

THE WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department -- War Department

United States of America

In the matter of treatment and conditions	*	Perpetuation of Testimony of
existing at Woosung Camp, Bridge House	*	Winfield Scott Cunningham,
Jail, Kiang Wan Military Prison, Ward Road	*	Captain, U.S.N., Ser. No.
Jail, Nanking Military Prison, and Peking	*	056074.
Military Prison, from 23 December 1941 un-	*	
til 24 August 1945	*	

Taken at: U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

Date: 1- November 1945.

In the Presence of: W. H. Abrams, Captain, USMCR (Ret'd.), War Crimes Office, Washington, 25, D. C.

Reporter: Martha L. Winblad, Y1/c, USNR, War Crimes Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Questions by: W. H. Abrams, Captain, USMCR (Ret'd.).

Q. What is your name, rank, serial number, and permanent home address?

A. My name is Winfield Scott Cunningham, Captain, U.S.N., serial No. 056074. My permanent home address is Cedar Park, R.F.D. #2, Annapolis, Maryland.

Q. Have you recently been returned to the United States?

A. Yes, from China on 7 September 1945.

Q. Were you a prisoner of war?

A. Yes, from 23 December 1941, until 24 August 1945.

Q. Will you give us chronologically the places at which you were interned.

A. I was kept on Wake Island for twenty days until the 12th of January 1942, and with about 1200 other prisoners left Wake Island for Shanghai. We stopped at Yokohama on 17 January 1942 and we were interviewed there by Japanese interrogators of the Navy Department and by the Tokyo Press. I was allowed to make a recording to be used on a radio broadcast saying

A. (Con'd.)

that I was well and was being treated well. We arrived at Shanghai on 23 January and went to Woosung on the 25th, disembarked there and marched three miles to a prison camp, known as the Shanghai War Prisoners camp, and from there on 9 February was taken to Shanghai for questioning by the Japanese Intelligence, and was returned to Woosung on 26 February. I escaped from there on 11 March, and was recaptured the next day with four others. Their names are, Commander Woolley, Royal Navy, Lt. Commander C. D. Smith, USNR, Mr. N. D. Teters from Seattle, Washington, and a Chinese boy whose name was Lu.

We got out of the prison camp by digging under the electrified fence and went on foot to the junction of the Yangtze and Whangpoo Rivers, where we planned to cross to Pootung. We were unable to get a boat to cross the river. The morning came and we went to a Chinese farmer's barn near the village of Powashan. During the course of the day, the word got around that we were there, and the Chinese farmer reported us to the local Chinese puppet troop authorities, who captured us and turned us over to the Japanese. We spent two days in the Woosung military police jail and were taken back handcuffed and led around the prison camp to show them how we escaped. We were then moved to Bridge House. We were kept there a month under investigation and were confined in cells in the Bridge House, one of us in each cell; however, in these cells were 12-15 Chinese prisoners and 4-5 American prisoners (civilians). The treatment was fairly good compared to the treatment of the other prisoners because the Japanese lieutenant, Kawai, was apparently trying to make an impression on us by giving us especially good treatment. We were allowed to buy clothing in the city and also extra food because the Japanese food was very poor. While we were there under questioning, we received no ill treatment other than that our cells were infested with lice, and that we were required not to talk, and were required to sit in the same position all day long. Those of us who did talk, on some occasions, including myself, were hit over the head with a club by the Japanese guards, which was done more or less as a matter of routine.

On the 14th of April, we were taken to the Military prison at Kiang Wan where we were kept for two months while awaiting trial. We had a trial on 14 April, the day we arrived, but it apparently did not suit the Japs, so they gave us another one on 2 June. The conditions of our confinement were bad only from the point of view that we were actually confined in solitary confinement for 23-3/4 hours a day as an average. The food wasn't bad, and we were able to keep fairly clean. We exercised every other day for about thirty minutes. The trials were not really trials in the ordinary sense of the word, but were merely hearings because we had had nothing to conceal. The Japs did not try to get information by forceful means. The trial was presided over by a Jap General with one Colonel and one Major as the other members, and a prosecutor with the rank of Captain. We brought attention to the various international conventions and pointed out that under these agreements, the maximum

punishment for escape was 30 days of solitary confinement. We already had undergone two months of solitary and a month of other confinement. The Japanese court contended that they were not signatories of the convention and were not bound by the provisions of the Geneva Convention agreements. They tried us under provisions of Japanese military law as deserters from the Japanese Army. The three military members of the escape party were sentenced to ten years confinement, Mr. Teters, to two years, and the Chinese boy, to one year confinement. On the 8th of June, we were moved to Shanghai Municipal Jail, locally known as the Ward Road Jail, to serve out our sentences. We remained there for two years and four months. Mr. Teters was released at the expiration of his sentence on 2 June 1944. On the 6th of October 1944, we escaped from the Ward Road Jail. Eight escaped this time. They were Commander Woolley, Lt. Comdr. Smith, Marine Cpl. J. G. Storey, Cpl. C. W. Brimmer, Marine Sgt. R. F. Coulson, Marine Pvt. 1/c C. A. Stewart, and PfcM2/c A. T. Brewer. The enlisted Marines had escaped later than we did the first time. Three of the prisoners, Woolley, Smith, and Storey, completed the escape and reached Free China and eventually the United States. The other five were captured in Shanghai by Chinese police supervised by Japanese, and were returned to the Bridge House on the 7th of October.

We remained there until 3 November, and were moved back to Kiang Nan Military prison. We were tried again on 11 December. Brimmer and I were sentenced to life imprisonment, Stewart to ten years confinement, and Coulson and Brewer to eight years confinement. At the same trial they were trying three civilians who assisted in the escape. These three civilians were Peterson, Olafson, and Halverson. They were sentenced to 10, 8, and 6 years, respectively. The three civilians were moved to Ward Road Jail on 23 December 1944. The other five were kept in the military prison. On 19 January 1945, we were moved to Nanking Military Prison. When we got there, we found another Marine Corporal by the name of Battles, and also a civilian from Wake Island named Herndon, who was serving a two-year sentence for fighting in a prison. There were also present in the Nanking Prison the four surviving Doclittle fliers. We did not actually see them, but we knew they were there.

On 1 August, we were taken to Peking (the five of us who escaped the second time and Battles). On 18 August we were taken from the military prison and moved to Fengtai, the civilian internee camp outside of Peking together with a civilian named Raymond Rutledge who had been sentenced to one year in July for attempted escape. That made a total of seven who were moved to the internee camp. The next day we moved back to Peking and were kept under guard by the Japs until 24 August. On the 20th of August we were contacted by the Army rescue Mission which had dropped in by parachute on 17 August. On 24 August, the Army brought in two B-24's to Peking and took out twenty-seven prisoners of war and took us to Sian, China, and then to Kunming. I was kept there for eight days undergoing a medical check over and then flown back, with other prisoners from Mukden, leaving Kunming on 2 September and arriving in the States by way of India and North Africa on 7 September.

Q. How was the treatment on the Nitta Maru between Wake and Shanghai?

A. The officers were all confined in the mail room of the ship; thirty in a small room. We were not allowed to talk. The food was very light. They evidently wanted to keep the prisoners from being in good physical condition and wanted also to keep our spirits down if possible. We were fed twice a day; the food consisted of thin rice gruel and a small bit of fish or pickle for the afternoon meal. The sanitary facilities were altogether lacking; there were none for washing or shaving. The plumbing was in the nature of five-gallon tins.

Q. Were any of the officers sick at this time?

A. I do not believe anyone was sick except from digestive troubles.

Q. Did the Japs make any attempt to furnish any medical treatment.

A. Very little treatment was given to us. Capt. E. Frueler had been wounded in aerial combat on 22 December. He had two bullet wounds in his shoulder and had great difficulty in getting attention. He occasionally was given a little treatment.

Q. On this trip did you witness any beating of the officers and men?

A. Yes. One officer, Capt. W. M. Platt, USMC, was beaten with a club for talking. I didn't witness any other beatings, but many took place among the enlisted prisoners and civilians elsewhere on the ship.

Q. Did you see the conditions of the enlisted men's and civilians' quarters?

A. They were similar to ours, but were colder. We were over the engine room. I could look down the passage-way and get a glimpse of them, but could not inspect them in any way.

Q. Was your money and other valuable collected?

A. They confiscated all our possessions and forced us to leave them on the deck. They also took all the extra clothing we had. They issued each of us a small wool and cotton undershirt to add to our wardrobes. The officers had sufficient blankets but I don't believe the rest of the people did.

Q. Would you have anything of note to report of your stay in Yokahama?

A. They took several of us from the compartments to be interviewed by the press and Naval intelligence, and in several cases, made recordings for our dependents in the States, saying that we were well, and in order to get these announcements through on the radio, we said we were well treated.

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Q. Did they take all your money?

A. Yes, all of our money except for some which a few of the men managed to conceal was taken either at Wake or on board the ship. They also took all our jewelry, watches, fountain pens and anything else which had any value.

Q. While you were in this first prisoner of war camp near Shanghai, did you suffer any beatings?

A. No, I did not.

Q. Did you witness any beatings administered to any of the prisoners.

A. I saw several officers and men beaten by Japanese sentrys and supervisory officers for failure to salute, or for other trivial reasons.

Q. Can you give us the name of the commanding officer of the Nitta Maru?

A. No.

Q. Did you know the names of any officers on board the ship?

A. Lieut. Saito was in charge of the prisoners.

Q. Do you know the name of the commanding officer of the first prison camp?

A. Yes. Col. Yuse was the commanding officer. His No. 1, was Captain Endo who was assisted by Lieut. Akiyama and Dr. Shindo.

Q. Do you know the names of the interpreters?

A. They had several interpreters, one was a Korean - a civilian - I do not know his name. There were two Japanese non-commissioned officers who knew some English.

