



Australian War Memorial

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Statements by.

VX 38992. Col. E. R. White.

VX 5'6698 L/Cpl G. S. White

NX 68418 Pte R. H. Whitecross.

SX 7078 Cpl W. M. Whitehorn.

WX 14338. Pte J. H. Whitehouse.

VX 41128 Pte G. W. Whittle

Wiangil Wanegata (Kalabu Village)

NX 57298 L/Sgt R. R. Wickens.

VX 13553. Pte G. S. Wightwick

NX 40688 Pte L. W. Wilcox.

WX 9179 Pte H. Wilkes.

WX 11117 Lt G. M. Wilkins.

NX 66840 Pte W. H. Wilkinson.

WX 10049. Pte M. W. Wilkinson.

QX 19762. Wm. G. Wilkinson.

VX 63559. Cpl. G. W. Wilkinson.

Constable G. S. Willard

VX 19575. Pte R. H. Williams.

I Robert Nanson Williams of OMEO in the State of Victoria, Printer, make oath and say:-

1. I served in the A.I.F. as Pte R.N. Williams, No VX 19575, in the 2/2 Pioneer Battalion.
2. With other members of my unit, I was taken prisoner by the Japanese Army in February 1942, whilst serving with my unit in Java.
3. During December 1944, I was transferred from Singapore, with other Australian prisoners to Japan, where we were lodged in FUKUOKA POW near the mining village of Iska. One of the Japanese Sgts attached to this camp was Irie Yoshiaki, who was better known to myself and fellow prisoners as "Irio". This N.C.O. appeared to have greater responsibility than other Japanese Sgts attached to the camp, and was virtually in charge at all times. He would take on himself to inflict punishment on prisoners, or would order punishments to be carried out. He had the power to reduce or increase rations, and to direct what work any individual prisoner should carry out.
4. With the same draft of prisoners which entered FUKUOKA camp at the same time as myself, was Pte. W.R. Pople, a man who was a fellow townsman of mine and a member of my unit. Pte. Pople worked with me on the Moulmein-Bangkok railway. As a result of the conditions existing on this work, Pte Pople contracted a form of beri beri fever, which left him in a very weak condition. Through the efforts of the Australian Medical Officer in charge of our railway camp, Lt-Col Eadie; Pte Pople was placed on light duties, for the balance of our time on the railway.
5. I was with the same batch of prisoners as Pte Pople on the voyage from Singapore to Japan. During the voyage, Pople again became ill and his condition became worse through being placed on sick rations, which meant from the Japanese viewpoint, half rations.
6. On reaching Fukuoka, the Japanese found that Pople was not fit for work in the mine, where most of the prisoners were employed. He was given work at the head of the mine, and treated as a sick prisoner, which meant that once again he was placed on short rations, which at this camp was equal to one third of the ration which I received as a miner. The quantity of food supplied to Pople and the class of work to be performed by him was directed by Sgt Irio.
7. Pople's condition gradually became worse. After several periods of being marked "no duty", and being a patient in the camp hospital, he entered the hospital for the last time, in June 1945. During this time I visited Pople in hospital as often as I could, and found he was not receiving any medical attention, nor were any medicines being administered, or Red Cross supplies being given to him. The Medical Officer in charge of the hospital was a Dutch Officer. From my observation and from what Pople told me, this Officer was not in a position to render proper medical aid to his patients, for he was not supplied with medical stores, or comforts.
8. There were two Australian prisoner orderlies employed at the hospital. They were Ptes Bill Slattery, and Mick Cavanagh. These men did what they could for their patients, but in the absence of medical supplies the little they could do, was in the direction of feeding the patients, and keeping them as clean as possible.
9. Red Cross supplies and parcels were received by the Commandant of Fukuoka, but they were not distributed to the prisoners, or to the prisoner patients. After the Japanese capitulation, I found large stores of Red Cross parcels in the Commandant's house.

10. During my stay at Fukuoka, There was only one distribution of Red Cross parcels. This was on an occasion when a consignment of some 400 Red Cross parcels had arrived at the camp. Of these 400 parcels only 20 were made available to the 200 prisoners in the camp. This distribution was made by Sgt Irio.

11. Amongst the Australian prisoners who were acquainted with Pte Pople's position, and who did what they could to help him, were-Ptes Stan Rixon of Elsternwick, and Bill Jones of Smeaton, Cpl. George Lowe of 288 Lennox Street Richmond, and Jerry Jarrett of 31 Coronation street Footscray also Fred Sk eels, RAN ex HMAS "Perth", Capt. Moore of Western Australia, Lieut Flynn of NSW, and Padre Fleming of Victoria. Each of these men knew the manner of Pte Pople's death.

12. The direct cause of Pople's death was starvation, to which ill treatment, and neglect were contributing causes. Had Sgt Irio taken any interest in Pte Pople, or had he seen to it that the camp hospital was supplied with the Red Cross parcels which were sent to the camp, Pte Pople would have survived. It was apparent from Sgt Irio's conduct, that he ignored the rights of a sick prisoner to any medical attention, believing that the only prisoners to be cared for, were those who were able to do a full days work in the mine.

Sworn before me at OMEO in)
the State of Victoria this)
ninth day of January 1948)

Robert. W. Williams

Before me

[Signature]

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court
of Victoria for taking affidavits

I Robert Nanson Williams of OME0 in the State of Victoria, Printer, make oath and say:-

1. I served in the A.I.F. as Pte R.N. Williams, No VX 19575, in the 2/2 Pioneer Battalion.
2. With other members of my unit, I was taken prisoner by the Japanese Army in February 1942, whilst serving with my unit in Java.
3. During December 1944, I was transferred from Singapore, with other Australian prisoners to Japan, where we were lodged in FUKUOKA POW near the mining village of Iska. One of the Japanese Sgts attached to this camp was Irie Yoshiaki, who was better known to myself and fellow prisoners as "Irio". This N.C.O. appeared to have greater responsibility than other Japanese Sgts attached to the camp, and was virtually in charge at all times. He would take on himself to inflict punishment on prisoners, or would order punishments to be carried out. He had the power to reduce or increase rations, and to direct what work any individual prisoner should carry out.
4. With the same draft of prisoners which entered FUKUOKA camp at the same time as myself, was Pte. W.R. Pople, a man who was a fellow townsman of mine and a member of my unit. Pte. Pople worked with me on the Moulmein-Bangkok railway. As a result of the conditions existing on this work, Pte Pople contracted a form of beri beri fever, which left him in a very weak condition. Through the efforts of the Australian Medical Officer in charge of our railway camp, Lt-Col Eadie, Pte Pople was placed on light duties, for the balance of our time on the railway.
5. I was with the same batch of prisoners as Pte Pople on the voyage from Singapore to Japan. During the voyage, Pople again became ill and his condition became worse through being placed on sick rations, which meant from the Japanese viewpoint, half rations.
6. On reaching Fukuoka, the Japanese found that Pople was not fit for work in the mine, where most of the prisoners were employed. He was given work at the head of the mine, and treated as a sick prisoner, which meant that once again he was placed on short rations, which at this camp was equal to one third of the ration which I received as a miner. The quantity of food supplied to Pople and the class of work to be performed by him was directed by Sgt Irie.
7. Pople's condition gradually became worse. After several periods of being marked "no duty", and being a patient in the camp hospital, he entered the hospital for the last time, in June 1945. During this time I visited Pople in hospital as often as I could, and found he was not receiving any medical attention, nor were any medicines being administered, or Red Cross supplies being given to him. The Medical Officer in charge of the hospital was a Dutch Officer. From my observation and from what Pople told me, this Officer was not in a position to render proper medical aid to his patients, for he was not supplied with medical stores, or comforts.
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Sworn before me at OMEO in)
the State of Victoria this)
ninth day of January 1948)

Robert. A. Williams

Refused

[Signature]

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court,
of Victoria for taking affidavits

Constable WILLIARD, Hiram Stanley, being duly sworn, give the following evidence.

My full name is Hiram, Stanley WILLIARD. My home address is "Egan Creek", Via YERONG CREEK, Riverina, New South Wales.

I was a member of Royal Naval Yard Police and was taken prisoner at Hong Kong, China, on 25/12/41. I was first imprisoned at Hong Kong for 6 or 7 days and then transferred to Shamshuypo Camp on the Chinese mainland. I was in this Camp for approx 12 months. All prisoners were in good condition on arrival at this Camp. Whilst in this Camp, we were on 2 rice meals per day unless an attempt was made to escape when the ration was reduced to one meal. We were soon organised into working parties, arising at 4 a.m for a meal and no more food till we returned at 7 p.m the same evening. Dysentery was prevalent, sanitary arrangements were practically nil and for a time we were unable to cope with the dysentery menace. No clothes were available and we were forced to use G-strings and wooden clogs to walk about in. There were a few attempts to escape but were discouraged by Major Boon who had been appointed Camp Commandant by the Japanese. On one occasion, he threatened to report us to the Japanese for planning to escape and actually several men were taken and questioned. At least two of these men never returned, one was a Constable CONLON and the other "Darkie" DUNNE. On my release, I heard they had been shot. Diphtheria broke out and for a time the Japanese refused us any medical supplies whatsoever, up to nine men dying each day. Drafts were going to Japan and I was one of 1800 that left for Japan at the end of 1942. Whilst in this Camp we were quartered in former Army barracks surrounded by electrified wire and firewood was that scarce that we were forced to use the woodwork from those buildings. The quarters were teeming in bugs, lice and fleas. Working conditions were very severe with only a break of half an hour at midday. I saw several bashings take place but cannot remember the names of any of the victims. A Japanese nicknamed "The Yank", he also being the interpreter was one of the ringleaders of these bashings. We were subjected to parades whilst would-be searches were made, when we would be forced to stand for 3 hours in the rain and many collapsed from their weakness and exposure. These parades were called at any time from darkness to dawn and the sick were not excluded from these parades, and our only clothing being the G-strings. Conditions whilst not extremely bad, were subject more to the whims of the Japanese than to our conduct. The Japanese frequently put on execution parties on the pier which was visible from our camp and which we were forced to view, the victims being Chinese men, women and children. On the opposite side of the Camp, at the "Welcome" Hut, many Chinese were to be seen tethered and weights of barbed wire placed on their backs and stomachs; they were a common sight. The Japanese Camp Commandant who was in charge of these guards permitted these offences to go on. I cannot recall the Camp Commandant's name.

From Shamshuypo Camp, I was transferred to Sakurajima Camp at Osaka, JAPAN at the end of 1942 and remained there till April 1945.

In this Camp, the food was very similar to the rations supplied in Shamshuypo Camp but we obtained a midday meal when we commenced working.

Here again we experienced a lot of sickness and a little medicine. There were several supplies of American Red Cross drugs brought into Camp but our doctor had very little access to it and he often told us that the Japanese medical corporal would not let him use any of the drugs in a reasonable quantity.

When an inspection was made by senior Japanese officials, the sick were sent to work which gave the impression that we were reasonably treated on account of the low number of sick personnel remaining in Camp. I have often aided in carrying sick men to work and later a lot of those men were to die.

The medical Corporal was called MATSUMOTO and if things were not pleasing him, he would go around the hospital patients and bash us ~~xxx~~ with a bamboo stick, and continue so until his strength gave out. Several times our doctor spoke and interferred on our behalf and he was also subject to bashings by MATSUMOTO which consisted of face slapping. On several occasions when men were near death from sickness, he would lock the medical cupboard and walk out. On returning to Camp next morning, he would inquire concerning the sick mens' health. On being told of their death, he would laugh and say "I am glad". MATSUMOTO also pedalled our drugs outside

W. Willard

H. D. Willard

Our rest days became only two per month and we were forced to work cleaning our camp each rest day. No soap was issued for 5 months and then we were penalised in our rations for having dirty clothes. No razors were obtainable and men became very dejected.

In this camp they issued us with a shirt, pair of trousers and pair of cardboard boots which were faced on the outside with cloth.

I consider MATSUMOTO the indirect cause of many prisoners' deaths.

COCOODA, although a corporal, was virtually in command of the Camp and with MATSUMOTO and IKEEDA formed a trio that turned this camp into a virtual hell.

MATSUMOTO was of 5 foot or 5 foot 2 inches high, medium build, wore glasses and was very dark with an ashen complexion.

IKEEDA was similar in build and height.

COCOODA was thicker set although of the same height and also wore glasses. He was nicknamed "The Little Corporal. I cannot recall any other outstanding features of these three Japanese.

COCOODA and IKEEDA always gave us our roughest treatment when the Camp Commandant was absent which was frequent. For trifling offences such as spitting, they would stand the Camp to attention and bash many with a bamboo stick and make passes with their swords at us in that they would make personnel kneel in readiness for execution striking the backs of the necks or making a sweep past the heads with the swords and laughing at our discomfort. They frequently struck us with the flat of the sword. These parades for ~~misdemeanours~~ ^{misdemeanours} generally occurred at the termination of a work day and sometimes the victims of the charges were forced to stand to attention in the snow until roll call at night which was 8 p.m. thereby missing their tea. Whilst standing to attention, they would be bashed in relays and a bucket of iced water thrown over them when they collapsed to bring them to.

When I complained of my ulcerated leg, I was kicked in the ulcer by IKEEDA and as a result it was 9 months in healing.

When men were not considered to be doing their best at work, they were paraded in front of us and bashed and on one occasion, one man's head hit the cement floor with a dull thud and 9 days afterwards was found dead in bed. He had complained of severe headaches after the bashing but was refused medical aid by the Japanese because they said a loafer did not deserve medical aid. IKEEDA was the one who administered the bashing and MATSUMOTO was the one who refused medical aid. They gave this man's death as from natural causes but I consider he died from a fracture of the skull.

When anyone was reported for not working hard, these three Japanese always meted out heavy punishments although the men were in a weakened condition and, in my gang, were expected to swing 28 pound hammers, pattering the steel hulls of boats. This treatment was meted out to all and sundry during the whole period of imprisonment at this Camp.

I was next moved to the Copper Mines at AKINOBE and the treatment was very similar to that meted out to us at the other camps. Whilst at this Camp they encouraged us to pluck Mulberry leaves to make soup to augment our meagre rations

I certify that the above evidence is true and correct

Sworn by the abovenamed at
HENTY, NSW this twenty-first
day of October 1946
Before me

H. P. Willard

M. P. Willard

Commissioner for Taking Affidavits

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of 100 Kilo Camp,
Burma - Siam Railway.

