * *

V

Pearl Bottoms
Penn.

Col. G.H.

Subl

et

Dir

King ^{comm} Bottoms
or Chief of Staff

~~Mon 10/1~~

Surrender Passes dropped =

"Honorable at Home treatment of
newspaper - Personal message to Wainwright"
dropped - et Radio program to Bottom
Def. who left in the justice of this camp
also will Rec - Hon + ~~High Command~~ ^{Human & civilized} ..
all in name of "Ingr. Jap. It Comm"

King ~~order~~

(King)

on cross - suffic transport to move all POW. to Camp -
King kept out - not allowed to use

ALLIED TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER SECTION
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA

RESEARCH REPORT

No. 65 (Suppl No. 1)

29 Mar 45

*Captured
Document*

b. Other Techniques

(1) Extracts from a captured booklet entitled "Japanese Instructions on How to Interrogate", was published in Daily Intelligence Extracts, Headquarters 10 Air Force, 13 August. It is interesting as representing an official view. Its application by individual commanders is quite another matter.

VC { (2) Measures to be normally adopted. - "Torture (COMON) (embraces beating, kicking, and all conduct involving physical suffering). It is the most clumsy method and only to be used when all else fails. (Specially marked in text). When violent torture is used change interrogation officers and it is beneficial if one new officer questions in a sympathetic fashion.

"Threats. As a hint of physical discomforts to come, e.g. murder; torture; starving; deprivation of sleep; solitary confinement; etc. Mental discomforts to come, e.g. will not receive same treatment as other prisoners of war; in event of exchange of prisoners he will be kept till last; he will be forbidden to send letters; will be forbidden to inform his home he is prisoner of war, etc.

Original file in 51-0-6

CONFIDENTIAL

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Jewell A. Blankenship, 1st Lt, OIC R&I Files _
hereby certify that the attached International Prosecution
Section Document No. 552 is a true and accurate copy of an
extract from ATIS Research Report No. 65 (Supplement No. 1);
Instructions for Interrogation.

I further certify that the attached document is a
translation made by a competent translator from a captured
Japanese document, the original of which was forwarded to
the Washington Document Center, Washington, D. C.

/s/ Jewell A. Blankenship

REPRODUCTION OF PERTINENT PARTS OF CAPTURED DOCUMENTS

EXHIBIT F

DOCUMENT NO. : 14178

AUTHOR OR OWNER : Unknown

UNIT : Engineer Unit attached to 222 Infantry Regt

CAPTURED AT : Maffin Area

DATE OF CAPTURE : 30 June 1944

RECEIVED ATIS AE : 11 July 1944

RECEIVED ATIS, SWPA : 26 July 1944

TRANSLATED BY : T/3 NAGANO, Charles H., AUS

TRANSLATION CHECKED BY : 1st Lt KADANI, Tsuneo G., AUS

PHOTOGRAPHED ON : 25 April 1945

VB 82

/s/ Sidney F. Mashbir
Sidney F. Mashbir
Colonel, S.C.
Co-Ordinator

No. 5. Search for and disposal of mines in areas adjoining enemy lands require a unified post under a high-ranking commander, especially when attacking the areas mentioned above.

No. 6. The senior commanders shall, if necessary, post the requisite number of engineers in each column body of forward troops, etc. and make each unit search for and dispose of the mines itself.

All necessary controls as to time, method and area of searching for and disposing of mines will be exercised in order to keep our plans secret, if circumstances require it.

Advance troops and scouting troops shall be given sufficient men and materials for the searching and disposal of mines.

An advance party may be specially sent on ahead, if circumstances require it, to deal with mines.

No. 7. All unit (column) commanders will as far as possible avoid areas likely to contain mines and advance through areas where it is difficult to lay mines. At the same time, he will make the engineers and infantry working

troops responsible for clearing the mines in their way. In such cases it would be well to send on ahead a unit commanded by an officer or a mine disposal unit (patrol)

It would be advantageous if prisoners of war, natives or animals could be sent ahead as a precautionary measure, along the route of advance.

- No. 8. Even when there is a unit ahead responsible for dealing with mines, it will still be essential for each unit advancing from the rear to search and clear mines for themselves as far as possible. This is especially necessary in places easy of approach, strong points, and places suitable for headquarters.

VG