Q. Is it a fact that in most instances the beatings were executed upon the orders of the interpreters?

A. The interpreters were very arrogant and overbearing and took it upon themselves to slap the prisoners.

Q. Did you at any time see prisoners abused in the presence of Captain Endo?

A. I do not recall that I did.

Q. Or in the presence of the Commanding Officer of the camp?

A. No. They were aware of the beatings.

- Q. Did you report to the top-side that the men were being abused and beaten by the sentrys and the inferior in command?
- A. Yes, on many occasions.
- Q. In this jail, Bridge House, will you tell us what treatment was received and anything you know concerning the running of that place in the nature of atrocities?
- A. The only atrocities I witnessed was beating of Chinese prisoners by the guards. They were severely beaten at times for smoking or stealing food. I heard them beating and torturing other prisoners in other rooms of the Bridge House, while we were in the offices of the Bridge House, though I could not see what was going on.
- Q. At Ward Road, did they administer any corporal punishment to you?
- A. None of the prisoners of war were punished by corporal punishment. Some were confined on bread and water for smoking violations. Nobody was struck.

*Pol
Pris.
Soviet
Citizens*

The Japanese officer in charge of the prisoners of war was a member of the gaol staff called Mori, in charge of the foreign section in which we were confined along with a group of other prisoners convicted of espionage and sabotage. These prisoners were nationals from all over Europe including fifteen political prisoners who had been convicted of espionage. Five of them were Soviet citizens who were sentenced for espionage activities in Shanghai. We found there also seven other political prisoners - 6 British and one Russian - who had been convicted of organizing a sabotage ring. Mr. Gande, a British citizen, who was a Shanghai merchant, was the leader of this ring and sentenced to four years confinement. Another, Mr. Elias, was a Shanghai broker.

- Q. These people you just mentioned were civilians who were convicted of offenses against the Japanese regime?
- A. Yes. There were also upwards of 100 assorted consular prisoners and white prisoners of no nationality (mostly White Russian) serving time for ordinary crimes.
- Q. These civil criminals were confined in the same place as the prisoners of war, weren't they?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you make any complaint to the person in charge of the war prisoners that this situation was contrary to the rules of land warfare?
- A. Yes, we made several written complaints to the superior Japanese Army officer in that area protesting against being confined with criminals and about the fact that we were allowed no tobacco and no writing

materials and also requesting that we be allowed to supplement our food supply from outside. These requests were ignored. From about the middle of June for about six months, however, we were allowed extra food on advice of the doctor.

Q. At Nanking, did you suffer any abuses?

A. This second trip to Bridge House, we were in a cell with a large number of Chinese and conditions were very bad because of lice. The food was poor consisting solely of rice and resulted in my case in malnutrition, indigestion, and beri-beri. At Kiang Wan the Japs who dished out the food saw to it that the Americans got the thinnest soup and the smallest portions of rice. We had no medical attention. Some of the prisoners were suffering from bad skin infections; I had a couple of infections on my leg as a result of the escape, that lasted quite a while. We suffered quite a bit from cold. They gave us no clothing other than what we had escaped in, in early October, and the four or five blankets they gave us were thin and had very little warmth. We were in solitary confinement and averaged fifteen minutes of exercise two or three times a week.

In August 1943, while in Ward Road Gaol, the Swiss Consul commenced to furnish assistance in the way of small amounts of food sent in, and also small allowances of money and a certain amount of clothing and soap and things of that nature. The Jap in charge, Mori, took about 40% of everything and used or sold it to others. At first, the governor was a Jap, but he was retired in July 1943, and replaced by a Chinaman. The Chinese took no action but left everything to Mori who stole the goods and food sent in to us, and also the money we used to supplement the food. We were supposed to be able to write to our relatives at home but because of Captain Mori, occasionally they failed to supply us with writing materials. We received mail which had been censored by the Japanese military police. I got some three dozen or more letters during my imprisonment. Some of the prisoners got as few as two letters during the whole time of confinement. This was probably because the Japs took no pains to censor and issue it to them.

Q. Did they allow Red Cross packages to be sent to you?

A. The prisoners in the prisoner of war camp received them but we did not. The help we got from the Swiss was not from the Red Cross.

Q. Do you have any complaints to make relative to the treatment you received at Nanking?

A. The treatment here was a little better, with better food. We received a small amount of medical attention. We were not allowed any reading matter, and were punished for talking. They usually handcuffed us so we could not move our hands at all. In the Spring and Summer, we were with a shortage of water. At one time we were confined four in

a cell with no room to lie down, but most of the time we had enough space. For the most, you could say we received fairly moderate treatment. This was true except for one time we were severely punished for a violation of the prison regulations. They tried to keep us from talking, and the guards tried to control the situation by adopting measures of their own. On the 25th of June 1945 in Nanking, we were seven in a cell which was pretty crowded and we had been warned to stop talking. This we failed to do so the guard closed the windows of the cell and it was very hot. The plumbing consisted of a bucket in the corner. One of the prisoners broke a window to let in some air. Everyone from the Commanding Officer down, came down to investigate and took out five of us who were in good health and put us in leather strait jackets. They were then taken out in the yard and water was thrown on them, so that when the leather dried, it would draw up. Coulson had been very ill. I had recovered from my illness but had dropped in weight down to 115 pounds. We were given extra consideration by not being put into strait jackets. We were put into heavy leather belts to which were clamped hand cuffs, for fifteen days.

Q. What were the conditions at Peking?

A. It was run much more tightly. They pushed us around considerably, but there were no beatings. The food was very poor. From 6 October 1944, until we were released, we were not allowed to have any contact with outsiders such as the Swiss Consul, nor receive any outside aid. We were not allowed to write letters. We received several letters during the first few months, but during the last six months we did not. We were not allowed any tobacco. When we were in Kiang Wan and Nanking, both places were bombed several times by U. S. Army bombers.

Q. Were your places of confinement close to military action?

A. Yes, right in the midst of it. We could hear the Japs drilling in our vicinity.

Q. Were there any anti-aircraft guns in your vicinity?

A. Yes, there were many guns in both places and we could hear them firing at the bombers as they flew over the area. On some occasions we could see the American P-51's and P-29's.

Q. Did any bombs fall within the prison?

A. The prison at Kiang Wan was a very small building and no bombs landed actually in the enclosure, but they shook the building. The Jap guards wore steel helmets and unlocked all the cell doors with the idea of moving Jap prisoners out, but we were not taken to shelters. The sanitary facilities here were very bad. The prisoners who were sick got very little medical treatment, and nobody was allowed any dental treatment.

Q. Did they work you?

A. Some of the enlisted men prisoners worked in the garden at Ward Road Gaol, but it was voluntary. It gave them a leeway to prepare for the escape. No one worked at any other place.

Q. From your observation, in your opinion, was the lack of food due to the lack of the food supplies of the Japanese, or was it a planned system of starvation?

A. I think there was plenty of food in China and the Japs could and did get it. Our rations in the prisons were supposed to be the same as for the other prisoners, and they were except for the fact that the Japs in charge of the food would often times steal it.

Q. Would those in charge of the prisoner of war camps deliberately under-feed the prisoners?

A. Yes. In the prisoner of war camp it was true. I know that from the evidence that they were kept in very low physical state because of holding out on the food.

NOTE: When we left the military prison at Peking I know that there was confined therein four of the Doolittle fliers: Lieutenant Neilson, Hite, and Barr, and Sgt. Deshazer. They were confined in that prison for two days after our release and until I made contact with the rescue mission and told them of their whereabouts. I did not see these men at Nanking, but did see them in the cells in the Peking military prison as I was going to and from the wash-room; however, I did not get to hold any conversation with them until after our release.

/s/ Winfield S. Cunningham
WINFIELD S. CUNNINGHAM, Capt.
U.S.N.

State of Maryland)
) SS
County of Anne Arundel)

I, Winfield S. Cunningham 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/ Winfield S. Cunningham
WINFIELD S. CUNNINGHAM, Capt.
U.S.N.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of November 1945.

/s/ A. Evelyn Wayson
My Commission expires
May 5, 1948 (SEAL)

- Q. Will you describe your quarters at Mulden.
- A. [The buildings were particularly cold during the severe Manchurian winters and the Japanese only allowed us one shuttle of coal per stove per day. With this inadequate amount of coal, we often could only get the stove half-way warm, let alone the building. The buildings were old frame structures, half under and half above the ground, and the wind blew through them. In Manchuria, the wind blows continuously in the winter. They were never warm enough so that we could be comfortable without overcoats.
- Q. What about medical supplies?
- A. These were only available in extreme cases and then all that we received was a matter of charity because they were purchased by a Japanese, Dr. OKI, out of his own pocket and were not furnished by the Japanese Government.
- Q. What about the food?
- A. When we first arrived there, the food was very poor and at this time men were in their worst condition. We received a maize and pechi soup and two sour buns per day. Pechi is a Chinese cabbage. This was during the first month and a half that we were there and in that time approximately 200 men died from malnutrition. Later food conditions improved, but even then we were frequently given contaminated foods. Often, the fish and meat were so decomposed and contaminated that our mess crew would have to bury it. Often in borderline cases, food was cooked rather than buried and many times it was so bad that we couldn't eat it. Our mess sergeant during this period was Sgt. Andy Pervuznik who was from the 31st Inf. Division, and was formerly a mess sergeant. He would have information as to what type of food we received and on what days.
- Q. What Japanese officers are responsible for this condition?
- A. Col. K. MATSUDA was in charge of the camp. His staff consisted of Capt. ISHIKAWA, Lt. MURATA, Lt. FUKAZUA and Lt. MISAGO who all bear some responsibility along with him.
- Q. What American officers would have further information?
- A. Major Hankins, Capt. Grow and the American doctor, Capt. Herbst, would have both information and records.

/s/ ELMER A. MORSE
Elmer A. Morse, Sgt., CAC

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State of Illinois)
) SS
County of Knox)

I, Elmer A. Morse, 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/ ELMER A. MORSE
Elmer A. Morse, Sgt., CAC

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2 day of November 1945.

/s/ FLORENCE JOHNSON

(S E A L)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Meyer Sugarman, Special Agent, Security Intelligence Corps, Fourth Service Command, certify that Elmer A. Morse, 16003848, Sgt., personally appeared before me on 1 October 1945, and testified concerning war crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by (him) to the several questions set forth.

Place: Miami Beach, Florida

Date: 6 October 1945

/s/ MEYER SUGARMAN
(Signature) Meyer Sugarman
(Organization) Special Agent,
Security Intelligence Corps,
Fourth Service Command

CONFIDENTIAL

26 February 1945

City of Washington)
) SS:
District of Columbia)

Statement of Comdr. C. D. Smith, 56415, 701 Blackstone Hotel,
2732 Navy Department, Ext. 2203. Commanding Officer of USS Wake,
liaison officer, Office of American Consulate.