War Crimes Commission No.

Reference No.

PX

I, MERVYN WILFRED WILKINSON, of Leonard Street, Waterman's Bay in the State of Western Australia, formerly WX.10049 of the 2/2nd Pioneers, A. I. F., being duly sworn make oath and say as follows :-

1. I was taken prisoner of war by the Japanese in March 1942 in Java and from there went to Singapore, thence to Houlmein and thence to the Burma-Siam Railway. While we were working on the railway there was a Korean guard known to the prisoners as "Snake Eyes". He was dapper in appearance, arrogant in bearing and extremely cruel in his treatment of the prisoners in his charge.

2. I remember one occasion when I was one of a party of prisoners from 100 Kilo Camp working on the railway and under the charge of "Snake Eyes" and another guard. While "Snake Eyes" was temporarily absent, this other guard allowed one of the prisoners who was ill with malaria and could not work to lie down under a tree. "Snake Eyes" returned to the spot and without enquiring from the other guard if the prisoner had been permitted to rest and without warning viciously kicked the prisoner in the stomach and head, pulled him to his feet and knocked him down again. He then ordered the man back to work and the prisoner collapsed in trying to do so. I never saw this prisoner again; I do not remember his name but I think he was a Sergeant and came from Tasmania.

3. I remember another occasion at 100 Kilo Camp when "Snake Eyes" and another guard known to us as "Peck Face" were in charge of a party working near the quarries. In

Mervyn Wilkinson
M. E. Killen

the party were nine prisoners who were practically incapacitated with severe tropical ulcers on the legs. The senior Australian officer amongst the prisoners had obtained from the Japanese engineer in charge of construction permission for these nine men to rest instead of working. At the luncheon break "Snake Eyes" called up these nine men, made them remove the wrappings they had as dressings on the ulcerated parts of their legs, and then he and "Pock Face" unmercifully bashed their legs on the affected parts with bamboo sticks. As a result the nine men were in a helpless condition and were taken back to camp.

4. I also remember when "Snake Eyes" made a Dutch prisoner boil some eggs for him for his meal. When "Snake Eyes" tested them he said the eggs were too hard for his liking and he thereupon kicked the Dutchman in the shins and in the groin, rendering him unconscious.

5. I recognise the photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "A" to be that of the guard referred to by me as "Snake Eyes" in this my affidavit.

SWORN at Perth in the
State of Western Australia
by the abovenamed MERVYN
WILFRED WILKINSON this
19th day of February
1948, before me :

Mervyn Wilkinson

M. H. Killen

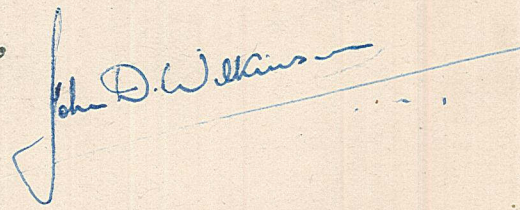
A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of
Western Australia for taking Affidavits.

I, John Desailly WILKINSON, shipping clerk, of 11 Muswell Hill, Glen Iris, in the State of Victoria, formerly VX 63559 Cpl. J D Wilkinson, A.A.P.C., Command Pay Office, Malaya make oath and say:-

1. I was taken prisoner of war by the Japanese in Singapore on 15 Feb 42.
2. I arrived at KEIJO Prisoner of War Camp on 25 Sept 42 and left there on 13 Sept 43.
3. I arrived at KONAN Prisoner of War Camp on 14 Sept 43 and was released by the Russians on 27 Aug 45.
4. I remember a Japanese named Colonel NOGUCHI, he was in command, His administration of the issuing of Red Cross supplies appeared to favour certain groups.
5. I remember a Japanese named Capt TERADA at KEIJO camp. On numerous occasions he would punish Prisoners of War for no apparent reason.
6. On 28 Dec 42 in the middle of winter one Prisoner of War was punished by being thrown in the camp guard house for five days on rice and water, no heating and no blankets during the day. His offence was drawing American, English and Japanese flags.
7. Another Japanese named Cpl SAITO nicknamed "Tom THUMB" took a sadistic delight in bashing Prisoners of War.
8. On 5 Feb 45 SAITO dealt out a bashing to S/Sgt FATHERS of Western Australian which resulted in S/Sgt FATHERS being in hospital for 3 days.
9. S/Sgt FATHERS was a squad leader and was not a young man. SAITO had a personal grudge against FATHERS.
10. SAITO had FATHERS held by Korean Guards while he stood on the tatami of the factory guard house and lashed out at him. It was generally considered, even by the Japanese, that this was a most unwarranted and illegal action.
11. I remember a Japanese by the name of USHIHARA; he was an interpreter nicknamed "THE YANK" because he had lived in America. He on a number of Occasions bashed sick Prisoners of War who he considered were malingering. He developed an antagonistic attitude towards sick Prisoners of War and in the majority of cases did not interpret correctly statements of sick Prisoners of War.
12. There was another Japanese interpreter named KITAOKA, who on many occasions did not interpret symptoms on sickness correctly.
13. On the 30 July 44 in collusion with the Japanese medical Officer KITAOKA sent me to work on carbide furnaces when I was very ill and weak with stomach trouble. I had eaten nothing for two days and actually collapsed on the job.

Sworn at Melbourne, in the State of Victoria,
on the 28 day of May 1947.

Before me



A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria for taking Affidavits.

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46/46
I, Edward James WILKINSON, of 26 Welsley Street, New Farm, Brisbane, formerly QX19762 Dvr WILKINSON, E.J, 2/40 Bn AIF, now discharged, being duly sworn make oath and state as follows:

1. In about September - October, 1944, I was a prisoner of war in MACASSAR Camp, JAVA, in which camp were Australian, English, American and Dutch prisoners. One day I was on a working party amongst which was a Dutch prisoner, whose name I do not know. This prisoner was caught by the Korean guards receiving some cigars from a Chinese civilian, whilst we were working in Batavia.
2. The guards belted the prisoner with bamboo sticks, then took him back to camp in a vehicle. We saw no more of the Dutch prisoner until we returned to camp after work, at about 6.30 p.m. We then saw the prisoner standing on tiptoes on a table under a leafless tree. His back was to the tree, his ankles were tied to the trunk and his wrists were tied to the tree in such a position as made him lean forward. His arms had been forced backward and upward, so that most of his weight was taken by the wrists.
3. Although I cannot swear that the prisoner was kept in that position all the time, I can vouch for the fact that every time I saw the tree during the next four days, the prisoner was there in the same position. I saw the tree at least twice every day, once when going out to work and once when returning at night. One morning we saw him when we were going out, but when we returned, he was no longer there, and we never saw him again.
4. The punishment was carried out on the instructions of Lieut TANAKA, the Commandant of the camp, and during the punishment, several protests were made by our officers to the commandant, but were of no avail. Efforts were made to provide the prisoner with sustenance, but were prevented by the Commandant.
5. A description of the Dutch prisoner concerned in the torture is as follows:

Age about 22 years; height 5'9", weight 12 to 13 stone, powerful build; dark hair; Eurasian type; dark complexion; good teeth; had previously been employed in codhouse, and was in good condition.
6. Lieut TANAKA instructed the guards to punish the prisoners for any infringements of the regulations, and the guards often belted the prisoners for no apparent cause. Protests to TANAKA by our officers were ignored.
7. A description of Lieut TANAKA is as follows:

Age 23-24 years; height 5'8" approx; slight build; round shouldered with stoop; thin face; good teeth; as far as known only slight knowledge English, always spoke through interpreter; very clean in habits and dress; sneaky type; dark complexion.

I swear that the contents of this my affidavit are to the best of my knowledge and belief true in every particular.

Signed and Sworn by the)
withinnamed deponent)
at Brisbane this 5th)
day of April, 1946)

E. J. Wilkinson
.....

Before me
A Justice of the Peace

J. H. S. P. Old
.....

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of 100 Kilo Camp,
Burma - Siam Railway.

War Crimes Commission No.

Reference No.

AFFIDAVIT OF MERVYN WILFRED
WILKINSON.

H. P. E. WHITLAM,
Commonwealth Crown Solicitor,
8-10 The Esplanade,
PERTH.

On this Twentieth day of January One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight Dudley Norman WILKINSON of Laggan Road, CROOKWELL, in the state of New South Wales, _____ make oath and says as follows:-

I am fully aware of the facts surrounding the death through neglect of PTE. W.R. POPLÉ, for it was common knowledge that SGT. IDIO the Japanese N.C.O. in charge of the camp was very brutal in his conduct towards P.O.W.s, and included amongst his many victims was PTE. POPLÉ.

I was medical orderly in the Camp Hospital so was in a position to see the treatment meted out to P.O.W. patients. I remember PTE. POPLÉ being brought into the Camp Hospital, and his condition at the time was very low, due mainly to ill treatment & malnutrition.

As far as I can remember POPLÉ was given a blood transfusion the night he died, but his condition was too far gone for the treatment to be of any use.

Pte. POPLÉ died about four days after he was admitted to hospital.

PTE. W. SLATTERY of New South Wales was also a member of the camp and he may be able to give further information on the conditions existing at the that time.

SWORN by the above named deponent
Dudley Norman WILKINSON at CROOKWELL, }
on the TWENTIETH day of JANUARY One } *Dudley Norman Wilkinson*
thousand nine hundred and Forty Eight. } Signature of Deponent.

BEFORE ME. *A. G. L. J. P.*
A Justice of the Peace.

On this Sixth day of June One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty Seven Dudley Norman WILKINSON of Laggan Road, Crookwell in the State of New South Wales, a taxi proprietor makes oath and says as follows:-

1. I was NX. 66840 a Private in the 2/30 Inf. Bt. and was captured at Singapore on 15 Feb. 42.
2. I eventually arrived at Fukuoka POW Camp No. 22 on 15 Jan. 45 and was there until my release about the last week in Sept. 45.
3. I worked in the Camp Hospital as an orderly during this period and the ration issue for the hospital was barely a half pint of rice and a bowl of thin vegetable soup three times a day.
4. We were weighed monthly and everyone in the hospital was losing weight because of the insufficiency of the ration.
5. Our Red Cross parcels were being consumed by the Lieut. in command because I have seen him eating the chocolate and smoking the cigarettes out of them. I went up to his hut which was just behind the hospital and found about 40 empty Red Cross cartons there.
6. Being in the hospital, I saw the results of various beatings and kickings received by our boys from the Jap guards. Our boys would either be brought in by their mates or come themselves for treatment for these beatings, and invariably they would say it was "IRIO" the Jap Sgt. who did it or at his instigation.
7. I treated many of the boys on several occasions for cuts, bruises and abrasions caused by these beatings and kickings.
8. Bernie Cantwell was brought into hospital suffering bruises and abrasions from one of these beatings instigated by Sgt. IRIO.
9. About August 1945 A Japanese mine overseer came over to the ~~KKEX~~ ~~KKEX~~ camp one night and pulled Johnston, Skinner and Wright out of bed and gave them a beating saying "Thats in case you don't work hard tomorrow" Cantwell told me this when he came to me for treatment for one of his beatings. Bill Slatyer of 2/30 Bn. witnessed a lot of these beatings and would know a lot more names than I can remember, he lives close to Sydney.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent Dudley Norman WILKINSON. at CROOKWELL on the Sixth day of June One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Seven, BEFORE ME.

D. Wilkinson

Aring Day J.P.
.....
A Justice of the Peace.

On this Thirteenth day of February One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fortyeight Dudley Norman WILKINSON of Laggan Road, CROOKWELL, in the State of New South Wales, Taxi Driver, makes oath and says as follows:-

I was medical orderly in "FUKUOKA, P.W. Camp No. 22 Hospital from 15 January 1945 until 25 September 1945.

When we first went into camp we were broken up into parties of 100, and the party I was with included Cpl. H. ASHFORD and L/Seaman A. HAWKE, but prior to leaving SINGAPORE they were not in my group.

When these TWO men were admitted to the Camp Hospital they were suffering from a very acute form of Beri Beri.

As far as I recollect both men were admitted about the 17th of January and Cpl. ASHFORD died on 21st January 45, and L/Seaman HAWKE on 25th January 1945.

Neither ASHFORD nor HAWKE received any treatment during the short period in hospital as no special food was available other than the normal Rice Ration.

I only knew the TWO members whilst they were patients in the camp hospital, and have no knowledge of what treatment they received prior to admission to the hospital, as they had been in a different group to myself.

The conditions on the boat journey of three weeks from SINGAPORE to JAPAN were very overcrowded, as there were 450 Australian P.W. and 100 Japanese troops aboard. We were housed in the holds of the ship "AWA MARU" and our allowance of space was approximately 2 feet square per man,

and/

and we were allowed ONE hours exercise daily on the upper deck.

The treatment whilst on the ship was most severe, and the allowance of water per man per day was ONE Army Water Bottle for all purposes.

Frequent lashings were a daily occurrence and there were very few of us who escaped these lashings.

I am unable to give the names of the Japanese who were responsible for these lashings, with the exception that one of them was generally known as "BOOFHEAD",.

In my opinion, one of the main reasons for the sudden death of ASHFORD & HAWKE was the fact that we were under tropical conditions whilst in SINGAPORE, and the sudden change to winter conditions without suitable clothing was responsible to a great extent for these deaths.

I think that SGT. J.L. RISEBOROUGH a VX number of VICTORIA would be in a better position than myself to supply further information.

SWORN BY THE above named deponent
Dudley Norman WILKINSON at CROOK-
WELL, on the Thirteenth day of
January One thousand nine hundred
and Forty Eight.

.....
Signature of Deponent.

BEFORE ME.....
A Justice of the Peace.

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of the murder
of a party of sick personnel
of 2/1 Hvy Bty 8 Aust Div
near BABOE about 21 Feb 42.

