AFFIDAVIT

9SC-WC-2844

STATE OF Washington )

)

COUNTY OF King )

WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Washington 25, D.C.

I, VICTOR BROWN, Eatonville, Washington, being duly sworn, depose and say that:

I was a civilian worker on Wake Island and was captured by the Japanese on 23 December 1941. I was transported from Wake Island leaving on 12 January 142 and arrived in Yokohama on 18 January 1942, and after 24 hours there went on to Shanghai, arriving on 23 January 1942. We were confined at the Shanghai Internment Camp, Woosung, where I remained until 18 September 1942. I was then transported with 69 other prisoners of war to Japan. On 23 September 1942 we arrived at Moji where we stayed overnight before being moved to Yawata on 24 September 1942. I remained in the Yawata camp, P.O.W Camp #3, Fukuoka until I went "over the hill" on what I believe was 8 September 1945. ON 10 September 1945 I arrived at the U.S. Marine Corps landing point at Konoye (phonetic) about a hone hour trip on the railroad from Kumamoto.

One evening about March 1943, when I was at P.O.W. Camp #3 Fukuoka, I was beaten by four Japanese guards. Just after supper I went to the latrine and as I stepped outside the latrine door to return to my own room, three Japanese guards grabbed me and took me to the office of the Commanding officer of the whole camp, which was in the same building. The Commanding Officer was not there at the time. The three guards, who were joined by a fourth one, beat me with bamboo sticks, rifle butts and rifle barrels. When I passed out, they threw me in a water trough to revive me. They repeated this two more times and then they let me go. I then crawled about 175 feet back to my room.

The four Japanese guards were "Mad Monk" (Japanese name unknown); Manino, (phonetic) or "Water Snake": "Goldie" (Japanese name unknown); and Yamahushi, (phonetic). The "Mad Monk" was about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches tall and weighed about 165 pounds and had a rather heavy build. He was cross eyed. The other Japanese themselves thought he was crazy and so did we. His ears and face looked beaten. I cannot further identify him. I cannot describe Manino very well except that he was about normal Japanese size and typical looking Japanese. I heard it said the he had been shot in the scrotum. "Goldie" looked as if there was nothing but gold in his teeth. No white could be seen. He was about five feet five or six and weighed about 150 pounds. I know that his father and mother lived in the Yawata area and worked in the Yawata steel plant. "Goldie" was fairly good looking for a Japanese. Yamahushi was about five feet five or six inches tall and weighed about 140 pounds. He had very large eyes. I am almost positive that he had a crippled left arm. I heard it said the he was half Chinese. I cannot further identify him. The Japanese in charge of the guards was called the "Keirei Kid" (Keirei meaning salute, since he demanded salutes at all times). He was about five feet ten or eleven inches tall, weighed about 160 pounds and he was a strict military man. While I was in P.O.W. camp #3 Fukuoka, he was a Corporal, then a sergeant and finally promoted above that. He was all right as a corporal, but as bad as the other guards when promoted to a sergeant. He knew about this particular beating that I received and did nothing to stop it. He had stopped several beatings when men would have been killed if the beatings would have continued. These guards were called "Five Stars" because they all wore these five star emblems on their lapels. There was a large star and each succeeding smaller star was in the lower middle of the larger star. The Commanding Officer of P.O.W. Camp #3 Fukuoka was Major Yaichi Rikitake. He was not connected with this beating, but these beatings had been going on at the rate of one to three a night for six months and he must have known about them.

One of the American prisoners of war who knew about these beatings was an American Navy medical officer by the name of Markovitz (phonetic), who was captured at Guam. I am quite sure that he was a Lieutenant (jg).

To the best of my knowledge, the testimony I have given herein covers all pertinent details of this incident.

VICTOR BROWN

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of February , 1946 at Seattle, Washington.

ARCHIBALD H. BILLMIRE

1st Lt., CAC

Summary Court Martial

STATE OF Washington )

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COUNTY OF King )

I Alexander L. Peaslee, certify that Victor Brown personally appeared before me on the 19th day of February 1946 at Seattle, Washington and made the foregoing statement concerning war crimes.

ALEXANDER L. PEASLEE

Agent, SIC, NSC