GENERAL INFORMATION

I was captured in Shanghai at noon on 8 December 1941 with about 14 enlisted men from the USS Wake. I was taken to the old Chinese Mint and kept there until the 9th of December, when I was taken to the Japanese naval prison in Kiangwan Road. I was kept there until 23 January 1942, when I was moved to the Woosung prisoner of war camp. It was on this date that the Wake Island prisoners were brought to the camp. I remained at Woosung prisoner of war camp until the 12th or 13th of March, 1942, at which time I, with three others, escaped. I was recaptured about 24 hours later and taken to the Woosung gendarmerie headquarters and interrogated for two days. We were then transferred to Bridge House, after paying the prisoner of war camp at Woosung a short visit, during which we were shackled and led around the camp at the end of dog leashes for the edification of the other prisoners. After being detained 30 days in Bridge House, we were shifted to the Japanese army prison at Kiangwan for a general court martial. We were kept here 53 days in solitary confinement. The court consisted of one general, three colonels, one major, and two warrant officers. At the expiration of this time, I received a sentence of ten years imprisonment to be served in a criminal jail with loss of all military rights. The charge for which we were tried was "desertion from the Japanese Army in time of war." We were told at the time sentence was passed that we deserved the death penalty, but owing to the fact that we were "poor, ignorant foreigners," justice would be tempered with mercy. On June 8, 1942, we were transferred to Ward Road Jail and began serving our sentence. Here we remained for two years, four months, escape finally being effected on October 6, 1944.

THE OLD CHINESE MINT, December 8 and 9, 1941

The Old Chinese Mint was a partially abandoned building in which I was kept in a large room filled with furniture. No heat, no washing facilities, no toilet.

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JAPANESE NAVAL PRISON, KIANGWAN ROAD, CHINA
Dec. 9 to Jan. 23, 1942

This building was an old Chinese schoolhouse on the grounds of the Japanese naval observatory. Officers were given separate rooms, which were fairly clean and passable in all respects. Enlisted men were put six in a room. All conditions were fairly good.

WOOSUNG PRISONER OF WAR CAMP
Jan. 23, 1942, to March 12, 1942

Conditions at Woosung camp were deplorable, the sanitary conditions particularly being beyond all hope of betterment. Food conditions likewise. For 1500 to 1600 men, mostly prisoners from Wake Island, between 50 and 65 pounds of meat and a small amount of rice were issued in three equal lots daily. From the first day written protests were filed by senior officers, both medical and line. The Japanese commanding officer, Col. Yusei, finally became crazy and eventually died. Capt. Undo is the name of the executive officer. The Wake Island prisoners had been kept two days without food after capture on Wake Island and were then brought in the steamship Nitta Maru, which took 17 days to arrive in Shanghai, via Tokio. During this period aboard ship each man was given a cup of congee twice a day, this being the sole food allowance. There were no toilet facilities or lavatories furnished at any time for the 17 days. When these men boarded off the Nitta Maru at Woosung, they were clothed in tennis shoes and khaki pants and shirts as they had just come from the tropics. The weather at this time was cold in Shanghai and immediate protests were made to the Japanese authorities over the lack of clothing. Many of these men were struck and beaten as they came down the gangway by Japanese guards. I do not know the names of any of the victims as I had not met any of them up to that time.

The camp consisted of seven barracks subdivided into divisions holding thirty-six men sleeping on raised platforms on bare boards with four Japanese cotton blankets each, which was insufficient. The water supply was inadequate and for periods of a day at a time no water could be obtained. No arrangements whatsoever were made for drinking water, the whole water supply coming from a surface well about 30 feet deep. It would be fatal to drink water of this type in China without first boiling it. The only potable liquids furnished were cups of tea at mealtime. The toilet facilities were abominable, the toilets all draining into ditches which surrounded their respective barracks. No unnecessary cruelty came under my observation at this time except occasionally a sentry would strike a man for disobedience of orders which were

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... explained to us. Protests were made time and again over this fact because we never knew when we were breaking rules. Every sentry makes his own orders. Except for the above, there were few cases of personal abuse.

Lt. Robinson, USN, was rather severely beaten by two Japanese for refusing to crank a truck on one occasion. Robinson was in naval uniform at the time. This occurred about the 1st of February, 1942. Several other officers were slapped and kicked by the guards during this period. There was no heat and no warm clothing was supplied until about the first of March, when discarded Japanese army uniforms were furnished the thinly-clad men. To my knowledge no heat was supplied at any time for any prisoners held by the Japanese. This includes all prisons and camps of which I have knowledge.

During April and May, 1942, the Red Cross, through the Swiss consulate, succeeded in sending down weekly issues of coal for cooking and bathing water purposes. The Japanese regularly took about half of this coal for their own officers' quarters. The cooking arrangements consisted of a number of large iron cauldrons set in brickwork. You ate soup or you didn't eat.

Another atrocity which was committed here comes to mind. A prisoner of war whose name escapes me was shot through the neck by a sentry. 15 or 20 people witnessed the incident. I did not see it personally. He was standing talking to the sentry, being about 10 to 15 feet away from him, when the sentry suddenly raised his rifle and shot him. The American senior officer violently protested to the camp authorities, and a Japanese inquiry was presumably held as the next day a statement was issued by the Japanese commandant that the affair was accidental, and the sentry was returned to duty at the same post.

Still another atrocity comes to mind. This man's name was Mark Staten, an American civilian from Wake Island, who died in March, 1942, of malnutrition and starvation. The death certificate was signed by three American naval medical officers as being attributable to the above causes. Before his death numerous overtures were made to the Japanese for a special diet, as this man was not in good condition when he arrived at the camp, but it was impossible to secure anything in the way of extra food for him. The doctors who signed the death certificate are Dr. Tyson, Captain, USN, Dr. Foley, Lt. Comdr., USN, and another doctor whose name escapes me.

The Red Cross is not recognized or allowed to function, but in a few cases they do manage to get in stuff to people through the Swiss consulate. They are still doing this at Woosung prisoner

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at war camp. Once a week at Woosung (now changed to Kiangwan Camp), they are allowing the Red Cross to send down pork and beans on Friday. They cook the pork and beans together, having beans for Friday night dinner and pork for Saturday night, but on these two meals the Japanese ration is cancelled.

WOOSUNG GENDARMERIE
March 13 and 14, 1942

At this place we were confined in a small, extremely filthy hole in the concrete wall. The food consisted of congee three times a day. This was delivered by a small coolie, who would bring a bucket full of rice, dip both hands into it and make a ball about the size of his doubled fist. This was then rolled through the bars across the filthy cell floor to the person to whom it was going. No water or tea--nothing drinkable--was furnished.

BRIDGE HOUSE
March 14, 1942, to April 13, 1942

At Bridge House I was confined in a cell with 18 others--Chinese, Japanese, and foreigners. The conditions in this place were appalling. I was lying next to a man with leprosy and was forced to sleep in close contact with him as the place was so crowded. We were kept here for 30 days undergoing what the Japanese called an investigation. The food consisted of congee in the morning and four ounces of bread a day. One small cup of tea was given us twice a day, no other liquids being procurable.

The moral degradation here was of considerably more importance than the actual physical discomfort, which in itself was sufficient punishment for anyone. This was during the month of March, and it was very cold. We were given one blanket each, which was completely insufficient when one is sleeping on the bare floor. During the day we were forced to sit in formation, cross legged on the floor, without any support or rest for the back or arms. At times an unusually cruel guard would make the rounds of the cells, forcing everyone to kneel on the wooden floor. This would sometimes be kept up for six or eight hours.

About two minutes a day were allowed for washing, which was carried out at a tap in the open courtyard, cold water only being furnished. No exercise period was allowed, although in a few occasions the prisoners in one cell would be allowed in the courtyard to scrub down the gutters and deck. All of the prisons

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in which I was confined were infested with vermin, but this was undoubtedly the worst. Lice were swarming everywhere. A few favorite prisoners were allowed to have a small amount of food sent in from outside, but we did not succeed in getting permission for this.

I saw a lot of torturing in this place. Reference is particularly made to R. Reed, retired chief storekeeper, and Sgt. Jackson (now a lieutenant), USMC. Both Reed and Jackson were detained here for 90 days and were severely mistreated. Reed had been out of service for some ten years, but the Japanese insisted that he must have valuable information, which was their excuse for torturing him. Jackson had been acting as clerk for Major Williams, who was an ONI representative in Shanghai before the war, and the Japanese were most insistent on extracting information from him for this reason.

I remember Sgt. Yamamoto quite well. I consider him a bad egg. There was one Kato there, an interpreter, who was very vicious. One of the worst of all was a Japanese interpreter who designated himself as being No. 56, he being very careful to keep us from learning his name. No. 56 was this man's official number as an interpreter. I have his name and something of his personal history safely secured in Shanghai and full information can be obtained about him after the war. This man had spent at least half of each year in the states for a long period as he was in the export business from Japan. Although being a Japanese subject, he was married to an American Japanese and had several children. Two of his daughters at that time were attending the University of Southern California. All of his family except himself were American citizens. He was one of the vilest, most vicious men in the whole place. This man was cautious in handling us military prisoners and evinced strong wishes to remain incognito.

The Japanese sergeant who was known as "the big, bad wolf," but whose name I forget, was one of the most sadistic of the lot. He had a habit of always roaring at the prisoners and also beating people without provocation, which I think will cause him to be remembered by many people who were confined at Bridge House.

Lt. Kawai was in charge of all foreigners at Bridge House. I have never seen him torture people himself, but he is undoubtedly the man who issued orders for this to be done. In one questioning while in his office he called me a liar, whereupon I got up and tried to hit him, but he got out of the room before I could attack him. He came back in a few minutes and apologized. Ishihara was an interpreter and a bad man.

There were only one or two good people in the whole place, a Mrs. Nogami being excellent. She was also an interpreter. It is

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possible that she can be persuaded to testify about atrocities after the war as she is a woman of fine character. Her husband was educated in the states and she was educated at an American mission school in Japan. She spoke excellent English and had been sent to Shanghai from Japan especially as an interpreter. She was strongly adverse to torture and raised a real row with the torturers whenever possible, but, of course, she was unable to accomplish much.