United Nations War Crimes
Commission Reference

I, WX11117 Lieut Frederick George WILKINS, of 2/1 Heavy Battery 8 Aust Division at present residing 4 Redfern St., Subiaco in the State of Western Australia being duly sworn make oath and say as follows :-

1. On approximately 20 Feb 42 I was with 2/1 Heavy Battery at KLAPALIMA about 12 miles from BABOE in Dutch Timor. Under instructions I was despatching some of our sick personnel by ambulance to TJAMPLOENG. One party had been so despatched and had got through but immediately afterwards, unknown to us, some 600 to 700 Japanese Paratroops landed outside BABOE on the road from KLAPALIMA to TJAMPLOENG. Capt A. R. CARRICK and I sent on another party of about 10 in a truck with instructions to proceed to TJAMPLOENG. This was the party which we subsequently ascertained was intercepted by these paratroops and taken prisoner about $\frac{5}{4}$ mile outside BABOE and subsequently murdered.
2. Those of the party whose names are known to me were L/Bdr's J. RANKIN and LLOYD and Gnr's WAY, STRIDE and HENRY. L/Bdr LLOYD and Gnr HENRY were the drivers of the truck. I do not know the names of the rest of the party but my C.O. Lt-Col LEGGETT has details.
3. We surrendered to the Japanese on 23 Feb 42 and it was not until the end of March 42 that I obtained any information regarding the fate of this party. At that time about 6 officers were permitted to go over the battle area just outside BABOE where our Forces had fought a heavy engagement with the Japanese. Those in the party were, in addition to myself, our Medical Officer Captain D. G. GILLIES, Capt A. R. CARRICK, Lieut J. CARRICK and about two other officers whose identity I have forgotten. In the course of this tour at a place called OESOE Ridge about $\frac{5}{4}$ mile from BABOE just off the road we found the dismembered skeletons of about ten men. The bodies had been eaten and dismembered by wild pigs but the M.O. pieced the bodies together and we were able to identify the men concerned by clothing, identity discs and various personal effects. The things were scattered over an area about 20 yards square.
4. From the clothing, identity discs and personal effects I satisfied myself beyond any doubt that the five men abovenamed of my Battery were amongst those killed there.
5. In the course of our tour we came upon a native who informed us that at a time which we identified to be about 21 Feb 42 he had seen a party of about ten of our soldiers who were tied together by ropes led out from a small hut nearby. He had not seen what subsequently had happened but had heard screams followed by the sound of rapid shooting.
6. We inspected the locality very closely. There were a number of small trees with low branches in the immediate vicinity and on the lowest branches we saw marks which appeared to have been made by the tension and friction of ropes supporting a heavy object. There were ropes lying around adjacent to the bodies which had apparently been used to suspend the bodies from the branches. The boots, puttees, shorts and shirts which we found all showed marks evidently made by bayonet thrusts and the skulls we found bore marks apparently made by bullets of a calibre similar to Japanese Tommy Gun ammunition. Australian steel helmets found there also showed indications of being struck by bullets.

7. From this evidence and the information obtained from the native it was apparent to us that these men had been suspended from the low branches they bayoneted many times and finally shot through the head evidently with Tommy Guns.

8. It was impossible for us to identify any of the murderers except as being members of the Japanese Paratroops who had landed in that locality. The Japanese Commander in that area informed Lt-Col LEGGETT that of the 600 or 700 paratroops who landed, Sparrow Force had wiped out all except 76 so that probably all perpetrators of this murder were killed. Lt-Col Leggett had numerous enquiries to endeavour to find out who was responsible but I do not know with what results.

SWORN BY THE SAID
Frederick George WILKINS
at PERTH in the State
of Western Australianon
this 19th day of
February, 1946.

(Sgd) F. G. Wilkins.

Before me : H.T. Stables
A.A.L.C.

Major
HQ Western Command.

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes; ...

and;

IN THE MATTER of TAKEDO SADUMA.....

known as "one armed bandit" and....

MUTA MATSUKICHI known as "the

Sailor"

British National Office Charge No.

.....

United Nations War Crimes Commiss--

ion Reference.....

I, HUGH WILKES of Stirling Dam Harvey in the State of Western...
Australia Plumber being duly sworn make oath and say as
follows:-

1. I was formerly a member of the Australian Infantry Forces.
My Army No. being WX9179. I was a member of the 2/4 Australian...
Machine Gun Battalion which was in the Eighth Division and I ...
was taken prisoner of War by the Japanese at Singapore.

2. After periods of internment in Singapore and Thailand I was.
on the 19th June 1944 removed from Thailand to Fukuoka Prisoner.
of War Camp No. 17 in Japan.

3. Conditions in this camp were very bad. Prisoners in this....
camp were obliged to work in the coal mines in zinc works, in...
small garden parties and in constructing huts and air raid
shelters inside the camp.

4. Food in the camp was bad. The guards of the camp were gen...
erally speaking inhuman and they appeared to delight in adminis-
tering beatings, and other forms of torture for the slightest...
breach of discipline or if it appeared to them that a prisoner..
was not working sufficiently hard. When working in the mines...
four prisoners were placed under a guard and if the prisoner ...
should straighten his back for a space the guard in charge would
strike him with a stick which he always carried. If the guards.
should discover a prisoner smoking while passing through the....
huts that prisoner would always receive a beating with sticks.

The popular forms of punishment in the camp were:-

H Wilkes

*San
acomme etc.*

- (a) bashings with sticks, bambo or rifle butts.
- (b) to compel the prisoner to kneel outside the guard house... in the snow for long periods while guards at intervals threw.... buckets of cold water over him.
- (c) camp corporate punishment was administered by compelling.. all prisoners to stand out in the snow for long periods without overcoats and by the withholding of rations. This was continued. until a prisoner would admit an offence, e.g. stealing.

5. I remember in particular the case of Dave Runge. He was... over heard by an interpreter telling newly arrived Australian ... Prisoners at the Camp not to work too hard for the Nips. He was placed in front of the guard house with bamboos tied behind the knees and beaten with sticks. He was left there for four to.... five days. As a result of the injuries to his legs gangrene.... set in and he lost both legs below the knees.

6. TAKEDO SADUMA who was known amongst the prisoners by the nickname of the "one armed bandit" and whom I identify as the... person photographed in the four photographs Nos. 51 and 51A which are hereunto annexed and marked "A" was a guard at the said..... camp.

7. MUTA MATSUKICHI who was known amongst the prisoners by.. the nickname of "the sailor" and whom I identify as the person... photographed in the four photographs Nos 52 and 52A which are... hereunto annexed and marked "B" was also guard at the said Camp.

8. Both of these guards earned a reputation for inhuman treatment and amongst a bad lot of guards they were, in my opinion, . the worst. They participated in the illtreatment of Runge which. I refer to above and in a number of other individual cases in... which I cannot recall the names of the prisoners who were ill... treated.

SWORN at Harvey in the State of Western }
Australia this 27th day . }
of 27th 1947. Before me:- }

W. Wilke

Bay

.....
A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of
Western Australia for taking Affidavits.

IN THE MATTER OF War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER OF TAKEDO SADUMA

known as " one-armed bandit "

and MUTA MATSUKICHI known as

"the sailor".

British National Office Charge

No.....

United Nations War Crimes Com-

mission Reference.....

AFFIDAVIT OF HUGH WILKES

COMMONWEALTH CROWN SOLICITOR.

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of TAKEDA Sadume
and MUTA Matsukichi at FUKUOKA
Camp No. 17.

United Nations War Crimes
Commission Reference

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of TAKEDA Sadume
and MUTA Matsukichi at FUKUOKA
Camp No. 17.

United Nations War Crimes Commission
Reference

I, HUGH WILKES of 3 Gladstone Street, East Perth in the State of Western Australia, Radiator Specialist, make oath and say as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit made in Manila towards the end of September 1945.

2. In my said affidavit I referred to two Japanese named TAKEDA and MUTA. They were known respectively as "The one-armed bandit" and "The sailor".

3. Hereinto annexed and marked with the letters "A" and "B" are photographs of the said TAKEDA.

4. I positively identify the said photographs as those of the said TAKEDA.

5. Hereinto annexed and marked with the letters "C" and "D" are photographs of the said MUTA.

6. I positively identify the said photographs as those of the said MUTA.

SWORN by the Deponent at PERTH
this 30th day of October 1946
Before me:

}
}
} H. W. Wilkes
}

[Signature]

COMMISSIONER IN THE SUPREME COURT
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA FOR TAKING
AFFIDAVITS.

GEORGE A. WATSON
A Commonwealth Crown Solicitor
Attest Building
8-10 The Esplanade
PERTH.

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of TAKEDA Saduma
and MUTA Matsukichi at FUKUOKA
Camp No. 17.

United Nations War Crimes Commission
Reference

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of TAKEDA Saduma
and MUTA Matsukichi at FUKUOKA
Camp No. 17.

United Nations War Crimes
Commission Reference

I, HUGH WILKES of 3 Gladstone Street, East Perth in the State
of Western Australia, Radiator Specialist, make oath and say
as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit made in Manila
towards the end of September 1945.
2. In my said affidavit I referred to two Japanese named
TAKEDA and MUTA. They were known respectively as "The one-

armed bandit" and "The soldier".

SEKLIU HUGH FO TIVADIAFFIDAVIT and marked with the letters "A" and "B"

are photographs of the said TAKEDA.

4. I positively identify the said photographs as those of the
said TAKEDA.

5. Hereinto annexed and marked with the letters "C" and "D"
are photographs of the said MUTA.

6. I positively identify the said photographs as those of the
said MUTA.

SWORN by the Deponent at PERTH
this 30th day of October 1946
Before me:

COMMISSIONER IN THE SUPREME COURT
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA FOR TAKING
AFFIDAVITS.

GEORGE A. WATSON,
A/Commonwealth Crown Solicitor,
Atlas Buildings,
8-10 The Esplanade,
PERTH.

Evidence taken at Manila on 7 October 1945.

Pte. Hugh WILKES being duly sworn gives the following evidence:

My number is WX9179; name Hugh Wilkes, private; unit 2/4 M.G. Bn. Home address: 2 Connaught st., Leaderville, West Aust. I was taken prisoner at Singapore in February 1942. My first prison camp was Changi. I left Changi in April 1942. I went to Jahore. Conditions at Changi were not good; food was scarce, and the men lost weight. There was a fair bit of dysentery. We had a lot of our own medical supplies then; we were under our own administration.

At Jahore we were in civilian huts and remained there for about a month. There were 200 of us there. The 200 were there for a week, then 150 were sent back to Singapore. I stayed there. The Japs there were fighting forces and the food was not bad; we were able to exchange our rice for bread and some pigs. We lived in some brick houses. We worked on building a shrine to mark where they crossed over to Singapore. There was little sickness. For the first few days we got some beatings but things improved afterwards. We were bashed with sticks. Back at Singapore I went to Adam Park camp, leaving there in December 1942. Then I went back to Changi. Conditions at Adam Park at first were fair, but the food was scarce; we got, during August 1942, some South African Red Cross bulk parcels and we made them last until Xmas. Accommodation was quite good. We helped to build a shrine and put a big bridge across the reservoir. The hours were from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There were some beatings. Most of the sickness there was from malnutrition; men were going downhill and there was some dengue fever and tinea. We still had some of our own medical supplies. The Japs there did not interfere with the M.Os' recommendations about sick men and work.

I was back at Changi in December 1942 and stayed there until March 1943. Food was very scarce - we had a pint mug of rice three times a day - watery soup sometimes; we were able to buy some whitebait and make ourselves a weak stew sometimes.

~~Themen's health was bad there - malnutrition and dysentery.~~

Themen's health was bad there - malnutrition and dysentery. I left there in March 1943 and went to Thailand by train - in steel trucks, 30 men to a truck. It was crowded and hot. My first camp in Thailand was Kanburi; we left there again at the end of March 1943. We sold clothes and got eggs - and we over-ate the eggs, and some men got diarrhoea bad. Then I went to Kinsyoke by truck - we were the last lot to go up by truck; the rest walked. We left there in June 1943. We worked on the railway, building the embankment. Food was light there. We slept in adap huts, in the rain. There was a fair amount of sickness but we still had to supply 95 men out of a 100 to work. Sick men had to work. There were some beatings. One of our medical orderlies went out with a medical kit and the Japs took to him and beat him, for two or three days; one day he was carried back. They beat him with bamboos. Our medical supplies at this camp were getting lighter.

The next camp was Bronkassi; we left there about a month later. This was a fair camp on the side of a hill. Food was not so bad. Accommodation was in tents. There was not much sickness there. We still had a few clothes that we had brought from Singapore. We worked on the railway, building the embankment; our hours were from 8 a.m. to 7 or 8 p.m.

Then I moved to Hindane camp and left there about six weeks later. I went back to Bronkassi for a month. The general conditions at Hindane were bad; food was insufficient. Accommodation was in tents, the rain coming in all of the time. Sickness started to increase there. It mostly was diarrhoea and malnutrition. Sick men had to work. If you wanted to get off work through sickness you had to go yourself before the Japs. Two men died with cholera there. Medical supplies were light. The general condition of the men was becoming weaker and weaker - they were collapsing on the jobs. They would be beaten; some Japs would let you rest for a short while, and the others would beat you and force you back on the job. Some men had to be carried back to their jobs.

I was back at Bronkassi in July and left there at the end of August 1943. Food on this occasion was not so bad. We worked on the railway line; some times we started work at 8 a.m. one day and finish at halfpast one the next morning. It was the monsoonal season and the water came right up and the track was cut through the jungle and we had to walk three to four miles through the jungle holding onto one another's belts. The back men were running and breaking off and they screamed as they got lost in the jungle. We had no boots; we were working in our bare feet. Tropical ulcers were bad. There were only a few sick men evacuated; men with tropical ulcers were forced to work. Men were hit on their sores. Wm Dwyer of our Bn collapsed on the way to work and they carried him to the job under Japs' instructions; he was beaten and knocked unconscious; when he came to they stuck a bamboo stick in his ulcers on his legs. Then they beat him again. He had to be taken back to the camp and he died two days later. There was a lot of cholera there. We had seven or eight deaths from cholera at this camp. Medical supplies were pretty poor.

My next camp was Kuee, which I left in December 1943. The job was practically completed at this stage and we began to get food up by the railway. We used to carry Jap stuff ~~from the~~ and take some of it ourselves. For the first six weeks we were there we had 55 deaths out of 100 men. They died of dysentery, cholera and malnutrition.

The remainder of the men were in poor health; at the finish there, only three of our men were going to work - all of ~~the~~ the rest were sick in camp. We got a fair go there from the Jap medical sergeant - if you had a high temperature you went before the Dutch doctor and later before this Jap sergeant and if you were really sick you did not go to work.

