

443/15

When COMPLETED this document must be classified as SECRET.

AUSTRALIAN WAR CRIMES COMMISSION.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

K15

M72

NOTES :-

- (a) This questionnaire should be completed by :-
 - (i) All repatriated Australian prisoners of war (A.I.F., R.A.A.F. and R.A.N.).
 - (ii) All repatriated Australian civil internees.
 - (iii) All repatriated British civil internees in the Pacific Area (excluding Malaya and China).
 - (iv) All members and ex-members of the Allied forces who have actual knowledge of war crimes committed by the enemy.
- (b) It will be completed in the presence of an officer who will countersign the signature of the person making the statement.
- (c) It is important that a full statement on page 3 (carried on to page 4 if necessary) be furnished as well as the answer to 8 (f).

1. Army number 1674981 2. Rank BOMBARDIER

3. Full name (in BLOCK letters) METCALF ROBERT K10

4. Unit at time of capture and/or place of capture 69th BATTERY
21st LAA REGIMENT R.A.
 (State here unit in which soldier was serving at time of capture, e.g., 2/1 Fd. Regt. or H.Q. 6 Aust. Div., &c.)

5. Home address 10 BROOK ST. FULLWOOD PRESTON LANCASHIRE ENGLAND

6. At what enemy camps and hospitals were you confined and when were you at each?

20 MAR. 42	JAVA	MAY 14 42	JAVA	NOV 27 42	JAPAN	NOV 20 43	JAPAN
14 MAY 42	(KORAN SCHOOL) BATAVIA,	DEC 21 42	BATAVIA	NOV 20 43	KOBAYASHI KUNIAMOTO	APRIL 16 44	KYUSHU (KASHI)
		APRIL 16 44	FUKUOKA	DEC 3 44	TOBATA		KYUSHU
		DEC 3 44	(KYSHU)	SEPT 17 45			

7. Do you have any information about any atrocities against, or mistreatment of, Allied soldiers, prisoners of war, civilian internees or the civilian population for which you think the perpetrators should be punished? (Answer by stating YES or NO in the spaces provided below) —

- (a) Killings or executions NO
YES or NO
- (b) Rape, torture, beatings or other cruelties YES
YES or NO.
- (c) Imprisonment under improper conditions YES
YES or NO.
- (d) Massacres, wholesale looting, pillage, or burning of towns or villages NO
YES or NO.
- (e) Use of prisoners of war or civilians on enemy military works or operations YES
YES or NO.
- (f) Exposure of prisoners of war to danger of gunfire, bombing, torpedoing, or other hazards of war YES
YES or NO.
- (g) Transportation of prisoners of war under improper conditions or deportation of civilians YES
YES or NO.
- (h) Public exhibition or exposure to ridicule of prisoners of war NO
YES or NO.
- (i) Failure to provide prisoners of war or internees with proper medical care, food or quarters YES
YES or NO.
- (j) Collective punishment of a group for offence of others NO
YES or NO.
- (k) Breaches of rules relating to the Red Cross YES
YES or NO.
- (l) Cannibalism NO
YES or NO.

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(m) Mutilation of the dead NO
YES or NO.

*(n) Any other war crimes not specifically mentioned above for which you think the guilty persons should be punished NO
YES or NO.

If any question is answered YES then state the facts in 8 (f) and on pages 3 and 4.

8. Details of Atrocities.—

(a) Kind of crime BEATING

(b) When and where it happened NOVEMBER 20 1943 NO 1 CAMP (SUB)
KUMAMOTO (KYUSHU) JAPAN

(c) Who was the victim? (Give complete description including name and whether military or civilian personnel) GNR. W. FEARN 69 BATTERY
21st LAA REGT R.A.

(d) Who was the perpetrator? (Give as complete description and as much information as possible) KATSURA INTERPRETER NO 1 SUB CAMP
KUMAMOTO (KYUSHU) JAPAN

(e) State if you saw it yourself. If you did not see it, who told you about it? (Give names and addresses of other witnesses) YES

(f) Give brief story of crime. Full statement required on pages 3 and 4.
PREPARATIONS BEING MADE FOR MOVE FROM
KUMAMOTO TO KASHI GNR W. FEARN WAS
PACKING BLANKETS WHEN THE BEATING HAPPENED

To the best of my belief the above particulars are correct.

[Signature]
(Signature of Interrogating Officer.)

Robert McTear
(Signature.)

23-9-45
(Date.)

#3 Aust PW Recpt Group
(Place and/or Unit at which interrogation was made.)

Comment by Interrogating Officer

* Other war crimes not specifically mentioned include :—

- (i) Usurpation of sovereignty during military occupation.
- (ii) Compulsory enlistment of soldiers among the inhabitants of occupied territory.
- (iii) Attempts to denationalize the inhabitants of occupied territory.
- (iv) Confiscation of property.
- (v) Exaction of illegitimate or of exorbitant contributions and requisitions.
- (vi) Debasement of the currency and issue of spurious currency.
- (vii) Deliberate bombardment of undefended places.
- (viii) Wanton destruction of religious, charitable, educational and historical buildings and monuments.
- (ix) Use of explosive or expanding bullets and other inhuman appliances.
- (x) Directions to give no quarter and refusal of quarter.
- (xi) Misuse of flags of truce.

FULL STATEMENT OF ATROCITY OR CRIME.

This MUST be signed by the person making the statement and countersigned by the interrogating officer at the end of the statement.

ON NOV 20 43 AT KUNIMOTO NO 1 SUB CAMP
 PREPARATIONS WERE BEING MADE FOR MOVEMENT
 OF CAMP TO KASHI IT WAS ABOUT 7am WHEN
 GNR W. FEARN COMMENTED UPON IT WAS TIME
 HE WAS RELIEVED FOR BREAKFAST, KATSURA THE
 JAPANESE INTERPRETER OVERHEARD HIM AND IMMEDIATELY
 GAVE HIM A TERRIBLE BEATING UP THE WORST I HAVE
 SEEN

NO 3 SUB CAMP TOBATA (KYSHU) JAPAN
 BETWEEN DEC 3 44 & APR 15 45 CAMP COMMANDANT
 WHEN ANY RED CROSS SUPPLIES CAME IN ALWAYS
 TOOK A SMALL NUMBER OF CASES FOR HIMSELF

Robert Metcalf