I saw a number of tortures to a minor degree in Bridge House while passing through the car doors on my many trips up to the office. I saw men being given the water treatment, being burned with cigarettes, being given shocks with an electrical machine of some kind, and almost innumerable beatings with clubs and with the backs of swords. Violent kicking with heavy army boots on the prisoners' shins was so common as to be almost unnoticed. Several Chinese suffered broken legs from this while I was in Bridge House.

The water treatment consists of lashing a man down face up across the desk top. A bath towel is then so rolled as to form a circle around his nose and mouth, and a five-gallon can of water, which was generally mixed with the vilest of human refuse and other filth, such as kerosene, was then put handy. The man was then questioned, and if he did not respond, the water was poured into the space made by the bath towel, forcing the prisoner either to swallow and inhale the vile concoction or to strangle himself. This is kept up, questioning between doses, until the man is at a point of unconsciousness. Shortly before unconsciousness is reached, the man is frequently beaten across the belly with a small iron rod. After consciousness has left, he is usually suspended by the heels from a tackle directly overhead and the water allowed to drain out of him. When he has sufficiently recuperated, the treatment is resumed. I saw parts of this torture given to different individuals, but never saw the complete treatment given to any one person. I never saw an American being given this treatment, but Leroy Healy of Shanghai told me that he had undergone the punishment.

Before beginning torture or questioning, the Japanese almost invariably stripped the prisoner stark naked. This is a tremendous psychological disadvantage as when a man loses his dignity, he usually loses his firmness. The ordinary procedure for questioning was to force the prisoner to kneel on a metal plate alongside of a desk with his hands at his sides and he was then questioned by two or three Japanese. This position becomes acutely painful after a few minutes, but if the prisoner wavers or attempts to relieve himself by using his hands, he is beaten. Most Japanese are chain smokers and while the questioning is going on, as they finish their cigarettes, the lighted butts are usually pressed gently against any part of the man's bare anatomy and thus extinguished. I have personally seen more than thirty foreigners who had somewhere between 300 and 500 cigarette burns on all parts of their bodies. Including in this lot was one American, Leroy Healy, a news commentator from the American radio station, Shanghai.

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Many indecencies were witnessed in this place, one being the case of Mrs. Ellis Hyam, who was kept in a cell for 27 days with about 25 men of all races. The toilet facilities in all cells consisted of a rather large wooden tub in the front of the cell, which Mrs. Hyam was forced to use in full view of everyone.

In the next cell to this lady was a foreign woman whom I did not know. At one time the Japanese found a small scrap of paper in her cell on which was scribbled some writing. This incensed them greatly, and they marched all the occupants out into the open courtyard, forcing them to completely disrobe in the cell before going out. This woman was in a very advanced stage of pregnancy and she and about 25 men were forced to stand in the courtyard, where it was bitterly cold and in full view of dozens of others for at least 30 minutes while the cell and clothing were examined for the offending pencil.

I have seen the electrical treatment being given, but don't know just exactly what it is or how severe the results are. It does not appear to be very efficacious.

After the war I can produce the names and addresses of more than 30 white men who were seriously tortured in Bridge House if they are still alive. Only one of these was an American--Healy.

I do not know what the Japs were trying to learn by these tortures. The men who were tortured seldom had any idea as to what was required of them. For some reason they frequently picked on men who knew nothing and who had done nothing. The principal question was "Are you mixed up with underground activities to aid the enemy or against Japan?", and senseless questions like this were asked for hours and hours. The harshness of treatment depended on the particular sergeant and interpreter who were questioning. Each handled the prisoner according to his own ideas. One man might be tortured once or possibly a dozen times. One could never guess. The sergeants were given a completely free hand apparently. Several Chinese were so severely beaten that they died in their cells. I gathered the impression that the officers did not give explicit directions for questioning, but merely ordered so and so out for interrogation. It seemed to be generally understood among all Japanese personnel that punishment would be inflicted as and when required. It is certain that all officers attached to the gendarmerie knew practically every detail of what was going on because the cries, moans, and sounds of blows could be heard over the whole building at most any time.

I was not tortured at Bridge House because if a man recognizes the fact that the Japanese is markedly inferior and the Japanese subconsciously realizes the fact that the man knows this, and above all if one doesn't lose his temper, Japanese can be handled remarkably well. I have had them say to me "Put your hands out."; "What for?"

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"I am going to handcuff you."; "What for?"; "I am going to punish you."; "Oh, no. I won't have it. I can't stand for that sort of thing." In such cases I have never seen the time when the Jap in question didn't back down. It would be way better for everyone if the Japanese Navy had charge of prisoners. The Japanese naval officer approximates a gentleman compared with the army officer. Most all naval officers speak some English; this is rare in the army. It is notable that in order to become an officer in the army it is necessary that a man serve two years as a private first.

You would be surprised how many Japanese try to be friendly, especially during the last six months of my imprisonment. I have casually suggested to a few officials that torturing was inhuman, but they seem to be mildly surprised that I should assume such an attitude. I am sure that many of them are against torture in principle, but they dare not criticize their superiors. In Bridge House there were two persons, Mrs. Nogami and a sergeant, who were openly against all forms of torture, but neither of them could apply sufficient pressure to mitigate the punishment. I have seen this sergeant just mentioned with tears in his eyes when he would see and hear extreme torture being applied. Mrs. Nogami frequently became so angry with the torturers that she would ask them what the hell they were doing and tell them not to be beasts. She may have been of some assistance in certain specific cases, but she was treading on dangerous ground and she seemed to recognize the fact and modify her actions accordingly. It seems to me that torturing was not against regulations, but was at least tacitly understood, if not worse.

JAPANESE ARMY PRISON, KIANGWAN
April 13 to June 8, 1942.

At Kiangwan the cells were of concrete with wooden flooring and measured four feet by nine feet. The toilet facilities consisted of a benjo underneath the flooring, which was reached by means of a trapdoor. The trapdoor was loose fitting and the receptacles under the flooring were rarely cleaned. The stench in these cells was abominable. To make matters worse the only ventilation was through a peephole in the door measuring $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch by 6 inches.

Here we were in solitary confinement and the Japanese tried to force us to kneel facing the wall on the bare floor all day except during mealtimes. We were not allowed to sit on the blankets. At 7:00 A.M. we were led to the yard and allowed five minutes for toilet. This included the time from opening the door until time of closing the door, which probably gave less than two minutes for completing our ablutions. Exercise was allowed us for 20 minutes two or three times a week. This was one of the few places where we were allowed sufficient bedding to keep warm.

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Here we were fed on Japanese army rations, which were excellent and all of us would have been delighted to have spent the whole war on such food. One of the worst features in this jail, as in others, was the lack of potable liquids, we being given a small cup of tea three times a day. Overhead in each cell was a 100 watt light which burned all night long, making sleep very hard to one unaccustomed to it.

We were in this prison 53 days. Immediately after we left here the rations were changed to the allowance previously given Chinese prisoners only. This consisted of rice twice a day and a piece of pung once a day. Pung is steamed bread as nearly inedible as any food I have ever seen. We were later to receive this article as a part of a standard diet at Ward Road Jail. By no means could the shortage of food be attributed to a shortage of supplies. Most of us, especially Comdr. Woolley, Royal Navy, and myself, had access to practically unlimited funds from outside sources and could have secured ample foodstuffs. This was a deliberate policy of mistreatment intended in some cases to cause death, as death was really wanted in some cases such as that of Col. Bishop, of whom mention will be made later.

The courtrartial at Kiangwan was conducted fairly decently except that we were given an interpreter who didn't speak English. A defense counsel was assigned us who couldn't speak English either. It was really very amusing because I could understand nearly everything said in Japanese. They would comment to each other such as "It is a very serious offense. We should give them the limit." The defense counsel would speak up and say "I think we should really give them the limit." The court sentence which was finally received at the end of 53 days was only 10 years penal servitude because we were "poor, ignorant foreigners who didn't know any better." The death sentence was mentioned in the conversation carried on by the court authorities at numerous times. I believe that the court was in favor of execution because they spoke of Tokio being soft, "What's matter? Why didn't they execute these fellows?"; that is what they were expecting, which leads me to believe that the sentence was ordered from Tokio direct. In conversations such as the above Japanese rarely believe that anyone understand their language and consequently they are remarkably frank at times. After pleading guilty to the charge of having escaped and having described the whole process they took eight hours questioning to prove to them in their own minds that we were guilty. They even produced such evidence as part of the electrical fence and the shovel with which we had dug a trench. The whole affair was such a farce that we had difficulty keeping our faces straight.

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WARD ROAD JAIL
June 8 to October 6, 1944

On arrival at Ward Road Jail we were taken over by the jailor of this civilian prison. Most of the warders and officials were British with a few Americans, Russians, etc. Practically all of the British were ex-service men. The No. 1 jailor at this time was a Mr. Chadderton, ex-Royal Navy, who apologized profusely for guarding people of his own kind, but stated that he had cleared his conscience by having all Allied guards and warders sign a round robin note to Japanese authorities relieving themselves of all responsibility for our safety. This amazing condition lasted for nearly a year at which time all civilian Allies were rounded up and put in concentration camps in the Shanghai area. Up to this time we had had a few Japanese especially detailed to watch over us, but after the Allied guards were sent to concentration camps all warders were Japanese, including the head of the prison. Chinese and Sikhs remained as guards in this prison throughout the whole time, but were forbidden to talk to us.

At this prison we were confined in separate cells and the physical conditions of the jail were quite good as this is a fine, modern institution. At the time we were imprisoned here there were 9300 prisoners in the institution, making this the world's largest jail. At no time did we have more than 40 or 50 military and political prisoners here, all the rest being criminals. The food, which was never good, gradually deteriorated in quantity and quality until during the last year of our imprisonment our ration consisted of a cup of boiled barley without salt or sugar in the morning, no lunch, and a thin watery soup for dinner. 16 ounces of passable bread was furnished per man per day. This generous portion of bread was what kept us alive. Fortunately there was plenty of drinking water and ample quantities of hot tea twice a day. In theory we were allowed exercise for a period of two hours a day, but in practice this worked out somewhat over half of that.

We were not allowed any games or diversions of any kind except books. The jail had a fairly decent library of its own. When we had run through this, we were allowed to amplify our supply by having friends from the outside send in books. This was the most priceless boon of the whole war. When Shanghai was seized the Japanese threw the libraries of the various clubs into the streets. These were picked up by indigent Chinese and sold as waste paper. We had Chinese friends outside who bought these books by the gross and sent large numbers of them in to us.