Next I went to Nompradok camp and left there in May 1944. Conditions there were not so bad. We worked on petrol dumps, making roads from the jungle to the dumps. Also digging graves at our own cemetery. We built a new camp there. We erected our own huts. There were only a few minor beatings at this camp. If any of the Korean guards beat us there, and the Jap officer in charge found out, he would have the Koreans beaten. Sick men there were not forced to work. There was a lot of sickness, mostly malnutrition; but some of us actually picked up a bit there. However, there were a lot of ulcers - many died from these.

I went back to Singapore for about four days and then was transhipped on the Aramis to Japan. The trip took 10 or 11 days. There were about 1,100 on board, down in the hold; it was unbearably hot and crowded. You could just lie down, very close together. Food was reasonable. We got rice three times a day, and some stew. The latrines were right next to where we slept. There was a fair amount of sickness from the heat; there was a lot of malaria. One Dutchman died down the hold. You had to be very sick to get up on deck. On the trip the men went down in health.

I reached Moji, and then was taken to No. 17 Fukuoka camp in Japan. I was there until August 1945. When we first went there the food was quite good. But later it went down to nothing. I worked in the Mitsui Coy's coalmine, with the rest. We did shift work - we left camp at 4 a.m. and returned at 4 or 5 p.m. Conditions in the mine itself were dangerous. There were a lot of falls. Many were injured. I had had an injury down in the mine - my leg was hurt in a fall, and I still limp. The ankle was twisted and something inside the ankle burst. I was in hospital for six weeks. But people were sent out of hospital before they were better. I was sent out after 10 days and had to return to work, ~~but shortly afterwards I had to return to hospital again.~~ There was a lot of sickness at this camp; a lot of malnutrition, dysentery, malaria; you had to continue working with very high temperatures. There were a lot of bashings in the mine for nothing at all. We had a foreman on our shift who used to go along with a piece of dynamite cord and hit you across the back or with a piece of thick wood - he just loved doing it. If you were knocked over you would be bashed completely. In the whole camp there were about 108 deaths in the 14 months I was there; when we finished there were 1,700 men at the camp. Medical supplies always were very light. We had no bandages. I had the same bandage on for over a week; it was covered with blood. The men were getting maggots on their wounds - there was no such thing as dressings.

We got a Red Cross parcel in the last New Year. Then we got three or four other issues - about seven to a box. Previously they had taken the meat and milk and other things out of boxes. At the end of the war the health of the men was particularly poor - and food was terribly scarce. There would have been very few got out if we had had to undergo another winter under those conditions. I was 10 st 2 lb when I was captured and at one stage was down to 100 lb.

I was at this camp ^{when} Runge had his legs amputated. Others were forced to kneel on bamboos and sticks out in the snow. Runge was made an example in this kind of treatment. Some of the nicknames of guards in the mine were - The Pig; The Greyhound; The Mitoman; the Screamer; the Monkey; the Goat.

I certify that the above evidence is correct.

Taken and sworn before me)
at Manila 8 October 1945)

Commissioner



707.

A

MUTA, Matsukichi (? "The Sailor")

Photo # 52

2AWCS

SCAP

This is the photograph marked "A"
referred to in the annexed affidavit
of HUGH WILKES.

SWORN the 30th day of October 1946
Before me:


Commissioner in the Supreme Court
of Western Australia for taking
Affidavits.



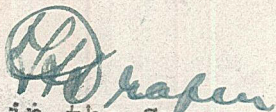
707
B

MUTA, Matsukichi ((? "The Sailor"))

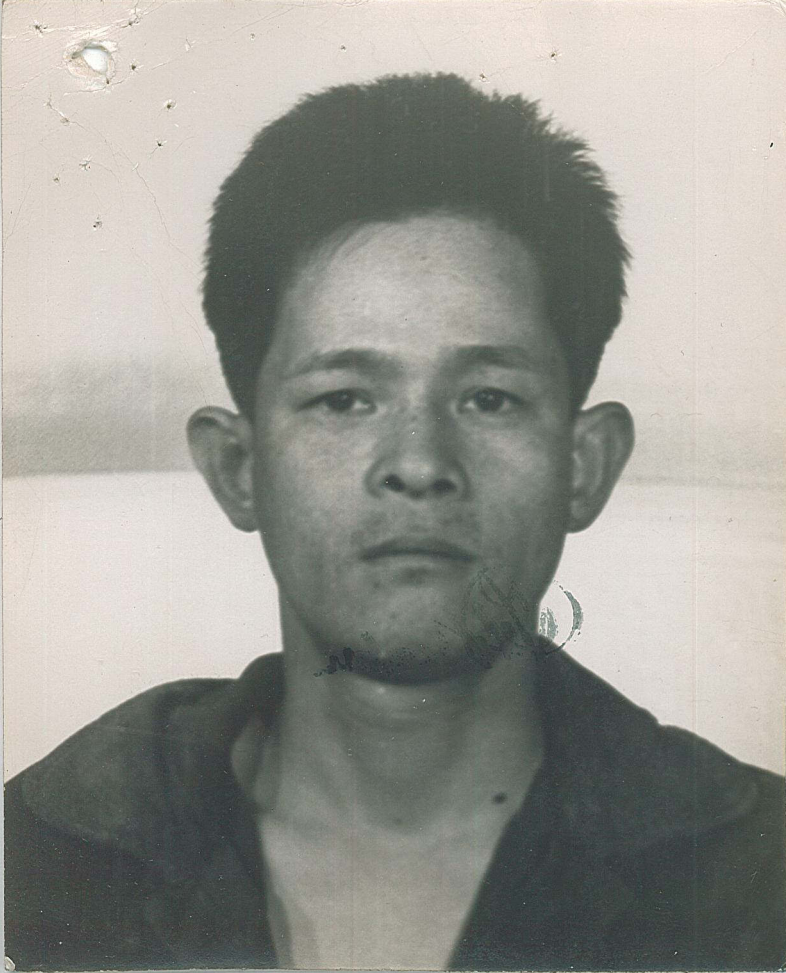
Photo # 52a 2 AWCS SCAP

This is the photograph marked "B"
referred to in the annexed affidavit
of HUGH WILKES.

SWORN the 30th day of October 1946
Before me:



Commissioner in the Supreme Court
of Western Australia for taking
Affidavits.



738

C

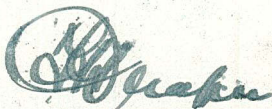
Photo # 51

2 AWCS

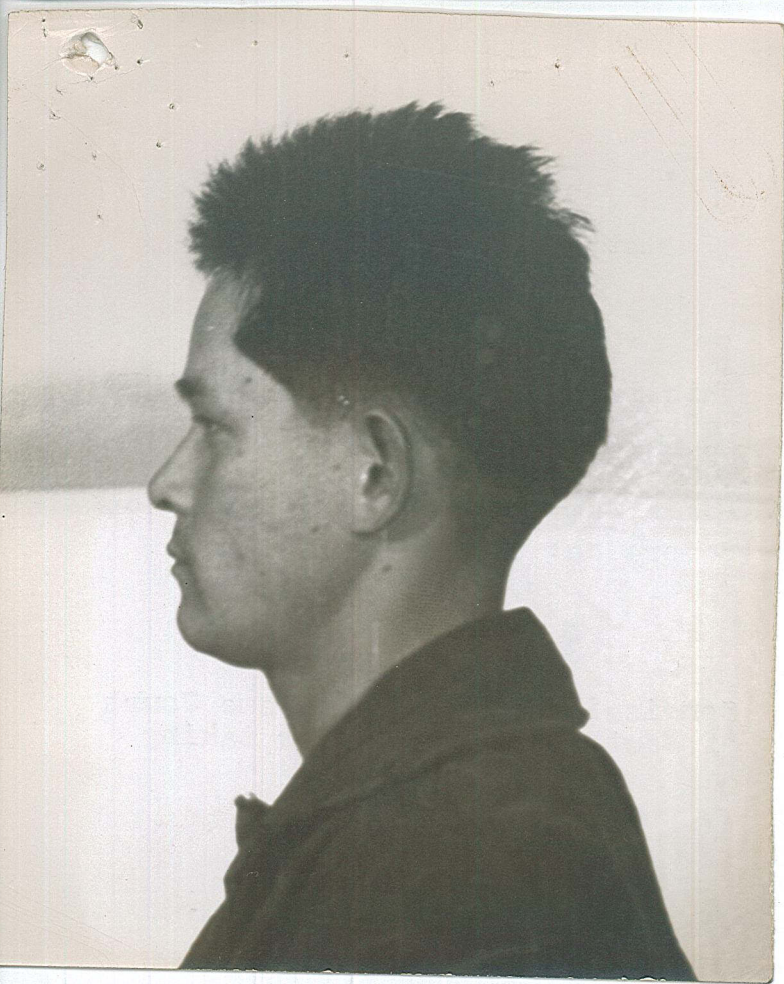
SCAP

This is the photograph marked "C"
referred to in the annexed affidavit
of HUGH WILKES.

188 Before
SWORN the 30th day of October 1946
Before me:



Commissioner in the Supreme Court
of Western Australia for taking
Affidavits.



738

D

Photo # 51a 2 AWCS SCAP

This is the photograph marked "D"
referred to in the annexed affidavit
of HUGH WILKES.

Before me
SWORN the 30th day of October 1946
Before me:



Commissioner in the Supreme Court
of Western Australia for taking
Affidavits.

8156

C 1/7

On this twenty-fourth day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Leslie William Wilcox, of 151 Queen Street, Woolahra, in the State of New South Wales, Tram Conductor, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX40688 Pte L.W. WILCOX I was taken PW at Singapore Island on 15 Feb 42 and transferred to BLAKANG MATI at the end of Apr 42, where I remained until the Japanese capitulation.
2. The Australian commander was Major OKEY. The Japanese commander was Col MIKI, described as follows: Age approximately 45 yrs; height approx. 5'3"; build thick set. The Japanese Cpl concerned in the drowning of Pte TOULMIN I had never seen before, until I embarked on the barge. A description of him is as follows: Age approx. 30 yrs; height about 5'4"; build thick set. He had several gold-capped teeth in the top front.
3. "The Hore from Johore" was the Japanese camp S/Major, whose age was approx. 40 yrs; height 5'6" approx.; thin build. He had a broad face and prominent bullet head.
4. Capt ARI (nicknamed "BAT EARS") was commander of PsW. His age was approx. 45 yrs; height about 5'7"; medium build but very broad across the shoulders, narrow at the hips and thin in the legs. His nose was slightly hooked and very thin. His eyes were almost black and very penetrating. His ears were very long and pointed like the ears of a bat.
5. Capt JOHO (Shuffle-Off) was in charge of the bomb crew. A description of Joho is as follows: age approx. 30 yrs; height about 5'3"; stocky build. When walking he dragged his feet a little, walking with a shuffle.
6. Senior Pte SWATA (Jacky) was in charge of all PsW handling bombs. A description of Swata is as follows: Age approx. 35 yrs; height about 5'2"; slight build and his legs were very thin and bowed.
7. On approximately 10 Mar 43 a party consisting of myself, and about fifty other Australians, were embarked on a barge to unload oil drums at BULA BUKAM, about eight miles away. At Bula Bukam in the course of unloading the barge I heard a clatter of drums followed by a splash. Turning around I saw the Jap Cpl, standing on the drums, walk three or four yards towards the side of the ship and look over. I then walked over to the edge myself and saw Toulmin in the water supporting himself on a floating oil drum. The current carried Toulmin around to the aft end of the ship out of my view. The Jap Cpl stripped his clothes off, jumped into the water and Pte HILL did likewise. I then moved to the aft end of the ship and Toulmin had dis-

L. H. Wilcox

Leslie W. Wilcox

appeared. At that stage neither HILL nor the Jap had reached Toulmin.

8. I was told by Ptes Hill and Wallace that the Jap Cpl had pushed Toulmin overboard.

9. On return to Blakang Mati Major Okey held an inquiry into Toulmin's disappearance. He submitted the evidence and findings to Col. Miki.

10. Some days later "The Hore from Johore" and Capt Ari ordered the men who had given evidence in the inquiry, excepting myself, to be escorted to Jap HQ by L/Cpl SUKITCHI, a Jap guard. I was taken to Jap HQ twenty minutes later under Sukitchi.

11. On arrival at Jap HQ the five witnesses were lined up outside. The Men were - Ptes SEARLE, DELANEY, WALLACE, HILL and AYSCOUGH. Opposite them lined up were a number of Japanese. They included, the Jap Cpl from the barge and SWATA. These Japs were armed with sticks, sheathed swords and house-bricks. Each Jap took a turn at going along the line, calling each Aust. to attention and attacking him with the weapon he had. I saw both Swata and the barge Cpl take a turn at attacking the Australians. This punishment I saw continue for half an hour. Although later I was taken behind a building for questioning, I knew that the punishment was continuing by the sounds coming from the place where the Australians were standing. The Jap Officers, ARI and JOHO and "The Hore from Johore", were standing by, supervising the punishment. I was told by the victims that all three had personally taken part in the bashings.

12. In reply to questioning I stated to the Japs that I had not seen the barge Cpl push Toulmin, because I had my back turned at the time and that I did not know whether Toulmin had been pushed or had fallen.

13. When I came out from behind the building Major Okey and Capt TOPPER, 2 i/c Australian PSW, were talking to the Jap Officers. The men were still standing in line and I saw that they were bleeding, marked and bruised. I saw Delaney being assisted back to his quarters. He appeared to have suffered more injury than the others. I saw them receiving medical treatment. Delaney was taken to the sick bay and remained there for a couple of days. The others were ordered to go to work the next day.

14. Later I heard Delaney on several occasions screaming in his sleep. He became very depressed and about a week after the beating, at three o'clock in the morning, he jumped from a balcony thirty eight feet high. He died before reveille.

15. Bashings and cruel punishments such as standing for long periods holding weights and body pressing were daily occurrences. Rations were at most times short. Medical supplies were at all times inadequate. Red Cross food supplies came in but were not all issued. Parcels that were issued had deteriorated. When capitulation was imminent the large stocks held were issued to the PSW. Col Miki was in charge of the camp for approximately three years and Col YOSHIDA for the remainder of the time. There was a slight improvement in treatment of PSW when Yoshida took over.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,)
Leslie William Wilcox, at Sydney)
this twenty-fourth day of May, One)
thousand nine hundred and forty-)
six)

Leslie W. Wilcox

Leslie W. Wilcox

BEFORE ME

A Justice of the Peace.