We were never treated inhumanely in this place but managed to stay on fairly good terms, chiefly through the efforts of the head jailor, a Mr. P. Mori, whose mother was an American, father Japanese. The bedding here was insufficient, but we were allowed

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to receive sufficient covering from the Swiss consulate upon making a request.

The nearest to an atrocity occurring at this place was the case of George Bruce, an American newspaperman of Shanghai. He and six others were sent down from Pootung Camp for having a concealed radio set. Due to insufficient food Bruce suffered two heart attacks in this prison and died the next day after being returned to Pootung Camp after completing his sentence.

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Father Roque, an American priest, was stationed near Shasi, Hupeh Province. When the Japanese took this area, they finally rounded him up, he making no effort to escape. He had kept a log book in which day to day information was noted. Injudiciously he had shortened the word "Japanese" to "Jap" in these personal notes and as a consequence was slapped around quite extensively when the Japanese came to read his notes. After Father Roque was arrested, he was transferred to several prisons in central China, but finally wound up in Ward Road Jail, Shanghai, sometime in 1944. Father Roque told me that he was not allowed to take a bath for I believe 17 months and for one period of 9 months could not even wash his face and hands or brush his teeth. This occurred in prisons in central China. I doubt if any evidence can be obtained from Father Roque about his treatment as the Catholic priests have orders not to talk. I believe additional information regarding this particular case could be obtained from Healy, however, as Healy was his cell-mate in Ward Road jail. Father Roque was eventually tried in Hankow I believe and was given a sentence of several years to be served in a criminal jail.

An American army colonel named Bishop, I believe, was at Bridge House during 1942. I think that he was shot down in French Indo China. Three other Americans were with him. He was treated very badly indeed, so I am told by others who saw and talked to him. He was kept in Bridge House for one solid year. Long before the expiration of this time he had contacted beri beri, dysentery, and probably other diseases. It appeared that the Japanese were trying to kill him, but he refused to die. The Swiss consulate went to work and somehow they managed to have him transferred to the prisoner of war camp at Kiangwan (ex Woosung). At the prisoner of war camp Navy doctors did everything they could for him, and I understand that he has regained his health. For months he had been unable to stand and could hardly crawl toward the latter part of his confinement at Bridge House.

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Four of Doolittle's men were executed in Shanghai right near where I was according to the local Japanese newspapers. I believe this to be true. The newspapers announced that a public decapitation had been carried out. I could not possibly guess the approximate date. Shortly before this event local newspapers under Tokyo date line stated that the Diet had promulgated an order whereby any foreign aviator bombing Japan would be summarily beheaded when caught. After some time newspapers came out stating that these four Americans had been tried and dealt with in accordance with this order. A notice was also served at the same time that in the future all cases of this kind would be handled in the same manner.

The Japanese refused to recognize the Geneva Conference in any shape or form, contending that the Japanese were a law unto themselves. If the question of the conference were pushed, they would almost go into hysterics.

I know a great deal about the Black Dragon Society as I have run across a few Japanese who are connected with it and occasionally let slip a few remarks. They are, of course, all extremists. I have been told by several of them that even if Japan lost the war, all United States prisoners would be executed. They were of the opinion that all prisoners should be killed regardless of the outcome of the war, which probably explains a great deal of the torturing. I cannot remember the names of any of the Japanese connected with this Society.

Paul Chandler, Warrant Officer, USMC (now Lt. Col.), was stationed in Shanghai with the 4th Marines. When the marines were sent to the Philippines, Chandler with four sergeants assisting him remained in Shanghai to clear up business affairs. For some reason the Japanese allowed him to stay free for about a week after war was declared. He was then rounded up and brought to Bridge House. He was kept there for about two days I believe, and was then sent down to the Japanese naval prison, where he joined me. Chandler and his four sergeants were repatriated in the Gripsholm on her first trip to the east.

The Japanese navy did not take any of my belongings. They did take the belongings of the crew, but they took absolutely nothing of mine. When the army took us over, they took everything I do not know if the Japanese notified the United States Government of our capture, but we made several transcripts for broadcasts. As we almost invariably made derogatory remarks about the Japanese in these transcripts, it is doubtful if they ever went through. We were not allowed to write to our families until some time after July, 1942. The prisoner of war camp at Woosung was camouflaged. Prisoners of war were forced to wear Japanese uniforms. The camp was adjacent to a radio station. The Japanese appeared to be

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jubilant over the attack on Pearl Harbor, considering it a glorious success. Subsequent to this we were frequently told "We are about to land on the Pacific Coast. All civilians along the coast have been evacuated by the Americans."

I suspect that a lot of mistreatment and negligence that the Japs showed was the result of ignorance as much as anything else. None were very intelligent and they just didn't know what to do. Officers exercised very little supervision. The remarkable diversity of orders was a constant source of friction in all camps. At Woosung prisoner of war camp we made determined efforts to have Col. Yusei formulate a set of rules of conduct and we told him that we would abide by all sets that were legal, but he admitted that it would be impossible for him to do so, because to a great extent the Japanese soldier issues his own rules as needed. In this line they seem to leave a great deal up to the individual. I have been on board Japanese cruisers and destroyers in action. It is one of the most amazing experiences I have ever had. How they run anything, I don't know. The quartermaster would be shouting at the captain and the captain in turn would be shouting at someone else, nearly all of them running around screaming. It was one of the most unusual things that happen aboard ship I have ever seen. It is amazing to me that they have done as well as they have against us, particularly at sea.

We were told that all prison guards are especially trained. A large number of these men are ex-service men, chiefly petty officers who have been wounded in action or who have done meritorious service. I believe they get about two weeks' training under supervision of the War Prisoner Bureau at Tokio. They do not seem to use the usual regimental unit designation, but appear to be classified as companies and the prisoner of war corps.

The Japanese guards were fed excellent food everywhere from what I could see. It was impossible to ascertain what rations were issued to enlisted personnel other than in the prisons to which I was confined.

The Columbia Country Club has been made into a concentration camp where they have about 250 prisoners, largely American women and children. Japanese army officers are using the Shanghai Club and the American Club as their living quarters.

Curfew at Shanghai when I left was at 10:00 P.M., all lights except a few street lights being doused at this time. An attempt had been made to blacken out completely, but robberies increased to such an enormous extent that certain lights had to be left burning. In civilian homes the largest light allowed was 5 watts.

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On several occasions I was able to discuss the theory of prisoners of war with Japanese officers. They, to my amazement, always insisted that to have taken up arms against Japan was criminal and that the prisoners must pay whatever penalty they saw fit to impose. I had the distinct impression that nearly all officers thought that the death penalty should be exacted for our temerity.

/s/ C. D. Smith
C. D. SMITH, Comdr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 5th day of March 1945,
at Washington, D. C.

/s/ Philip L. Smith
1st Lt., JAGD

26 February 1945

Statement by Comdr. C. D. Smith, 56415, regarding naval action between British and Japanese forces at Shanghai at the outbreak of war, December 8, 1941.

At 0420 on December 8, 1941, a Japanese captain went on board HMS Peterel and delivered a formal declaration of war to the commanding officer with a demand for the surrender of the vessel. The commanding officer had had previous notice of the outbreak of war and had his crew at battle stations.

The Japanese captain was told that surrender would not be made, whereupon the launch carrying the Japanese captain pulled out from the ship 700 feet and fired a Veri pistol into the air. On this signal shore batteries of 75 mm field guns stationed on the French Bund and on Pootung Point opened fire on the Peterel simultaneously with a Japanese destroyer which was moored alongside the Bund opposite to Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Building and a Japanese gun boat which was moored to the customs jetty. The Peterel was swamped with concentrated gunfire and was unable to reply with a single shot.

The Peterel's commanding officer seeing that the situation was hopeless, told the remaining members of his crew to get into the motorboat and try to get ashore. It was about this time that I became an eye witness to the following incident.

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The boat had pulled away from the ship about 100 yards when machine guns from the naval vessels and from shore opened a concentrated fire on her. The boat almost immediately burst into flame and capsized. Those members of the crew who were still alive then attempted to escape to the shore by swimming, whereupon the Japanese concentrated their fire on these survivors, killing several.

I would classify this as murder pure and simple as the Bund was lined with Japanese soldiers and it was perfectly easy to place these men under arrest as they reached the shore.

/s/ C. D. Smith
C. D. SMITH, Comdr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5 day of March 1945, at Washington, D. C.

/s/ Philip L. Smith
1st Lt., JAGD

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1902A

STATE OF ARKANSAS :
: ss:
County of Jefferson :

[HAROLD FRANK HOGUE, S/Sgt, US Army, ASN 18166447, R.F.D. #7, Box 70 Pine Bluff, Ark. being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

[While an American soldier, I was detained by the Japanese as a prisoner of war at a Jap garrison at Yochow, China, 12 November 1943, for a few days after capture for interrogation.

Our B25 G, Model plane No. 757 of the 11th. Bombardment Squadron of the 14th, Air Force, was shot up by flak and we crash-landed and were captured a few minutes later by Jap soldiers from a nearby camp. All six members of the crew] Pilot 1st. Lt. R. R. Rouse; Co-Pilot 2nd Lt. A. L. Townsend; Navigator 2nd Lt. G. W. Walsh; Engineer, Sgt. D. J. O'Brien; Gunner, S/Sgt. C. S. Penka, and myself, radioman, [were taken prisoners. On the night of 14 November 1943 we were questioned, and when we refused to give any information we were given similar beatings and tortured individually. For about ten minutes I was beaten with a large bamboo bat, beaten with fists and had my hair pulled. Then I was taken outside strapped to a ladder and was given the water treatment for fifteen minutes; then I was released and was again kicked and beaten up. The next day we were handcuffed and paraded through the village of Yochow for public ridicule.]

This is all the information I can now remember about this incident.

/s/ HAROLD F. HOGUE
HAROLD F. HOGUE, S/Sgt.

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

/s/ E. H. ZEBOLD
Notary Public
My com. exp. Oct. 22nd 1946.

Interviewed by: Dale E. Gray, Agent, SIC

1903A

Doc. No. 8193*

C O N F I D E N T I A L

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

City and County of San Francisco

SS:

HAROLD JACOB KLOTA, 1st Lt., ASN O-756616, 8476 Carbondal St., Detroit, Michigan, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

Foot amputation
On 2 April 1945 I was taken prisoner by the Japanese after bailing out of my plane over Chin Matan, China. I was put under custody by a Japanese Military Railroad Protection Unit under the command of Captain Goto Michinidi. At the time of my capture I was brought to a civilian first aid station where a Japanese civilian employed by the Japanese army amputated my right leg several inches above the ankle. Whether or not this amputation was necessary I do not know, I did suffer a leg injury. However, I was able to move the toes on that leg. The amputation was accomplished by this Japanese civilian with a crude knife and without benefit of anesthesia. I was held down by 6 or 7 Japanese and my pleas for someone to knock me unconscious was met only with jeering laughter.

2-nd amputation
The second day after my capture more of my right leg was removed by a Japanese medical officer assigned at Chin Matan. Immediately following this operation the Japanese initiated their interrogation. This lasted for three days and usually was conducted for a 10-hour interval without recess. During the questioning I was usually slapped across the face with an open hand. Finally the questioning ceased altogether and I was told that I was being punished for not answering their questions. The punishment was administered by one Japanese officer who beat me with an encased saber on the head and body while I lay in bed. This beating produced unconsciousness on at least three occasions. When I could no longer survive the beatings administered with the saber they were then administered with a wet towel with which I was struck across the face.

I am unable to identify either by name or description Japanese personnel assigned to the Railroad Protection Unit other than the commanding officer whose name I have already cited.

/s/ HAROLD J. KLOTA,
HAROLD J. KLOTA, 1st Lt.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of December, 1945.

/s/ RICHARD G. McLELLAN, Jr.

Interviewed by Edward G. Scharotg, Agent, SIC.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department - War Department

United States of America

In the matter of the imprisonment, : Perpetuation of the testi-
under improper conditions, of civ- : mony of John Robert de Lara,
ilian internees by the Japanese at : Civilian
the Pootung Internment Camp, Shanghai, :
China, between February 15, 1943 and :
August 1945 :

Taken at: 1270 Avenue of the Americas, (Room 803A),
New York 20, N.Y.

Date: 15 February 1946

In the presence of: Arthur F. Vedder, Special Agent, 1251
S.C.U., F.P.I. Sec., Intel. Br., Sec.
and Intel. Div., H2. 2nd S.C., 1270
Avenue of the Americas, New York 20, N.Y.

Reporter: Arthur F. Vedder, Special Agent.

Questions by: Arthur F. Vedder, Special Agent.

Q Please state your name, occupation, and permanent home address.

A John Robert de Lara. Prior to my internment by the Japanese I was Assistant Manager in Shanghai, China, for the American Foreign Insurance Association. I am now with the Standard Oil Company and expect to be assigned to the Netherlands West Indies. My permanent home address is - 2346 North El Molino Avenue, Altadena, California.

Q When and where were you born and what is your marital status?

A I was born in Mexico City, 8 January 1907. I am a United States citizen, and I am unmarried.

Q What formal schooling have you had?

A I received a B.S. in Business Administration at the University of Southern California in 1933, and an M.A. at the University of Southern California in 1936, and an M.B.A. at Harvard University in 1936.

Q Did you recently return to the United States from overseas?

A I arrived at San Francisco, California, in the first part of November 1945 approximately, on the U.S.S. "Lavaca".

Q Were you a civilian internee of the Japanese?

A Yes. I was taken in custody by the Japanese on 15 February 1943, and was incarcerated in what the Japanese called "Pootung Civil Assembly Center", at Pootung, China, across the river from Shanghai. I was held there until liberated at the end of the war in August 1945.

- Q What did you do prior to February 15, 1943 and since the beginning of the war between Japan and America?
- A We were all free to go and come in Shanghai, under various restrictions, excepting those against whom the Japanese had special grievances.
- Q What quarters were furnished you at the Pootung Internment Camp?
- A For living quarters we were assigned to what had formerly been tobacco warehouses, owned by the British-American Tobacco Company. These buildings had formerly been condemned by this company as inadequate and unsafe for the storage of tobacco. They were very old buildings.
- Q Were the buildings outfitted by the Japanese for living quarters?
- A No, they were empty buildings when we moved in, and anything that we had there in the line of bedding and furniture was all brought in by us. We often had to bring the chairs in.
- Q What were the sanitary facilities at this camp?
- A We were not too badly off in that regard. For two rooms, in which were assigned about two hundred people, we had three toilets. This made a difficult situation as a great many people were ill from food poisoning and were afflicted with various forms of digestive disturbances.
- Q What bathing facilities were furnished?
- A We had seven showers for approximately one thousand one hundred (1,100) internees and many times two or three of them would be out of condition.
- Q Were the heating facilities adequate?
- A For the winters of 1944 and 1945 we had no heat whatsoever. The temperature went as low as 20° F. in our camp. During our incarceration Shanghai had one of the hardest winters in fifty or sixty years. A reservoir within the compound froze solid. During the first weeks of our imprisonment, in the winter of 1943, we did have a stove.
- Q Were complaints made to the Japanese authorities regarding this situation?
- A Yes. Our camp representatives made efforts to obtain heating facilities, but the Japanese commandant informed them that they were not available.
- Q Did the Japanese guards have heating facilities?
- A Yes, they had coal stoves in their guard houses.
- Q Were the internees furnished with adequate clothing?
- A The Japanese provided no clothing. All we had was what we brought to the camp with us and what the American Red Cross sent in on two shipments. Many people could not afford clothing, because of the exorbitant prices, and did not have it when they went into the camp. There was a particular need for proper shoes and warm socks.
- Q Will you describe the food rations furnished the internees?
- A At first they furnished enough food to maintain the health of the internees, but they kept reducing the rations until at last we were getting one-fourth of meat of what we were receiving at the beginning of our internment. They would run out of rice, which was the mainstay of our diet and all they would furnish us from time to time would be flour, from which we made biscuits.

Q Do you know whether the Japanese were able to obtain sufficient food for the internees?

A The Japanese Army provided the food and they had it for themselves; they were able to commandeer it.

Q Will you describe what the ration was during the last year of your internment?

A About a year before the war ended the ration was reduced below the standard necessary to maintain health. We received no breakfast. The other meals were inadequate and we were always hungry. I was fortunate in that I had a friend on the outside who sent me ten-pound food packages once a month, but that would last me only four or five days.

Q Did you lose any weight as a result of this diet?

A I lost about ten or fifteen pounds from a normal weight of about 158 pounds. I did not lose as much weight as many of the internees, as I have always been thin. I am 6' tall. However, losing those ten or fifteen pounds put me in such condition that I was too weak to exercise. Some of the internees lost as much as sixty pounds.

Q Will you describe a typical meal at the camp?

A In the last year for lunch we would receive about a coffee cupful of rice. This rice was not the clean white rice that we are accustomed to in this country, but apparently consisted of the sweepings and the rice contained much foreign material, such as dirt and grit, which it was impossible to separate from the edible portions. They would also give us bread which our doctors in the camp analyzed and found to be made from a soybean residue, which contained practically no food value. It would crumble as we tried to cut it and other times it would be sticky and of such glue-like consistency that we would be unable to eat it. Along with this they would give us a watery stew which could easily be contained on an ordinary dinner plate. An internee would be fortunate if there was a piece of water buffalo meat in that stew as big as the end of a man's thumb. In the evening, for dinner, we would receive exactly the same menu, - it never varied, unless they ran out of one of the ingredients I have mentioned, for almost a year they gave us no beverage at all. They doled out a month's supply of sugar, each month, which amounted to about two and one-half tablespoonsful.

Q Did you have any way to supplement your diet, other than personal contributions from friends?

A At first we had a canteen in the camp which was pretty good, and we were allowed \$8.00 United States money to purchase food at this canteen. As time went on the Japanese so manipulated the various currency exchange values involved, so that finally our \$8.00 got us practically nothing at the canteen and, during the last year, we had no canteen.

Q Were the medical treatment and facilities furnished the internees adequate?

A We were fortunate in that we had four or five doctors of our own, but it was difficult for them to get medicines and equipment. All they had was what the American Red Cross had sent in. The Japanese furnished no medicine or supplies. After the first six months the only dentists we had in the camp were repatriated. After that occurred the Japanese dentist came to the camp once a week, but there were so many waiting for appointments that one would have to wait nine months to see this dentist. Finally this dentist stopped coming and the only one we had to take care of the teeth was an oil engineer, who gained his knowledge solely from observing the Japanese dentist's work.

A There was a hospital across river from camp but I have been informed that it was operated under very unsatisfactory conditions. I understand they had no nurses at the hospital and the patients were obliged to care for one another.

Q Who were your camp representatives?

A At first our American representative was Bill Ryan of the Chase National Bank. He was repatriated in 1943 and we were then represented by a Mr. Milton Bates, who was employed by the National City Bank. He was our representative until near the end of the imprisonment. The last representative was George Leacock, who had been acting treasurer of St. John's University in Shanghai.

Q Who was the Japanese commandant of the camp?

A His name was Tsuchiya. He was a representative of the Japanese Consulate and had been assigned to the branch of that office in Shanghai. He was in charge of that camp for about three-fourths of the time. I don't think he was responsible for conditions in the camp. I don't recall the name of the Japanese commandant who succeeded him.

Q Is there any other item of mistreatment of the internees that you care to comment on?

A Yes. We were exposed to possible air attack due to the fact that there were legitimate military objectives adjacent to the camp. They had troops quartered in a building next to us which I observed. About fifty feet down the road there was an entrance to a building, through which I observed Japanese carrying ammunition for storage.

There were several anti-aircraft guns close to the camp and they could be seen from the camp.

They also constructed concrete pillboxes and machine gun emplacements, designed to impede a possible invasion. One of these machine gun emplacements was not over ten feet from one of the internment camp buildings.

On the other side of the compound they had cavalrymen and their horses stationed.

The Japanese would not permit us to mark internment camp buildings, so that we would not be subject to raids until a week before the end of the war, when they permitted us to mark them with white crosses. They stated that such marks on the buildings would serve as a guide to the American airmen.

Q Is there anything else pertinent to this inquiry which you care to state?

A No.