The following is a certified true summary of a statement received from VX 13553 Pte WIGHTWICK J.S. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn :-

I managed to get outside the wire on one occasion only by going out through a gate which was left open, although guarded; it was necessary for me to wait until the guard had gone to the other end of his beat and then slip through. Apparently he either saw or heard me, for I hadn't left the environs of the camp being out approx 15 minutes before I was picked up and put back into the compound. As a result of this I did 2 days solitary. This would be at MUNICH approx Jul 42.

I had plans made for other escapes but unfortunately they were foiled before they eventuated.

W. Age Capt 15/1
..... Major
DAAG A 14 (ADM) Vic L of C Area

On this first day of April, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Robert Arthur Wickens , of 27 Cometrow St., Drummoyne, in the State of New South Wales, rubber technician, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX57298 L/Sjt WICKENS R.A. of 2/19 Inf Bn I was taken prisoner of war at Singapore on 15 Feb 42.
2. I was transferred to ITCHIOKA, Japan, on 6 Feb 44 for medical treatment. The Officer in charge at ITCHIOKA was Surgeon Lt C.V. JACKSON RNVR (Hong Kong). He was later succeeded by Major J.F. AKROYD, AAMC, who was taken POW at RABAU.
3. The Japanese in charge at ITCHIOKA was S/Major OKANA. He was assisted by CATO and NAKAYAMA, both Second Class Ptes and KITEMURA and BANDO, who did not belong to the Jap regular army but were returned soldiers carrying out garrison duties. The description of these Japs is as follows:-

OKANA - height about 5', very rotund, good teeth, clean shaven, very jovial, aged about 35 yrs, did not wear glasses, and could speak only a little English. His home was in OSAKA.

CATO - height about 5', medium build, cross-eyed, was nicknamed "North and South" because of this. His age was about 30 yrs, did not wear glasses and his home was in KYOTO.

NAKAYAMA - height about 5', small build, prominent teeth, gold-filled, very short-sighted and wore glasses. He had a cast in one eye which was only noticeable when he had his glasses off. His age was about 24 yrs and he lived in KYOTO.

KITEMURA - height about 5' 6", his left leg had been badly wounded and as a result he often wore a metal support and had a definite limp. He did not wear glasses. He had bad teeth with many fillings. His age was about 40 yrs, slim build, was very shrewd and was a sadist. He lived in Osaka.

BANDO - height about 5', nuggety build, had a pleasant face. He had a definite limp, was quite intelligent and his home was in Osaka.

Lawrence
Shreeff

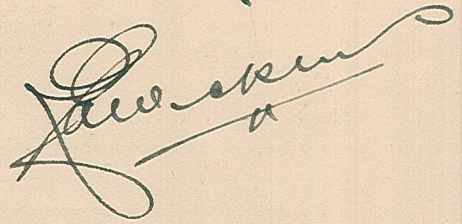
4. I was a patient at ~~ITCHIOKA~~ ICHIOKA for about six weeks and after recovering I was requested by Major AKROYD to stop and assist him in the Hospital. Patients in this hospital were prisoners of war sent by the Japs when the Japs considered they were going to die. Treatment given to the Prisoner of war patients at the hospital by the aforementioned Japs was bad inasmuch that they endeavoured to make conditions as unbearable as they possibly could.
5. On 8 May 44 I experienced a severe bashing at the hands of BANDO, CATO and NAKAYAMA. The incident arose through BANDO stealing half of the hospital fish ration. The entire ration weighed no more than ten pounds. The PW cooks accused BANDO of the theft and after doing so were penalised by him by being made stand to attention for about two hours. Major AKROYD reported the matter to OKANA who gave him no satisfaction. OKANA went down to BANDO's office and was seen laughing and joking with BANDO. Approximately one hour later OKANA left the camp. The climax occurred at 2000 hours when we were lined up for roll-call. BANDO, CATO and NAKAYAMA came into the hospital and after ordering the PSW to salute them commended to bash first of all Major AKROYD and the remainder of the PW hospital staff in turn. The bashing was given with belts, slippers or bayonet scabbards. I was next to Major AKROYD and was the next to receive a bashing which lasted about a quarter of a hour and which was given with the heel end of a slipper. The bashing of the staff lasted about half an hour after which BANDO, CATO and NAKAYAMA proceeded to the sick bays where the sick and dying men were lying and proceeded to kick and ill-treat them. When Major AKROYD tried to intervene he was hit several times and the Japs called out to him in Japanese which I understood, "All men die, Okay." This phrase was repeated right throughout the bashing of the sick men.
6. The three Japs finally came back to us and dismissed the staff with the exception of Major AKROYD, myself and a Dutch Lieut E.M. GONIE. They then bashed the three of us for about half an hour with belts and kicked us on the shins with their boots.
7. Major AKROYD contracted Pulmonary T.B. shortly after this and I consider that owing to his weak condition due to continued treatment such as experienced on this occasion was the cause of him contracting T.B.
8. A number of the sick men kicked and ill-treated that night subsequently died, their hastened death being definitely due to the treatment they received that evening.
9. This hospital was originated in Oct 42 and was disbanded in Jun 44. During this time there were 759 admissions and of these over 250 died.
10. Other Australian PSW who witnessed this bashing are -
VX -- , H.R. SHANNON of Albury, NSW, NX59496 R.M. DEAN,
and VX W.B. ASHWEIRTH of Emu Street, Maidstone, Victoria.
11. OKANA, KITEMURA, BANDO, CATO and NAKAYAMA are guilty of systematically stealing stores such as PW rations, medical stores and any Red Cross stores that came into ICHIOKA.
12. On many occasions I have seen all the aforementioned Japs leaving the camp with stores they have stolen from us. The most popular of our rations to be stolen were rice and oil.

John C. Ken
L. Shaffer

Any of the PW hospital staff who requested the Japs not to take the stores finished up being punished in some manner.

13. There was never any sugar received by prisoners of war at ITCHIOKA hospital and the only explanation of this is that the aforementioned Japs stole it. Cough medicine, Pertussin, which was received at the hospital was confiscated by the Japs and used by them to sweeten their tea with when they realised its sweetness.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,)
Robert Arthur WICKENS, at Sydney,))
this first day of April, One)
thousand nine hundred and forty-)
six)



BEFORE ME



A Justice of the Peace

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

STATUTORY DECLARATION

(1) Here insert name, address, and occupation of person making the declaration.

I,

(1)

WIANGIL/ WANEGATA of KALABU Village,
MAPRIK sub-district SEPIK DISTRICT.

, do solemnly and sincerely

(2) Here insert matter declared to. Where the matter is long it should be set out in numbered paragraphs.

declare

(2)

That I have this day made a statement in reference to the shooting of my husband by Japanese soldiers about two and a half years ago.

(3)

That the statement referred to above is attached to this Declaration, marked ANNEXURE A and signed by me.

(4)

That the statement referred to herein is true

[Handwritten signature]
x

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1911 conscientiously believing the statements contained therein to be true in every particular.

(3) Signature of person making the declaration.

(3)

WIANGIL

her
x
mark.

Declared at MAPRIK the THIRTEENTH day of OCTOBER 1948, before me,

(4) Signature of person before whom the declaration is made.

(4)

A.R. Haviland

(5) Here insert title of person before whom the declaration is made.

(5)

A.R. HAVILAND J.P.

A Justice of the Peace for Papua-New Guinea.

NOTE:- Any person who wilfully makes a false statement in a Statutory Declaration is guilty of an indictable offence, and is liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for four years.

Annexure "A"

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA.

THIS IS THE ANNEXURE MARKED "A" MENTIONED BY ME
IN A STATUTORY DECLARATION MADE THIS DAY.

Sub-district Office,
MAPRIK.

WIANGIL

13th October, 1948.

HER

MARK

all over and J.P.

STATEMENT OF WIANGIL - WANEGATA of KALUBU village,
MAPRIK SUB-DISTRICT, SEPIK DISTRICT,

--

My name is WIANGIL. I am the widow of the late
KUMBAN who was killed by a Japanese soldier.

I remember the day about two and a half years ago
when the Luluai SAPAU and all the young men were sent for
by the Japanese soldiers and assembled at KALUBU.

On that day I was sitting in my house at my garden.

My husband KUMBAN was sitting outside. I had been
with my husband. He had made fire with a stick, and I
then carried the fire into the house. My husband
remained seated outside.

I then heard a weapon discharged followed by another.

I ran quickly to the back of my house and dashed through
the sago leaf wall, then away down the hill and escaped.
On the way I found my child and another down at the creek
and I took them to safety in the bush.

As I ran away from the house I heard my husband crying
weakly: "Oh! I am sorry for my wife and my child." The
Japanese have shot me."

Some months later I returned to my garden and outside the
house I found the remains of my husband KUMBAN. On one
side of the remains I found his net bag, and on the other
side his Lime Gourd. I identified these as his personal
property. The Lime stick was a Cassowary bone.
KUMBAN had adorned the bone with red and white beads.
I have the gourd and the Cassowary bone in my house now.
It is our custom to keep some personal possessions of our dead.

I did not see the shooting of my husband or those who
shot him. Because of the two shots I thought there must
have been two Japanese soldiers.

WIANGIL

HER

MARK

Witness to signature
all over and J.P.

AFFIDAVIT

In the Supreme Court of Victoria.

~~-William-~~ *J.D. all*
Ex-VX41128, Pte George WHITTLE of No 5 McLean Street, MARYBOROUGH
in the State of Victoria

make Oath and say as follows :---

1. I was a serving member of the 2/3 M.G.Coy.,
2. I was taken prisoner at JAVA on the 9 Mar 42.
3. In 1944 I was drafted to HINTOKU in SIAM.
4. I know a Japanese Officer named Lieut. SEZUKI. He was in charge of the Engineers in SIAM. He was a short thick man, about 5ft 2 ins, who looked boyish and was known by us as "THE BOY SKOHU". I did not see SUZAKI himself ill treat any prisoners, but know that he gave all orders for ill treatment and bashings of Australians.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

S worn at MARYBOROUGH in the State of Victoria the 30th day of APRIL

in the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty Six

Before me

J. D. Macdonald
A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria for the taking of Affidavits

(Signature) *G.W. Whittle*

Date 30 Apr. 46.

AFFIDAVIT

In the Supreme Court of Victoria

I ^{William- J.D.M.} Ex-VX41128 Pte George WHITTLE of 5 McLean Street, MARYBOROUGH
in the State of Victoria

make Oath and say as follows:-

1. I was a serving member of the 2/3 M.G.Coy.,
2. I was taken prisoner at JAVA on the 9 Mar 42.
3. I was shipped to JAPAN by a freight steamer, the name of which I do not know. On arrival in JAPAN in September 1944 I was sent to the OHAMA Coal mine.
4. I know a civilian KAKAWITCHI. He was a shift boss in the mine. He had no prominent features, but was known to all of us as the "BULL". He was 5ft 6ins in height, about 11 stone and was good looking.
5. This man would allot prisoners of War tasks in the mine, which it was impossible to complete in the time. As the work was not completed, he would bash us with an iron hook.
6. I saw this man bash a Cpl JONES of a British Regiment on the back of the head and shoulders with this iron hook inflicting terrible head injuries upon this British N.C.O.
7. He was one of the few civilians at OHAMA, who bashed P.O.W.'s.
- 8.

Sworn at MARYBOROUGH In the State of Victoria the 30th day
of APRIL in the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and
Forty Six.

Before Me

J. D. Macdonald
A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria for the
taking of Affidavits.

(Signature).....*J.W. Whittle*.....

Date30.Apr..46.....

AFFIDAVIT

In the Supreme Court of Victoria

-William- *J. D. all*

I Ex-VX41128 Pte George WHITTLE of 5 McLean Street, MARYBOROUGH

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7. He was one of the few civilians at OHAMA, who bashed P.O.W.'s.
- 8.

Sworn at MARYBOROUGH In the State of Victoria the 30th day
of APRIL in the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and
Forty Six.

Before Me

J. D. Macdonald

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria for the
taking of Affidavits.

(Signature).....*J. D. Whittle*.....

Date 30 Apr. 46.

IN THE MATTER of WX14338 Private
Thomas Henry WHITEHOUSE of 2/32
Australian Infantry Battalion.

I, Thomas Henry WHITEHOUSE now of 10 George Street, Kalgoorlie, of no present occupation, formerly WX14338 Private WHITEHOUSE, J.E. of 2/32 Australian Infantry Battalion being duly sworn make oath and say as follows :-

1. I was captured on 31 October 1942 at El Alemein and taken to Italy, where, at the date of the Italian capitulation I was a member of a Prisoner of War working camp at Verccelli North Italy. There were about 50 other Australian and New Zealand troops there.
2. When we heard of the capitulation we broke away from our camp, the guards not actively preventing us, and took to the hills on 9 September 1943. I remained in and around that neighbourhood only until about 24 December 1943 when I was re-captured near Biella.
3. My companion for a while was another WA soldier known to me as "Mickey Miller" whom I believe to have been WE11952 Pte Harry Herbert Miller of 2/28 Australian Infantry Battalion, but he parted company from me and was, I understand, killed about a week later by Italian Royalists. That was before my recapture.
4. While at liberty I did no work but moved from village to village aiming to get to the Swiss Border. I was frequently given food by friendly Italians, but I know none of their names and can give no particulars of any one of them which would help to identify him.
5. On about 12 or 15 occasions I wrote out and gave to such helpers a note stating in effect that the bearer had helped me. I would sign these notes but did not put my number on or the name of the helper.
6. For about the last 10 days before my recapture I used to sleep at night in a shed in the hills. While there an English Sgt and an English private used to sleep in the same shed. I am unable to give their names or descriptions or any regimental particulars.
7. We were recaptured together in the early morning when about 30-40 German soldiers drove up in military trucks and surrounded us.
8. I was then taken to Mantua and interrogated. I had previously lost my paybook. I gave my Army No. and name but was not questioned about my recent experiences. I was then sent to Stalag 7A and from there to Offlag 7B and from there to a working camp in Munich where I was working around the town in company with about 20 other English, Australian and New Zealand prisoners.
9. I escaped from there in about June 1944.
10. I had previously got to know some people named, I think, Ammori who lived near the Scharrbrau in the south centre of the town. The father was a Japanese, the son of a glass manufacturer in Munich, and aged about 45. The mother was a German who

(Sgd) A. G. Herbert Myer

had, I think, lived in England and spoke English fluently. The daughter was aged about 20 and she and the father both spoke English fairly well. I do not know the Christian names of any of them. I used to go to their house nearly every day to hear the BBC news and I began saving up food and leaving it at their house with a view to my escape. They knew my number and name.

11. I was working near their house when I escaped. I just walked away from the working party which was guarded by one armed guard and went straight to their house. I obtained a civilian shirt from them and already had a pair of blue overalls which I had bought. They bought me a railway ticket to Garmisch. I took my food and went by train to Garmisch where I slept that night. The next day I bought a ticket to Innsbruck with money I had saved by selling items from my Red Cross parcels. I was about 4 days in Innsbruck where I got more food together from French civilian workers whose names are unknown to me and whom I cannot identify.

12. I then commenced walking to Italy via the Brenner Pass but was recaptured just on the German side of the Pass by the Gestapo. I was taken to Innsbruck and thence to Landeck for interrogation. They questioned me pretty closely there regarding help which I had obtained whilst at liberty and I was locked up 4 or 5 days. I was then sent to Stalag 18C and was sentenced to 8 days in the cells for the escape.

13. I was then sent to a working party near Stalag 18A in the country where we were working on the electric grid system. There were English, Australian, South African and New Zealand Prisoners there. We used to be taken to work daily by train. There would be an armed guard on each end of each corridor coach which was crowded.

14. About 25 Nov 44 I escaped from there when the train stopped at a junction which I believe was called Mittenbock - a junction between Innsbruck and Salzburg connecting with Munich and Italy. When the rest of the prisoners got out of the train on to the platform, I slipped out on the other side and got into another train in the station which was going to Innsbruck.

15. I stayed in that train for about 20 miles and got off at a small station where I slept overnight. The next day I bought a ticket and travelled to another junction about 30 miles from Innsbruck. I changed trains there and bought another ticket to a place about $\frac{1}{2}$ way between there and Munich. At this place I stayed about a week.

16. I was assisted there by French civilian workers whose names are unknown to me and whom I cannot describe so as to identify them. To these workers who helped me I gave about 3 certificates similar to those I had given to the friendly Italians. They provided me with food and money.

17. From there I went by train to Munich where I stayed about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks. During this time I saw the Ammori's frequently and heard the BBC news and obtained food. As my clothing was by then very dirty and old, I got it washed and obtained some new clothing at the Prisoners working camp by slipping into the camp with one truck load of returning prisoners and

(Sgd) A. G. Herbert Major

slipping out with another truck load leaving the camp.

18. I then took a train to Ingolstadt having obtained clothing and food from the British prisoners in the working camp.

19. After about 3 days in Ingolstadt I was recaptured whilst boarding a train for Eisstach. This would be early in January 1945. I had been living there in the Barracks with Italian volunteer workers and I think they gave me away to the Gestapo who arrested me. I am unable to describe any of these Italians sufficiently to identify them, but I think I would know their faces if I saw them.

20. I was then taken to Munich for interrogation and then sent to Stalag 7A where I was put on bread and water for 21 days and then kept in close confinement until the European War ended in May. There were some 2 or 3 hundred Russians, French and Greeks there and we were locked in a shed and allowed out only for about 2 hours each morning and afternoon. A few Englishmen were there for only about 5 days at a time each during my period of confinement. The conditions there were very dirty and there was a lot of sickness, particularly amongst the Russians - largely I think owing to weakness. There was no physical ill treatment and I helped out the shortage of food by receiving Red Cross parcels from time to time.

SWORN at PERTH in the State)
of Western Australia this)
25th day of November 1945)

Before me:

(Sgd) Whitehouse

(Sgd) W. H. Bentley mag

No W 10140
DAAG Western Command
AMF.

IN THE MATTER of WX14338 Private
Thomas Henry WHITEHOUSE, of 2/32
Australian Infantry Battlaion.

AFFIDAVIT of
Thomas Henry WHITEHOUSE

Legal Branch,
HQ Western Command,
Swan Barracks,
Francis St.,
PERTH.

"Q" FORM

File No.....

Statement No.....

By: SX7078 L/Cpl WHITEHORN W.M. 2/3 Mg Bn AIF.
4 North Street Henley Beach. South Australia.

Date and Place: Feb - Aug 43 HILTOK Thailand

Particulars : (1) One man from my own unit was so severely beaten up that he died on the following day, most of the Jap Engineers in the camp took part in this incident, this man was one amongst about 8, the Japs took their turn in beating these men with fists, sticks, bamboos, boots, or any old thing they could lay their hands on.

(2) Hard working conditions on railway, Long hours usually 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. approx., very bad housing - tents which leaked very badly when raining also 20-25 men crowded into one tent capable of holding about 12 men. The biggest percentage of men were bare-footed, and were forced to go to work even when their feet were in bad condition with small ulcers, septic sores, or foot rot. Medical supplies were practically nil, ground charcoal being used quite a lot for dysentery and diarrhoea and hot water about the only relief for tropical ulcers.

Responsible: Jap Engineers: Lt HEROTA
Sgt "MOLLY"
Sgt "JUMBO"
Sgt "BILL THE BASTARD"
Sgt "CROW"
L/Cpl KUROKI

Witnesses (2) Maj GREINER 2/3 MG Bn.
Lt. Col DUNLOP

Certified true copy of the original which is in my custody.

Singapore 15 August 1946

Capt. McIntyre
Capt.
1 Aust War Crimes Sect. (SEAC)

3/6/46
1. William Maynard WHITEHORN^{del}, of 4 North Street, HENLEY BEACH, in the State of SOUTH AUSTRALIA, salesman, MAKE OATH AND SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. I was formerly SX7078 Cpl. William Maynard WHITEHORN^{del} of 2/3 Aust. Machine Gun Battalion (AIF) 8th Division.
 2. I was taken Prisoner of War in JAVA on the ^{19th}~~15th~~ day of MARCH, 1942, and was released on the 29th day of AUGUST, 1945.
 3. I went to SIAM in January of 1943 in company with about 400 other members of the 2/3 Aust. MG Bn. to a Prisoner of War camp called HINTOCK, and remained there until the month of July, 1943.
 4. Whilst at the said Prisoner of War camp Hintock, I was engaged with the greater majority of the Prisoners of War in building the Siam Railway track.
 5. The captured personnel in the said PW camp were divided into working parties of about 30 or 40 men for the purpose of building the said railway track.
 6. I knew the deceased, HALLAM. I do not know his Christian name or his initials or Regimental Number, but we used to call him "Mick." He was a Sergeant in the 2/3 MG Bn in C Company, and enlisted in TASMANIA. He was of a rather slight build, about 5ft 10ins in height, and approximately 27 years of age. I do not know whether he was married or single, nor do I know where his next-of-kin reside. Hallam was not in the same working party as myself.
 7. Within the perimeter of the Hintock Prisoner of War Camp the Japanese had a camp wherein were camped between 30 and 40 Japanese Army engineers. This camp was about 100 yards away from the compound in which we were confined. The Japanese Engineers were under the command of Lieutenant HEROTO. Lieutenant Heroto was fairly young, not more than 26 or 27 years of age, fairly dark, and of exceptionally good build, about 5ft. 7ins. in height, clean shaven, good teeth, and spoke a limited amount of English. He did not wear glasses. I do not think he had any nickname.
 8. Every night when the PSW returned to the compound from work, there was a roll call parade. On this particular night, after the check parade, the whole of the members of Hallam's gang were paraded in the Japanese camp where there was a big fire burning. When they arrived at the Japanese camp, four of the PSW, including Hallam, were stood aside, then about 20 Japanese started beating them. The time was about 2000 hours (1800 hours Tokyo time), and it was just getting dark, but we could see what was going on. The four PSW were struck by the Japanese with fists, bamboos, clogs (wooden shoes) and, if during the beating, they fell down, they were kicked. One Japanese would go up and strike one of the four PSW, and when he finished he would be followed by another Japanese, and so on. When any of the four PSW fell to the ground, they either got up themselves, or, if they could not do this, they were assisted to their feet by the Japanese, and beaten again. At the end of the beating, Hallam and another PW could not get up, and they were taken to Hospital. Hallam died next day, and the other PW was in Hospital for about a week until he recovered and returned to our compound. The other two PSW who were beaten returned to the compound the same night. One of these two latter PSW was named MOATE. He did not go to Hospital. I think he was a West Australian. He was not a member of the 2/3 MG Bn. He returned to the compound the same night. I do not know the names of the remaining two PSW who were beaten with Hallam and Moate. The Hospital to which Hallam and the other PW were taken was in our compound. They were attended by two Australian doctors, Colonel DUNLOP and Major CORBETT.
- 4005
3/6/46

9. I did not see Lieutenant Heroto at the scene of the beating. Although about 20 Japanese took part in the beating I could not swear to the identity of any particular individual Japanese. I have not been told by anybody that Heroto was present at the beating, nor have I been told that he was not present. I have not been told by anyone of the identity of any particular Japanese who took part in the beating. The beating went on for about an hour. Heroto was officer in charge of the Japanese Engineers and would go from place to place supervising the work.

10. Hallam at the time was a very sick man, and suffered badly from diarrhoea.

SWORN AT Henley Beach)
this 28th day of Feb 1946)
BEFORE ME)

.....Tom Whitcomb.....

Whitcomb

A Justice of the Peace in and
for the State of South Australia

R.H.
6/6/46

On this tenth day of April, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Roy Hamilton Whitecross, of 10 Borrodale Road, Kingsford, in the State of New South Wales, clerk, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX68418 Pte R.H. WHITECROSS of HQ 8 Div, I was taken prisoner of war on 15 Feb 42 at Singapore. As one of a party of 800 Australian Prisoners of War under command of Lt-Col ANDERSON, VC, I was transferred from TAVOY Aerodrome Camp in Lower Burma to 18 Kilo Camp on approximately 12 Oct 42. Our MO at this camp was Capt R. RICHARDS of 2/15 Fd Regt.
2. Camp Comdt of 18 Kilo Camp at that time was a Jap Cpl named TANAKA. There are no outstanding physical characteristics that I can give to assist in identifying Tanaka but he was a Jap of short stature and his age would be approximately 30 yrs.
3. Tanaka had as one of his guards in this camp a Korean whom we nicknamed "Dillinger." I do not know his correct name but he was given this nickname after the murder of Sjt O'DONNELL of 2/15 Fd Regt. "Dillinger" was a Korean of short, slight stature with a thin face. His stature was very short for a Korean.
4. The incident of Sgt O'DONNELL'S death took place during Dec 42. I did not witness the murder of Sgt O'DONNELL but from information given to me by members of O'Donnell's section who saw him last and other prisoners of war who saw O'DONNELL'S body when it was brought back to Camp, the following took place.
5. Sgt O'DONNELL'S section was working on the railway line about 800 yds from the camp. The Korean guard "Dillinger" was seen by members of O'Donnell's section to call O'Donnell and tell him to bring his spade and go with him into the jungle. No notice was taken of this incident by O'Donnell's section as it was thought that O'Donnell had been detailed by "Dillinger" to another job.
6. O'DONNELL was taken by "Dillinger" at about midday and when the section moved back to camp at approximately 1530 hrs O'DONNELL had not returned. On returning to camp a check roll-call was made by the Japs and after roll-call one man was found to be missing. The Korean guards instituted a search party and it was not until approximately 2300 hrs that night that they returned to camp with O'Donnell's body. He had been shot with a rifle and had four bullets in his body, two in the face and two in the chest. He had been facing the rifle when shot. I understand that after O'Donnell's body was brought back to camp "Dillinger" admitted shooting him and stated that O'Donnell had attempted to escape. It was not until after O'Donnell's section discovered that he had been murdered that they remembered hearing shots fired shortly

R. H. Whitecross
L. H. Green

after "Dillinger" had taken O'DONNELL away from the section.

7. Lt-Col ANDERSON with Cpl TANAKA and "Dillinger" took O'DONNELL's body into THANBAZAYAT, immediately after his body was brought back to camp.

8. Lt-Col ANDERSON made a statement to Col NAGATOMO, commander of No. 3 Branch THAI War Prisoner's Office to the effect that "Dillinger" had murdered Sjt O'DONNELL. When "Dillinger" put forward to Col Nagatomo that his defence was that he had shot O'Donnell whilst attempting to escape, Col Nagatomo quashed Lt-Col Anderson's statement. No further investigations were carried out and as far as the Japs were concerned the incident was closed.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,)
Roy Hamilton Whitecross, at Sydney)
this tenth day of April, One)
thousand nine hundred and forty-)
six)

R. H. Whitecross

L. Shaffer

BEFORE ME

A Justice of the Peace

1, Francis Simon WHITE of 37 Richard Street, EAST COBURG in the State of Victoria make oath and say:-

1. Prior to discharge I was VX56698 L/Cpl F.S. WHITE of 2/2 Pioneer Bn and was taken prisoner of War in JAVA in March 1942.

2. In SOEKE BOEMA Camp JAVA two Dutch Prisoners of War were executed by the Japanese for breaking camp, as told to me by Sgt T.M. CROFT of 2/2 Pioneer Bn, who was ordered to go and watch the execution. He said one was bayoneted and one was beheaded but I do not remember any other details.

3. I left on a ship from SINGAPORE to JAPAN on 2nd July 1944. The conditions on this ship were appalling. There was scarcely room to lie down and the food was very bad.

4. For refusing to give some of our rations to the Korean guards a number of Australian Officers were severely beaten by Korean guards whose names I now forget.

5. The Officers beaten were Capt. NEWTON of 2/19 Bn, Lt RUTH-ERFORD of 2/10 Fd Regt and Lt SANDERSON of 2/19 Bn.

6. I was in YAMANE Camp JAPAN from Sept. 44 till about June 45. The Japanese Commandant was Capt MURIKAMI. He was very severe and allowed the guards to beat the prisoners constantly.

7. Prior to Christmas day 1944 Red Cross parcels came to the camp and were looted by the Japanese guards. I did not see MURIKAMI with any of the contents of the parcels but he should have known what was being done.

8. The camp Sgt at YAMANE Camp was TANAMOTO. He was a very brutal Japanese and beat the Prisoners severely on many occasions.