/s/ John Robert de Lara
John Robert de Lara, Civilian

State of New York)
) SS
County of New York)

I, John Robert de Lara, 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/ John Robert de Lara
John Robert de Lara, Civilian

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of February 1946.

/s/ James W. Leising
James W. Leising, 2nd Lt. CMP
Summary Court

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Arthur F. Vedder, Special Agent, SIC, 1251st SCU, FPI, SID, certify that John Robert de Lara, Civilian, personally appeared before me on 15 February 1946, and testified concerning war crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by him to the several questions set forth.

Place: New York City

Date: 18 February 1946

/s/ Arthur F. Vedder

Arthur F. Vedder, Special Agent, SIC
1251st SCU, Foreign Positive Intelligence
Section, Security & Intelligence
Division, Headquarters, Second Service
Command, 1270 Avenue of the Americas,
New York 20, N. Y.

ABOARD USN HOSPITAL SHIP "SANCIBARY"
EN ROUTE PEARL HARBOR TO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA)ss

[JOHN F. BRONNER,] 2914 (J.F.B.) Leavenworth Street, San Francisco, California, deposes and says:

While interned at Footung Civil Assembly Center, Shanghai, China, after my apprehension by the Japanese as a member of the crew of the SS President Harrison, I was placed in the position of camp meat inspector and butcher. This assignment began on 31 Jan-(J.F.B.)uary 1943 and continued until liberation of the camp was effected on 16 August 1945. My qualifications for the work were the result of experience as second butcher on the SS President Harrison.

From 31 January 1943 to February of 1944, internees at Footung were allowed 220 kilos of meat or fish per day for the entire group of internees consisting of approximately 1090 persons. In addition to the meat mentioned above the camp was allowed 420 (J.F.B.) kilos of vegetables per day and from 160 to 65 kilos of rice. These (J.F.B.) figures do not indicate the actual amount of food made available to the internees, however, because the meat, which was always water buffalo or a poor grade of pork, had a loss from trim which ran approximately 40 percent. Similarly, the vegetables, which were third or fourth grade, were of a type which had a loss in preparation of about 40 percent.

In February of 1944 the meat and vegetable rations (J.F.B.) described above were cut by 10 percent and the quality did not improve. In April of the same year there was another cut of 10 percent and in August of 1944 there was a final cut of 15 percent. It is thus apparent that our initial ration of meat and vegetables was cut by 35 percent in less than a year and a half. This reduction in rations was made even more serious by reason of the fact that from January of 1945 to April 1945 we received no rice from the Japanese and very little assistance from the Red Cross.

I do not know who was responsible for the above described reductions in food rations at Footung Civil Assembly Center and have no further information which should be included in this statement.

/s/ John Frederick Bronner
John F. Bronner

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of October 1945.

/s/ Victor A. Trask
VICTOR A. TRASK
Major, Inf.
Summary Court Officer

Interviewed by: John J. La Fianza, Jr., SIC

A TRUE COPY:

/s/ Albert J. Lee
ALBERT J. LEE
Captain, Signal Corps

RESTRICTED

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 furnish proper food, quarters, and medical care to American prisoners of war at Kangwan, China, between March 1943 and June 1945

Perpetuation of testimony of Sgt. Roger Dick Bamford, 1622 Avenue B, Kearney, Nebraska, Serial No. 306927

- - -

Taken at: Kearney, Nebraska

Date: 15 February 1946

In the presence of: Charles H. Phares, S/Agt, SIC, 7 SC, Omaha, Nebr.

Reporter: Charles H. Phares, S/Agt, SIC, 7 SC, Omaha, Nebr.

Questions by: Charles H. Phares, S/Agt, SIC, 7 SC, Omaha, Nebr.

- - -

Q State your name, rank, Marine Corps Serial Number and permanent home address.

A I am Roger Dick Bamford, Sgt. Serial No. 306927. My home address is 1622 Avenue B, Kearney, Nebraska.

Q State your citizenship and the date and place of your birth.

A I am a citizen of the United States and was born at Flm Creek, Nebraska, on November 6, 1922.

Q What education have you had?

A I was graduated from highschool at Kearney, Nebraska.

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Q Did you have a civilian occupation?

A No. I went from highschool to the Marine Corps.

Q Where were you stationed and what were your military duties?

A I was attached to an anti-aircraft Unit stationed on Wake Island when the war between Japan and the United States broke out on 7 December 1941.

Q Were you a prisoner of war?

A Yes. I was captured at Wake Island on 23 December 1941. I was transferred soon to Woosung Prison Camp at Woosung, China where I was held until March 1943. I was then transferred to a prison camp at Kangwan, China where I was held from March 1943 until June 1945. We were then transferred to a prison camp at Fengtia, China, where we were held from 1 June to 1 July 1945. The last prison camp I was in was located at Hokodate, Hokaido, Japan where I was held from 1 July 1945 to about 15 August 1945 when I was released by American Forces. I was returned to the United States soon after being released.

Q Do you recall what food was issued to American prisoners of war at Kangwan China Prison Camp between March 1943 and 1945 (June)?

A Yes, I do.

Q State what you recall concerning the food issued.

A Our diet consisted of three meals a day made up of a small teacupful of rice and a small amount of watery soup ordinarily twice a day. Approximately twenty to twenty-five loaves of bread were furnished daily also. We received no other food from the outside but we did get one Red Cross package a year while we were there.

Q What kind of quarters did you have there?

A We slept in barns on the earth floor. We had no stoves and no fuel for fire. Our latrine facilities were inadequate as was the water supply. The Japanese did issue some clothing. Some men did receive a shirt and others a pair of pants but none got both at once as I recall. Some Japanese shoes were issued. They were poorly made and without arches. Many of the men got flat feet as a result of wearing them.

Q Did the Japanese furnish medical care?

A The Japanese made no attempt to provide medical care for the prisoners. The only care we got came from the medical officer, a Commander Thison, who was also a prisoner. Our medical supplies came from the Red Cross packages which we received.

Q Did any prisoners die while you were at this camp?

A Yes, four or five men died as a result of malnutrition, beri-beri or dysentery. I do not recall their names.

Q Who was the Japanese Commander?

A He was Captain Indo who had been our Commander at Woosung Prison Camp.

Q Who was the ranking American officer?

A Colonel Ashurst, USMC.

Q Do you recall the names of any American prisoners who were there with you?

A Sgt. Marion L. Wyne, 4475 Saratoga Aven, San Diego, California and Sgt. Fred Beese, Modale, Iowa.

Q Do you have anything further to add to the above?

A No.

Q Do you have any knowledge of other mistreatment of American prisoners of war by the Japanese?

A Only what I have given you in sworn statement today.

s/ ROGER DICK Balford

t/ ROGER DICK Balford, Sgt. USMC

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STATE OF NEBRASKA)
COUNTY OF BUFFALO) SS

I, Roger Dick Bamford, 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 A L)

s/ ROGER DICK BANFORD
t/ ROGER DICK BANFORD, Sgt. USMC

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of March 1946.

s/ IRENE LAWSON
Co.Clerk, Buffalo Co.

CERTIFICATE

I, Charles H. Phares, Special Agent, SIC, 7 SC, certify that Roger Dick Bamford personally appeared before me on 15 February 1946 and testified concerning War Crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by him to the several questions set forth.

s/ CHAS. H. PHARES, S/Agt.
SIC, 7 SC

t/ CHAS. H. PHARES S/Agt.
SIC, 7 SC

Omaha, Nebraska
Mar 5, 1946

RESTRICTED

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY

/s/ Lindsay Williamson
LINDSAY WILLIAMSON
CAPT. JAGD

C E R T I F I C A T E

May 1, 1946

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached document is a true
copy of an affidavit purporting to be sworn and subscribed
to by ROGER DICK BAMFORD, Sgt., S.N. 306927
at Buffalo County, Nebraska
on the 5th day of March 1946.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that it was copied from an original in my
custody as Chief, Criminal Registry Division, Legal Section, GHQ,
SCAP, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ CHARLES A. REINHARD
CHARLES A. REINHARD
Lt. Col., F. A.
Chief of Criminal Registry
Division, Legal Section

CONFIDENTIAL

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 furnish proper food, quarters, and medical care to American prisoners of war at Woosung, China, between 1 February 1942 and March 1943.

Perpetuation of testimony of Sgt. Roger Dick Bamford, 1622 Avenue B. Kearney, Nebraska, Serial No. 306927.

Taken at: Kearney, Nebraska

Date: 15 February 1946

In the presence of: Charles H. Phares, S/Agt, SIC. 7SC, Omaha, Nebr

Reporter: Charles H. Phares, S/Agt, SIC. 7SC, Omaha, Nebr

Questions by: Charles H. Phares, S/Agt, SIC. 7SC, Omaha, Nebr

Q: State your name, rank, Marine Corps Serial Number and permanent home address.

A: I am Roger Dick Bamford, Sgt, Serial No. 306927. My home address is 1622 Avenue B, Kearney, Nebraska.

Q: State your citizenship and the date and place of your birth.

A: I am a citizen of the United States and was born at Elm Creek, Nebraska, on November 6, 1922.

Q: What education have you had?

A: I was graduated from highschool at Kearney, Nebraska.

Q: Did you have a civilian occupation?

A: No. I went from highschool to the Marine Corps.

Q: Where were you stationed? What were your military duties?

A: I was attached to an anti-aircraft unit stationed on Wake Island when the war between Japan and the United States broke out on 7 December 1941.

Q: Were you a prisoner of war?

A: Yes. I was captured at Wake Island on 23 December 1941. I was transferred soon to Woosung Prison Camp at Woosung, China where I was held until March 1943. I was then transferred to a prison camp at Kangwan, China where I was held from March 1943 until June 1945. We were then transferred to a prison camp at Fengtia, China, where we were held from 1 June to 1 July 1945. The last prison camp I was in was located at Hokodate, Hokaido, Japan where I was held from 1 July 1945 to about 15 August 1945 when I was released by American Forces. I was returned to the United States soon after being released.