9. Just before Christmas day 1944 a Sgt from 2/20 Bn was made to stand in the guardhouse for several days and nights while it was snowing without clothes or rations. He died about a week later. Capt MURIKAMI ordered this to be done.

10. Just about Christmas day 1944 a Warrant Officer named YAMAMOTO on the Staff of YAMANE Camp ordered Dvr METZ of 2/3 MT Coy and Pte E. RICHARDS of 2/2 Pioneer Bn to stand in the guard house without clothes or rations for three days. They were beaten at frequent intervals.

11. Pte RICHARDS by the time we were released had not fully recovered from this treatment. His mind seemed to have been affected.

Sworn at Melbourne in the State of Victoria this ~~ninth~~ ^{fourteenth} day of MAY 1946

Before me

R. S. Hitch *J. J. White*
A Commissioner in the Supreme Court of Victoria for taking Affidavits

BOARD OF INQUIRY

I am-VX38992 Colonel Edward Rowden White,
C.O. 10 A.G.H. I arrived in Malaya on 18 February
1941.

What happened after the surrender?-- We were left quietly at our latest hospital ~~side~~ site - Cathay Flats - from 15 February 1942 until 23 February, when we were transported by our own transport out to Changi P.O.W. Camp. During that time we were not molested or worried in any way by the Japanese. The Selerang area was our particular portion of the camp - about 12 to 14 miles out of Singapore.

Did you hear anything about the nurses at Sumatra?--
Yes. It was in June or July 1942 that Air Commodore
Modin and Group Capt Rice, now deceased, came over from
Palembang, Sumatra, and brought us the news of the
atrocities committed on the Australian nurses. He
brought to our Australian division and to me personally
a list of the nurses who were shot, those who were
drowned and those who were interned.

You left Changi?-- Yes. On 16 August 1942 the senior British and Australian officers were taken out and put on board a ship for sea transport to Formosa. We were with a certain number of other ranks. Four hundred of us were crowded into a very small ship's hold. The measurements were about 60 feet by 40 feet. It was a very poor type of Japanese transport. This space was divided into two sections. When you descended the little wooden stairway you had to crawl into your quarters, either above or below. I happened to have the part above and that was right under the iron deck. In the tropics it became intensely hot and uncomfortable. We were only allowed up into the air for one hour in four. The food was just fair rice and a little vegetable soup, with fish occasionally added to that. The sanitation was terrible. Arrangements were very elementary. It was a wooden structure built up on the deck by the side of the ship and everything had to go into a sort of open trough that you squatted over. That was flushed out once or twice down the side of the ship. There were no washing facilities at all. We had to depend on a little salt water leaking out of the hose, when they were washing down the deck. Somebody raised a little canvas bucket,

aspect of the evidence of
 taken and sworn before
 in the State of
 1945.

AUSTRALIAN WAR CRIMES

BOARD OF INQUIRY

EDWARD ROWDEN WHITE, sworn and examined:

I am VX38992 Colonel Edward Rowden White, C.O. 10 A.G.H. I arrived in Malaya on 18 February 1941.

BY MR CUPPAIDGE: Can you tell the Commission of any atrocities or war crimes which occurred prior to the capitulation?--No.

What happened after the surrender?--We were left quietly at our latest hospital site - Cathay Plaza - from 15 February 1942 until 23 February, when we were transported by our own transport out to Changi P.O.W. Camp. During that time we were not molested or worried in any way by the Japanese. The Selarang area was our particular portion of the camp - about 12 to 14 miles out of Singapore.

While there did you learn of any atrocities or war crimes?--Not first hand. We heard of the Alexander Hospital at Singapore being over-run by the Japanese and that there had been a lot of killing, but that was information gained second hand. During the fighting they respected our Red Cross.

Did you hear anything about the nurses at Sumatra?--Yes. It was in June or July 1942 that Air Commodore Modin and Group Capt Rice, now deceased, came over from Palembang, Sumatra, and brought us the news of the atrocities committed on the Australian nurses. He brought to our Australian division and to me personally a list of the nurses who were shot, those who were drowned and those who were interned.

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This is the 1st sheet of the evidence of Edward Rowden White taken and sworn before me at Melbourne in the State of Victoria this 22nd day of October 1945.

DEPONENT. Chairman, Australian Board of Inquiry into War Crimes

and we used that to get water over the side of the ship. We were on board ship 14 days and then arrived at Taichow. We got there on 30 August. We were landed there and had to wait on the dock for some hours and then had to march through the city for 2½ miles to the railway station, which was really only 300 or 400 yards away.

Haito

BY HIS HONOUR: What was the purpose of that long march?-- The purpose was to show us to the inhabitants. The streets were crowded. The people were well behaved. We suffered no humiliation or personal affront on that journey, but it was a tax on our strength after our period on the ship and we were laden with all our effects. We entrained for Haito, 30 miles distant. There we were put in a big city square, which was crowded with thousands to spectators who were awaiting our arrival. We were only marched through that square or around it to a neighbouring railway station. That was a sugar company line and was really a narrow gauge tramway. We went a further 10 miles to Haito camp. There we were officially welcomed by the Japanese and ordered to sign a declaration that we would not make an attempt to escape. It was pointed out to them that that was not in accordance with our military rules and regulations, but they became very menacing. The guard was turned out with fixed bayonets. All walking sticks and canes were taken from us and we were ordered to stand to attention. It was very exhausting, because we had been hours on the journey and had had no food. Eventually we signed after a good deal of argument, agreeing among ourselves and that as we were signing under compulsion it was not binding on us. We signed it and we were then admitted to the camp.

Accommodation

What was the accommodation there?-- The accommodation was very poor wooden or bamboo barrack buildings. They were very crowded as regards space. It was a very bad site. It was really a huge washaway from the neighbouring mountain. It was all stones and pebbles and had been raised a little and then drained. The barracks had earth floors.

Climate

What was the climate like?-- Tropical and very hot. It was the most southern part of Formosa.

Did you have many sick?-- We were only there a week. There were some Americans there and 50 per cent of them were already down with malaria. It was a bad malarial spot. We were fairly well fed, but the accommodation was very rough. We only had a week of it and we were then moved to the north-eastern part of the island. We had an all day journey crowded in the train sitting up. Incidentally, in coming from the camp to the main line we were drenched to the skin by a tropical thunder storm. We got off the sugar train and went straight on to the other train to do this all night journey of 250 miles and we were absolutely soaked to the skin. The name of the next camp was Karenko.

Karenko

Who was the Camp Commandant there?-- Capt Imamura.

What was the climate like?-- The climate was still tropical, but more temperate. It was a beautiful area. The surrounding mountains and the sea nearby were beautiful. Accommodation was in brick and wood barracks. They were crowded, of course. Our section comprised all senior officers - major generals,

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DEPONENT

sheet of the evidence of
taken and sworn before
in the State of
day of October 1945.

Chairman,
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes

lieutenant generals, brigadiers, and there would be 30 or 34 of us in a barrack room. However, it was the cleanest and the best we struck. The sanitary arrangements of the camp and the hygiene were quite good.

Food

What have you to say about food?-- During the whole of our time at Karenko we were very grossly underfed. Our ration comprised $7\frac{1}{2}$ ounces of rice per man per day and very thin soup three times a day. The $7\frac{1}{2}$ ounces was the daily ration and it was divided into three meals. The soup consisted of boiling water with some greens thrown into it for about 10 minutes. We were hungry there. Practically every man lost weight. My normal weight is 10 stone 7 lbs. I went down to 7 stone 3 lbs. I remained at that for several months at Karenko. The food was bad. There was no need for it as Formosa is a land of plenty, with its two crops a year or rice and its plentiful supply of other vegetables.

Medical Supplies

Were medical supplies issued?-- They were much x below our requirements and that was our general experience. What we obtained was mainly from our own Red Cross and the Japanese took charge of those and dealt those out very parsimoniously. We got very few Japanese drugs and dressings at any time. We were always short and always asking for them. The hospital arrangements were very primitive. Our own doctors did all the medical work, but they were always under the control of a Japanese medical corporal. He would be laying down the law to the Chief consulting physician of Malaya or one of our highly skilled and highly placed Australians, and he did not always accept the very tactful advice that was given to him.

Work

Did you do any work in that camp?-- Yes. As POW's we were told to volunteer for farm work, it being pointed out to us that everybody in Nippon had to work and particularly to increase the food supply. We were told we would better ourselves by doing farm work. After discussion we agreed to this. This was our first experience of the Japanese. We bought farm materials for building pig pens and rabbit pens and other farm houses and buildings and tools, all of which we paid for. We started inside the walls and then we got outside the walls and started digging up and clearing the country. We worked very hard and did quite a considerable amount. Our immediate reward for that was to receive work rice. That was a very important inducement. We were very hungry and very weak. That was the primary inducement and the secondary one was that the farm produce and food - animal and vegetable - when it was ready. When that occurred, we practically got nothing. The Japanese commandeered the lot. As an example, after a great deal of persuasion they would allow us to kill one of our pigs. We were lucky if we got 60 or 70 lbs of pork out of that. The Japanese took the rest. In a camp of 400 or 500 that went nowhere.

Pay

Did you receive any pay for that work?-- No. The reward was the feed that we grew and the work rice. At Karenko during the whole time we were working we got neither.

Recreation

Were any facilities provided for recreation?--

lieutenant generals, brigadiers, and there would be 30 or 34 of us in a barrack room. However, it was the cleanest and the best we struck. The sanitary arrangements of the camp and the hygiene were quite good.

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sheet of the evidence of
taken and sworn before
in the State of
22nd day of October 1945,

This is the 3rd
Edward Rowden White
me at Melbourne
Victorian

DEPONENT
got neither.

Chairman,
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes

Recreation

Were any facilities provided for recreation?--

No, the only recreation was reading, writing and ~~xxx~~ walking.

Canteens

Were canteens provided?-- Not until we had been in camp for 6 months. It was a very poor type of canteen. The goods sold consisted mainly of sauces, like tomato sauce, salt, syrups, etc. We even had to buy our salt. We longed for sugar and we were right in the rich cane growing district. We got very little sugar. We were willing to buy it. The syrups we found to be useful in pouring on our rice to get a little flavour. We would also put some in our tea to get a sweet flavour.

Correspondence

Were you permitted to write letters?-- Not until we had been ~~KXXXX~~ POW's for a year. During all our time as prisoners we were only permitted to write a dozen or 15 letters. I received altogether about 24 letters in that time from either my wife or my brother or friends. I know that there were hundreds and hundreds of letters sent to me during that time. We have direct evidence from other ranks who used to get in touch with the Japanese office staff by assisting there and clerking that there were thousands of letters there waiting to be delivered to us. They were distributed only occasionally, and they would be lost or destroyed. The same thing would happen to the few letters that we were allowed to write.

Saluting

What have ^{you} to say about saluting?-- Saluting was a constant source of irritation to us. According to the camp rules and regulations in every camp we came to we were made to salute every Japanese in uniform, irrespective of his rank. He could be a first, second or third class ~~private~~ private, but he would have to be saluted. The rule with respect to the camp commandant comprised this: we had to half, stand to attention and catch his eye. He would deliberately look away from us. We would have to wait until he was looking and then give the requisite salute, which consisted of bowing, if you were without a hat, and the ordinary salute, if you were wearing a hat or a cap. We were always very careful to observe all their rules and regulations to avoid ~~the~~ irritating the Japanese. That generally resulted in some form of punishment. The immediately punishment was striking, hitting or kicking of the offender.

Did you ever receive such punishment?-- Yes. In the very early days at Karenko I received an awful kick on the shins from a Japanese. He was not in full uniform and was just walking from one area to the ~~the~~ other. He was about 30 or 40 yards away and facing away from me. I carefully watched him, ready to give a salute if he happened to look and I then passed on. He suddenly turned round and came down and gave me a most terrible kick on the shin. I managed to dodge a good deal of it. Their worst efforts in the way of assaulting ~~xxx~~ were performed at night. On that rice diet anybody of any age and even the younger prisoners had to get up frequently to urinate. There was always a Japanese sentry near the latrine. He would be in the shadow and, as you came along, you would go through a bright light. You would be half asleep and it was very easy to overlook that sentry. If you missed him, he would immediately take a step forward and strike you. On one night in February 1943 I had to get up at 12.30 a.m. and I walked down, saw the sentry, bowed to him and went in and relieved myself. I came out in a moment or two, turned round again and saluted the sentry. I suddenly heard him

Canteens

Сотрудники

2141

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sheet of the evidence of
taken and sworn before
in the State of
2nd day of October 1945.

Chairman,
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes

E. R. White

step up and the first thing I knew was that I got a terrific bash with his fist on the side of my head. That knocked me over. I think I got 12 terrific clouts altogether, all on ^{one} side of my head. I was absolutely stunned at the end of that, but managed to stagger away with the help of another one or two prisoners. I was assisted back to bed. I definitely sustained concussion from that, as indicated by a violent headache, local pain and nausea and inclination to vomit. I had to get up again later. I put off the visit as long as possible, but I had to go down again to the latrine and downstairs there were quite a lot of POW's herded up and there was a Japanese guard hitting them. I unfortunately came into his view and I received more clouts - heavy and severe - on the side of the head. The only thing I could do was to turn the other side of my head to meet the onslaught. I was then deputy squad chief, that is, I had charge of our squad of senior British and Australian officers - 32 or 34 officers. I had to take them out on parade and go through the routine of making out various reports of numbers and the number sick, etc., and I then had to take them out to work after breakfast. I made out an official report in writing and gave it personally to the Japanese orderly officer and I addressed it to the Captain. I made a verbal request to him that I should be paraded before the Camp Commandant, Capt Imamura and told him that I was willing to strip myself and show him how thin and debilitated I was. I was then in my 60th year. I heard nothing more about it. A week before that during the same sort of visit to the latrine at night, for some reason quite unknown to me the sentry advanced a step and after saying something to me swung his rifle and struck me with the back sight on my forearm. That made a deep puncture wound. I still have the scar. I reported it too, but nothing happened. Numerous incidents like that were going on all the time.

BY HIS HONOUR: Would you know those Japanese you have mentioned?-- No. I did not know their names. That sort of punishment used to come in waves. There is no doubt that the officers who controlled the camp, starting with the camp commandant himself, are primarily responsible for it. It used to stop suddenly and then it would come on again.

I suppose you would know Imamura again?-- Yes.

You think that he initiated these punishments?-- I think that the man who is primarily responsible for everything is the camp commandant. He might be a lieutenant-colonel or a full colonel and would be in control of the whole of the prison camps in Formosa. He is primarily responsible for the treatment of the prisoners and knows everything that is going on, because he makes repeated visits. The men on the spot are under him. He is the camp commandant and his orderly officers. When we were at work that type of treatment would relax, but later on when we wanted the status of the work to become purely voluntary and not compulsory it started again. We were all willing to carry out this work, but we wanted it to be voluntary, with certain categories of POW's, such as those who were debilitated and those the medical officers said were not fit for manual labour, left out and given something light. We wanted the work position to be controlled by us and we did not want to

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day of October 1945
Christians
Australian Board of
Industry into War Crimes

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This is the 5th
Edward Rowden White

at Melbourne
Victoria this 22nd day of October 1945.

Edmund White

DEPONENT

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taken and sworn before
in the State of
October 1945.

Chairman,
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes

be herded like coolies and driven and knocked about at the work by the Japanese guards. We said we would carry out the work they wanted if they supplied the seeds, etc., but we wanted it under our control. They would not allow that, so work stopped. Immediately it did the heat came on again, in the way of bashing and all the other forms of physical and mental torture that they could devise, starting firstly, not matter what the state of the food ration was, with a reduction in rations.

That was the first punitive measure?-- Yes. ^{us} Another type they were very fond of was pulling ^{us} out of bed at night. The routine was roll call in the morning and roll call at night. That was in the ordinary rules and regulations. Then in addition to that we may be pulled out again three times at night. In the tropics that is pretty hard, having to wait in a very stuffy corridor till the Japanese in control - either an officer or an NCO - came to take the roll call. That took time, if they were pulling out 200, 300 or 400 men. They would never pull out the whole lot at one stage. You would be wakened by hearing another barracks being pulled out on roll call. When you woke up you had an urgent desire to empty the bladder. At the beginning of those night roll calls the lot of us would rush out and empty the bladder. They soon realised what was happening and, before calling us, they would post sentries at each of the exits and block our exit. They would thus hold up some of these elderly men for 20 minutes or half an hour and that would give them the greatest discomfort and pain.

What happened in June 1943?--- In June 1943 we were moved from Kerenko camp to Shirakawa camp. We went by sea and railway to the South West Coast of Formosa. It was a very rough camp. It was originally a Japanese training camp - a summer camp. It was very primitive. We had to straighten it out and clean it up. The climate was tropical. We received the usual welcome from the interpreter. When interpreting the address of the Camp Commandant he said, "This is known as malaria camp." Then he corrected himself, realising what he had said, and then said, "You will have to be careful here because there is some malaria." It was a malarious district and we had quite a lot of malaria. We had carted all our farm material there. That was always an exhausting effort. We were very uncomfortable and crowded until we improved things ourselves. We worked compulsorily and the food supply became quite good. Late in 1943 we started to get proper work rice and it became quite a good ration. We got bananas and the canteen improved. We were getting work rice, but we were not getting the products from the farm when they were ready. The Camp Commandant proved to be a very nasty type. I do not know his name. We inquired as to their names, but they deliberately withheld them. We got to know the various officers by nicknames - Baggy Pants and Foxie Percy. The latter was a very horrible and unpleasant little orderly officer. We had a conference between the Camp Commandant and the P.O.W.'s representatives and the Camp's Commandant. The other officers of the camp were there. The question of compulsory work came up. We wanted it altered and put on the voluntary basis. We were willing to work and work hard on that basis, but they refused. Immediately all

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Edward Rowden White called
me at Melbourne
Victoria this 22nd

DEPONENT.

This is the 6th sheet of the evidence of
Edward Rowden White taken and sworn before
me at Melbourne in the State of
Victoria this 22nd day of October 1945.

DEPONENT

Chairman,
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes

work rice was withdrawn and our ration was immediately lowered to the lowest possible level. We were given the coarsest of vegetables. We never saw any more bananas and that was a land rich in bananas. Our shoes and boots were withdrawn and we were left with only house slippers. We had to cut the heels out of those. They always feared that the prisoners were going to run away.

We were reduced to clogs and had to shuffle about in these. The accommodation was very crowded. We had 500 in that camp at one stage and were all in a very small area. In the better days we put it to the Camp Commandant and he allowed us to go outside the compound to clear a nice big area on a low hill. We called that Yasame Park. Yasame means "Stand at ease". At this stage the camp park was put out of bounds and that is the last we saw of it. All the little rules that they used to relax when things were going right were brought back again. One had to be extremely careful. We were not allowed to have a rest on our beds after lunch. We were being ordered out to police the camp. That is an American term for tidying up. You would order to go round and cut the grass. You could do that only by pulling it out. You would see a lot of senior generals out with gillette razor blades and nail scissors cutting this grass. No tools were given. It was just absurd.

DISCIPLINE

How was discipline enforced in that camp?---I would say that all the troops in the camp, both officers and other ranks, were well behaved. They knew the rules and regulations. Those regulations were posted up on notices in the main barracks and we were very meticulous in carrying out the rules. If they were not carried out, it meant that we were punished.

Was punishment, mass punishment, in fact introduced?---At some times it was increased in intensity during these periods of hate. For some alleged infringement of rules, you would be confined to the barracks for a week and not allowed to go out for exercise. You might be stopped from smoking for a week, or not allowed to go to Yasame Park.

What happened in October 1944?---On 9th October 1944 we were marched off in the early morning and took the train up north. It was an all-day and all-night journey sitting up. We went to Keelung in the north of Formosa. There we were put aboard a ship the Okayama Maru, which was quite a decent modern transport. We were senior officers - American, Dutch and British - and we were herded into a small area right over the propellers down in the lowest depths. We were divided into two layers, upper and lower, into which you had to crawl. The space allotted was badly lighted and very poorly ventilated. No provision at all was made for washing.

Very poor lavatory accommodation was provided. It was very limited and very difficult of access. We were battened down in this area by a steel bulwark door.

We were shut in like rats in a trap. After we had been on board for two or three days the Allies bombed the naval base quite close to the harbour and for good measure bombed the harbour. We had some very near misses. We saw this bombing by surreptitiously opening one or two of the portholes. We had a very big anti-aircraft gun of a sort immediately over our heads. That was going off rapidly and it was very difficult to know whether the sounds came from the bombs landing or from the anti-aircraft

work place was withdrawn and our ration was immediately lowered to the lowest possible level. We were given the coarsest of vegetables. We never saw any more bananas and that was a land rich in bananas. Our shoes and boots were withdrawn and we were left with only horse slippers. We had to cut the heels out of those. They always feared that the prisoners were going to run away. We were reduced to clogs and had to shuffle about in these. The accommodation was very crowded. We had 500 in that camp at one stage and were all in a very small area. In the better days we put it to the Camp Commandant and he allowed us to go outside the compound to clear a nice big area on a low hill. We called that Yassama Park. Yassama means "Stand at ease". At this stage the camp park was put out of bounds and that is the last we saw of it. All the little rules that they used to relax when things were going right were brought back again. One had to be extremely careful. We were not allowed to have a rest on our beds after lunch. We were being ordered out to police the camp. That is an American term for tidying up. You would order to go round and cut the grass. You could do that only by pulling it out. You would see a lot of senior generals out with Gillette razor blades and nail scissors cutting this grass. No tools were given. It was just absurd.

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What happened in October 1944?--On 25th October 1944 we were marched off in the early morning and took the train up north. It was an all-day and all-night journey. We went to Keelung in the north of Formosa. There we were put aboard a ship the Okyama Maru, which was quite a decent modern firm ship. We were senior officers - American, Dutch and British - and we were herded into a small area right over the propellers down in the lowest depths. We were divided into two layers, upper and lower, into which you had to crawl. The space allotted was badly lit and very poorly ventilated. No provision at all was made for washing. Very poor lavatory accommodation was provided. It was very crowded and very difficult to access. We were divided into this area by a steel bulkhead door. After we had been there for two or three days the Allies bombed the base quite close to the harbor and for good. We had some very near misses. We had a very big anti-aircraft gun of a sort immediately over our heads. That was going off rapidly and it was very difficult to know whether the sounds came from the bombs landing or from the anti-aircraft

DISCIPLINE

This is the 7th sheet of the evidence of
taken and sworn before
Edward Rowden White
in the State of
Melbourne
Victoria this 22nd day of October 1945,

Chairman,
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes

DEPONENT.

gun. The machine gun kicked up a terrible noise. We were about 10 days or a fortnight in that harbour and we were visited three days running by the bombers. We were then put by the dockside and water was splashed on us. That was the only wash that we had in three weeks on board. It was a very short run from Formosa to Japan. We had quite a perilous trip as regards submarines and there was always the threat of more bombings on the journey. We were clamped down well and truly. We eventually got to Japan and we were housed there temporarily for a fortnight in a third class Japanese hotel. The food in quality was better, but it was still low in quantity and we were very hungry. From there we crossed to Korea and immediately embarked for a three-days journey up north to a place 160 miles north of Mukden in Northern Manchuria. The name of that place was Chiao-yuanchow.

CLIMATE;

What was the climate of that camp?--- We arrived there on 14th November 1944. I remember that date well, because it is my birthday. I had a bout of malaria on the train journey up. It was very cold. There was snow on the ground. We had the usual bushido speech of welcome from the Camps Commandant. He had to be assisted up on to a sort of platform, from which he delivered his speech. The interpreter got on the platform beside him, but he pushed him off. He would not have any ordinary interpreter standing alongside him, and made him stand on the ground. We were shivering with cold. We were put in very good barracks. They were built by the Nipponese 25 years ago. They were really occupying the country to garrison the railway lines. This housed about 400 of us. The barracks were well built and was divided into rooms. They were all open. They accommodated from 8 to 12 in a room. They were very difficult to keep clean. They were very dusty. We had 43 coal stoves to warm the building and they took a good deal of looking after. They supplied coal of the poorest quality. Half of it was road metal. It took us about a fortnight to warm the building and very soon after that the temperature went down to 45 degrees below. They gave us sufficient blankets and very poor quality winter clothing, which was just sufficient. We were now off the rice diet. We were on the Soya bean diet, which is quite good, with the usual vegetable soup. We were getting a quantity of that, and they started us on some Red Cross stuff. We had been there six weeks and then the question of compulsory work came up - farming. In view of our experience, we refused to do it. We told them quite frankly that we would not do it. We had a discussion with the Japanese and they told us to forget about our treatment in Formosa. We told them we would not do it; that it was not in the rules and regulations for senior officers to be involved in actual work. Immediately that was done the pressure came on. It was the usual sort and started with reduction of food. That was a severe punishment, because food is important in a cold climate. All their little rules and regulations were carefully put into practice again. In passing, I might mention their grossly menacing attitude in the early stages. They would rattle out with their machine guns and rifles and we felt that there might be a shooting up at any time. That menacing attitude disappeared entirely in late 1943 or the middle of 1944. In Manchuria there was no

CLIMATE

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What was the climate of that camp?--- We arrived there on 14th November 1944. I remember that date well because it is my birthday. I had a bout of malaria on the train journey up. It was very cold. There was snow on the ground. We had the usual Japanese speech of welcome from the Camp Commandant. He had to be assisted up on to a sort of platform, from which he delivered his speech. The interpreter got on the platform beside him, but he pushed him off. He would not have any ordinary interpreter standing alongside him, and made him stand on the ground. We were shivering with cold. We were put in very good barracks. They were built by the Japanese 25 years ago. They were really occupying the country to Garrison the railway lines. This housed about 400 of us. The barracks were well built and was divided into rooms. They were all open. They accommodated from 8 to 12 in a room. They were very difficult to keep clean. They were very dusty. We had 45 coal stoves to warm the building and they took a good deal of looking after. They supplied coal of the poorest quality. Half of it was road metal. It took us about a fortnight to warm the building and very soon after that the temperature went down to 45 degrees below. They gave us sufficient blankets and very poor quality winter clothing, which was just sufficient. We were now off the rice diet. We were on the Soya bean diet, which is quite good, with the usual vegetable soup. We were getting a quantity of that, and they started us on some Red Cross stuff. We had been there six weeks and then the question of compulsory work came up - farming. I was of our experience, we refused to do it. We told them quite frankly that we would not do it. We had a discussion with the Japanese and they told us to forget about our treatment in Formosa. We told them we would not do it; that it was not in the rules and regulations for senior officers to be involved in manual work. Immediately that was done the pressure was the usual sort and started with food. That was a severe punishment, because food is important in a cold climate. All their little rules and regulations were carefully put into practice. I might mention their grossly inhumane in the early stages. They would take out with their machine guns and rifles and we felt that there might be a shooting up at any time. That menacing attitude disappeared entirely in late 1943 or the middle of 1944. In Manchuria there was no

This is the 8th
Edward Rowden White
meat Melbourne
Victoria this 22nd day of October 1945.

sheet of the evidence of
taken and sworn before
in the State of
October 1945.

DEPONENT

Chairman.
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes

physical punishment. We did not receive any beatings or crackings. Mental torture in the ways I have indicated was resorted to.

BY HIS HONOR: Was the food sufficient?---The food was quite sufficient for the first six weeks, until the question of work came up. When we refused to do the work, they immediately restricted the food to a dangerously low level. We were hungry until the Japanese capitulation. The hospital arrangements there were fairly good, but there was the usual paucity of drugs and dressings. In the middle of May 1945, having arrived there in 1944, we were taken by train to Mukden. The journey lasted 26 hours. At Mukden we were put in the main camp which was a big work camp. They had there 1200 prisoners, mainly other ranks. Most of these prisoners were Americans, with some British and some Australians. The barracks were very crowded, and very dirty. There was not much space available for exercise. All the space was taken up with slit trenches. The majority of the other ranks used to work in neighbouring factories and they received twice the food that we did, because they went out to work.

They were paid, I suppose?---None of us was paid. They received their reward in food. They reduced us to the very lowest level. We were very hungry there. We remained there until the capitulation of the Japanese.

This is the 9th / and last sheet of the evidence of
Edward Rowden White taken and sworn before
me at Melbourne in the State of
Victoria this 22nd day of October 1945.

Edward Rowden White

DEPONENT.

CHS-80
Chairman,
Australian Board of
Inquiry into War Crimes