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- Q: Do you recall the food issued by the Japanese to the American prisoners of war at Woosung Prison Camp between 1 February 1942 and March 1943?
- A: Yes, I do.
- Q: State what you recall concerning the food issued to the American prisoners of war.
- A: We were issued a small teacup full of cooked rice three times a day. Ordinarily we received a little watery turnip soup twice a day or some soup of a similar nature. We were never issued meat and we could get no other food. We received no Red Cross parcels at that camp.
- Q: Do you recall the quarters in which prisoners were kept?
- A: I do.
- Q: State what you recall concerning the quarters.
- A: We were sheltered in barns and slept on the ground. There were cracks in the walls of the barn through which cold air passed freely.
- Q: Did you have stoves and fuel furnished in these quarters?
- A: No, we did not.
- Q: What sort of weather prevailed in this area during the winter months?
- A: Temperatures got as low as fifteen and twenty degrees above zero and we had snowfalls. The weather was ordinarily damp. We were never able to be really warm. Two blankets were issued to each man as bedding.
- Q: Were clothes issued to you?
- A: The Japanese issued no clothing and some of the prisoners had no clothing at all when they arrived at Woosung because the Japanese had made them strip when they left Wake Island. Some had a pair of pants; others a shirt, but that clothing lasted only about three months.
- Q: Did you have any facilities for bathing?
- A: We washed ourselves in buckets but for the first three months I was at Woosung I did not have a bath. The Japanese furnished no soap. We never did wash our clothes because we felt they would fall apart if they were washed.
- Q: Did the Japanese furnish medical care for the American prisoners?
- A: The Japanese furnished no medical care and while we were at that camp approximately thirty or forty prisoners died due to malnutrition, beri-beri, and dysentery.
- Q: Did you have a Doctor among the American prisoners?
- A: Lt (j.g.) Kahn, USN, Ft Worth, Texas, was in this camp and did what he could for us.
- Q: What sort of latrine facilities did you have?

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- A: We had one latrine built to accommodate four men but there were approximately fifteen hundred men at the camp so that latrine was very inadequate for our needs. The Japanese furnished no disinfectants for keeping the latrine clean.
- Q: Who was the Japanese Commander at Woosung Prison Camp?
- A: The first Commanding Officer was a Col. Use but he died while we were there and was replaced by a Captain Indo.
- Q: Who was the ranking American officer?
- A: He was Colonel Ashurst, USMC. Other officers present were Major Brown, who had been stationed at Peping; Major Devereaux, who had been stationed at Wake Island and Commander Thison, a Doctor.
- Q: Were protests lodged with the Japanese commander regarding conditions which you have described?
- A: Yes, but the protests did no good.
- Q: Do you remember the names of any of the Enlisted Men who were at this camp with you?
- A: A Sergeant Marion L. Wyne of 4475 Saratoga Avenue, San Diego, California, and Sgt. Fred Beese, Modale, Iowa were in this camp with me.
- Q: Do you have anything further to add to the above?
- A: No.
- Q: Do you have any knowledge of other mistreatment of American prisoners of war by the Japanese?
- A: Only what I have given you in sworn statement above.

/s/ Roger Dick Bamford, Sgt.
USMC

ROGER DICK BAMFORD, Sgt, USMC

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
(SS
COUNTY OF BUFFALO)

I, Roger Dick Bamford, 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/ Roger Dick Bamford, Sgt. USMC
ROGER DICK BAMFORD, Sgt. USMC

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of March 1946.

/s/ Irene Tauson
Co. Clerk, Buffalo Co.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Charles H. Phares, Special Agent, SIC, 7SC, certify that Roger Dick Bamford personally appeared before me on 15 February 1946 and testified concerning War Crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by him to the several questions set forth.

/s/ Chas. H. Phares
CHAS H. PHARES, S/Agt, SIC, 7SC.

Omaha, Nebraska
Mar. 5, 1946

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FOR THE WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department - War Department

United States of America

In the matter of the use of	*	Perpetuation of Testimony
American prisoners of war on	*	of Floyd Herman Comfort,
enemy military works and	*	Corporal, United States
operations by the Japanese at	*	Marine Corps, Serial No.
Shanghai, China between 1942	*	276883
and 1945.	*	

Taken at: Security Intelligence Corps Field Area
Office, Jackson, Mississippi

Date: 14 December 1945

In the Presence of: Jennings, Walter K., Special Agent,
Security Intelligence Corps.

Reporter: Jennings, Walter K.

Questions by: Jennings, Walter K.

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

A Floyd Herman Comfort, Corporal, United States Marine
Corps, Serial No. 276883, 204 Dewitt Street, Jackson, Miss.

Q State briefly your personal history.

A I was born 3 October 1921 at Clinton, Miss. and was
reared in Jackson, Miss. I completed the 10th grade
of school and then went to work, working at various
jobs for two or three years. In November 1939 I joined
the Marine Corps and in October 1941 I was sent with
the 1st Defense Battalion to Wake Island.

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

A Yes, I returned to the United States from Japan in
October 1945.

Q Were you a prisoner of war?

A Yes.

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

A I was taken prisoner by the Japanese on 23 December 1941 on Wake Island. From Wake we were taken to near Shanghai, China to Woo Sung, a small village. I remained there until 5 or 6 December 1942, when I was moved to Kang Won, which was just a little nearer Shanghai, and remained there until May 1945. Then we were taken to Pieng Tai near Peking, China and stayed there about a month. From there we were taken through Korea to Japan, to Hokadate Prison #3 on the island of Hokkaido, where on 16 September 1945 we were liberated by American forces.

Q Do you have any knowledge of the use of any American prisoners of war by the Japanese on enemy military works or installations?

A Yes. All during the time I was at Woo Sung and Kang Won working parties of our men were used constantly in work at a place called the Shanghai Garage, which was a sort of repair depot for all kinds of military vehicles and equipment. I worked there for over a year in the welding shop, where trucks etc were repaired. I was also, along with others, used in the polishing and shining of used artillery shell cases. In addition, I was also made to work digging air raid shelters.

Q Was this the exception or the rule at your prison camp?

A It was the rule.

Q Who was responsible for this use of prisoners of war doing military work?

A The Jap Commandant of the prison, I suppose. His name was Col. Odero.

Q Do you have any more information to give on this subject?

A No.

/s/ Floyd Herman Comfort
Floyd Herman Comfort, Corporal
United States Marine Corps

State of : Mississippi

County of : Hinds

I, Floyd Herman Comfort, 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/ Floyd Herman Comfort
Floyd Herman Comfort, Corporal
United States Marine Corps

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of December 1945.

/s/ Robert L. Calhoun
ROBERT L. CALHOUN, 1st Lt., Inf.
O-1320504, Assistant Adjutant
Dist. 7, ASF, 4th Svc

C E R T I F I C A T E

"I, Walter K. Jennings, Special Agent, Security Intelligence Corps, Fourth Service Command, certify that Floyd Herman Comfort, Corporal, United States Marine Corps, Serial No. 276883, personally appeared before me on 14 December 1945, and testified concerning war crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by him to the several questions set forth."

/s/ Walter K. Jennings
Place: Jackson, Mississippi Walter K. Jennings
Special Agent, Security Intelligence
Date : 14 December 1945 Corps, Fourth Service Command

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Q. State your name, rank, serial number, permanent home address, and any other pertinent information concerning yourself.

A. [My name is Stephen Martin ZIVKO, Private First Class, U.S.M.C., Serial Number 275724.] I am a high school graduate and have served in the Marine Corps since October 1939. My permanent home address is 1952 South 59th Street, West Allis, Wisconsin.

Q. Were you ever imprisoned under improper conditions?

A. [At Fengti Prison Camp the barracks consisted of a large warehouse, subdivided into three sections containing approximately 350 men per section. No sleeping facilities were provided other than a straw mat upon the brick floor. No toilets nor washing facilities were available. For the approximate population of 1,000 men of the camp the only water supply was that provided by a single two-inch spigot. All bathing, washing of clothes, etc., depended upon this one spigot, which likewise provided all the water for the galley for the washing of dishes, etc. Latrines consisted of trenches.]

At Camp Hokadate #3 the barracks were vermin infested and extremely dirty. Conditions in the barracks were extremely crowded. The Japanese refused to issue any blankets and the men were required to sleep on the floor, the only protection being the one Red Cross blanket per man that they had brought with them.

Q. Did you see any prisoners of war being used on enemy military works or operations?

A. Yes. [At Kaingwan Prison Camp in China the men were required to assist in the construction of the Japanese rifle range, to handle gasoline and oil supplies of the Japanese Army, and to assist in the repair and maintenance of Japanese Army motor equipment. Further, they were required to build barricades around Japanese military go-downs.]

Q. Did you see any prisoners exposed to danger of gunfire, bombing, or other hazards of war?

A. [While Kaingwan Prison Camp was under the command of Colonel ODAHA of the Japanese Army, the prisoner working parties were not permitted to take cover during air raids until the raiding planes were directly overhead.]

Q. Did you witness the transportation of prisoners of war under improper conditions?

A. When the prisoners were moved by rail in China, as from Kaingwan to Fengti and from Fengti on through Korea enroute to Japan, they were loaded into the small Chinese box cars. These box cars were cut in half by barbed wire barricades, thus creating two sections in the car. The men were crowded in 25 to a section, in addition to their personal baggage, eating tubs, etc., and in addition to the latrine facilities located in each end of the car. Transportation from Shinono Saki, Japan, to Prison Camp Hokadate No. 3 was in regular Japanese passenger cars, into which the men were crowded approximately 125 per car.

I can recall nothing further concerning these incidents which would be of value to the War Crimes Office and I do not have any other information, favorable or unfavorable, which I consider of sufficient importance to report.

/s/ STEPHEN M. ZIVKO

STATE OF CALIFORNIA :
: SS
County of Alameda :

I, Stephen Martin ZIVKO of lawful age,
being duly sworn, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of
my interrogation, consisting of one pages, and that all answers con-
tained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ STEPHEN M. ZIVKO

Subscribed and sworn to before me this Sixth day of
October, 1945, at Oakland, California.

/s/ THOMAS P. GUERIN
(Rank) Lt. USIR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA :
: SS.
County of Alameda :

I, Thomas P. GUERIN certify that
(Name) Stephen Martin ZIVKO, (Rank) Pfc. U.S.M.C. (~~xxx~~) 275724.,
personally appeared before me on the Sixth day of October, 1945,
and testified concerning war crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate
transcription of the answers given by (him)(her) to the several questions
set forth.

Place: Oakland, California

Date: 6 October 1945 /s/ THOMAS P. GUERIN

Page 2 of 2 pages.