

**Australian War Memorial**

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A. W. M. File 17/1/7

Transcripts of Evidence Court No R 109  
Accused Capt Seki Takashi, maltreatment of Indians



R-109





CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION

Prosecutor tenders sworn statement of Jemadar RAHMAT ALI which is admitted in evidence, read, marked Exhibit A, signed by the President, and annexed to the Proceedings.

The Judge Advocate directs the Court that they should not take into consideration the alleged subsequent imprisonment of the Jem. RAHMAT ALI in the black hole after the 23rd of August 1945.

Prosecutor tenders statement of Clerk G.V. WARREN, which is admitted in evidence, read, marked Exhibit B, signed by the President, and annexed to the Proceedings.  
A carbon copy of the statement is attached to the original.

Prosecutor tenders statement by Jemadar SANTA SINGH, which is admitted in evidence, read, marked Exhibit C, signed by the President, and annexed to the Proceedings.

Prosecutor tenders statement of Sepoy FERAZ KHAN, which is admitted in evidence, read, marked Exhibit D, signed by the President, and annexed to the Proceedings.

Prosecutor tenders statement of Subedar GANPATRAO SURIYAWANSI which is admitted in evidence, read, marked Exhibit E, signed by the President, and annexed to the Proceedings.

Defending Officer : The Accused admits that he is the person referred to variously in the statements tendered by the Prosecution as SIKI TAI, SIKI THAI, and Capt SIKI, as charged by the Indians in respect of the offences alleged by the Indians, but he does not admit any of the facts in regard to the incidents.

Prosecutor tenders report of the interrogation of the accused, Capt SEKI Takashi, which is admitted in evidence, read, marked Exhibit F, signed by the President, and annexed to the Proceedings.

CONCLUDES THE CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.



CASE FOR THE DEFENCE.

Defending Officer makes a brief opening address.

Capt SEKI Takashi being duly sworn is examined by the Defending Officer through the interpreter NISHIMURA.

Guided by my conscience, I swear to tell the truth without withholding any evidence whatsoever, and also I will not add anything besides the truth.

関 武

I am Capt SEKI Takashi of the 26 Motor Vehicle Depot. Witness is shown a statement signed by him.

That is my signature.

The statement has been read over to me in Japanese before I signed it and it is true and correct.

The statement is tendered, admitted in evidence, read, marked Exhibit G, signed by the President, and annexed to the Proceedings.

Q. How old are you?

A. I am full 40 years old.

Q. What standard of education have you received?

A. I graduated from High School.

Q. How long have you held a commission in the Japanese Army?

A. October 1941.

Q. Prior to that had you had any previous Military experience?

A. No.

Q. What was your civil occupation?

A. Retail dairying.

CROSS EXAMINED

Q. Do you remember the Indian officer named RAHMAT ALI?

A. Yes.

Q. Isn't it a fact that he once told you bluntly that he would not join CHANDRA BOSE's Army?

A. No, there was no such occasion.

Q. Was he a member of that Army?

Defending Officer objects to the question as irrelevant.

The Court does not uphold the objection.

A. I do not know.

Q. He had been a nuisance to the Japanese as long as you remember, had he not?

A. Yes, to some extent.

Q. To what extent?

A. I have heard that he did not work heartily and that he also agitated his men not to work heartily.

Q. When did that first come to your notice?

A. Around February I received a report from the Coy. The Indian RAHMAT ALI had ~~20~~ Indians under him and were working at the Repair Section, his men divided into groups and did not get along very well, and one of the Indian labourers who was not in the group with RAHMAT ALI came to me and said he wanted to stay with myself. That occurred twice. This February was February 45.

Q. What was the exact date you surrendered your sword to the Australian Forces?

A. I remember that on the 20th of August all swords were gathered by the Unit.

Q. What about your sword?

A. I handed in my sword to the man in charge of Ordnance at Hqs.

Q. Was



- Q. Was there any Australian check on the swords handed in by your Unit?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. Who collected the swords?
- A. W.O. ASADE, who was in charge of the Ordnance Section of the TAKAYA Unit collected them.
- Q. Do you know that every sword in the Unit was taken up?
- A. All swords were taken up by order of the C.O.
- Q. Would you say that there wasn't a single sword left in the Unit?
- A. There were none left.
- Q. Did you make a personal check?
- A. I did not make a check but W.O. ASADE strictly carried out the order and had them all in the storehouse.
- Q. When did you first hear that JAPAN had surrendered?
- A. On the 17th of August 1945.
- Q. You say that in the 2nd or 3rd of September you went to see RAHMAT ALI?
- A. Yes, I did go.
- Q. And that you slapped him and pushed him?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Seeing that the Japanese Forces in this area had surrendered wasn't that outside the scope of your authority?
- A. According to the instructions Indians were to be under the control of the Japanese until they were all handed over to K7-Colonel ~~THE~~ therefore I thought I still controlled them.
- Q. Who gave those instructions?
- A. Army Hqs.
- Q. You had had other occasions on which you had disciplined RAHMAT ALI had you not?
- A. There were no other occasions.
- Q. Had you ever heard of the man before you visited him in September?
- A. Yes, I knew him prior to that.
- Q. And it was prior to September that he committed these offences inciting the others not to work?
- A. Yes, that was so. But I have never seen it but I have heard of it from the Repair Section.
- Q. But when you did hear it you were the Commander of the Indian unit were you not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. An did you ever interview RAHMAT ALI about these complaints?
- A. No, I did not meet or interview RAHMAT ALI because I thought it was a very minor incident and told the man in charge of the Indians at the Repair Section to warn him.
- Q. Are you suggesting that the Japanese regarded incitement to others not to work as a trivial offence?
- A. Yes, I did not think it was a matter to bring him forward but had him warned.
- Q. Can you give us an example of an offence for which RAHMAT ALI would have been interviewed by you?
- A. If an incident occurred two or three times and if the man in charge of the Indians could not handle it myself I would interview him myself.
- Q. Was RAHMAT ALI as far as you know, a Prisoner of War?
- A. He was not a Prisoner of War.
- Q. Why?
- A. According to instructions from Army Hqs they say he is to be regarded as an Indian labourer.
- Q. Did that instruction also state that those labourers were members of CHANDRA BOSE's Army?
- A. No.
- Q. When you went to see RAHMAT ALI in September did HADA Socho go with you?
- A. No, he did not.
- Q. Who did go with you?
- A. I went with an Indian called WARREN.



- Q. Was there a TANATA Hecho in your Unit?  
 A. No.  
 Q. Did you know anybody called TAKAROTO?  
 A. No.  
 Q. INGAWA?  
 A. I do not know him.  
 Q. Did you know Jemadar SANTA SINGH?  
 A. Yes, I know him.  
 Q. Sepoy FEROZ KHAN?  
 A. I do not know him.  
 Q. Subedar CAMPATRAO?  
 A. Yes, I know him.  
 Q. Was he at the Repair Shop with RAHMAT ALI, that is was FEROZ KHAN there?  
 A. No they were not together there.  
 Q. Where was FEROZ KHAN at the beginning of September?  
 A. I do not know that name.  
 Q. Was Subedar CAMPATRAO with RAHMAT ALI at the Repair Shop in September?  
 A. He was not there.  
 Q. Where was he?  
 A. He was in the Service Coy.  
 Q. How far away from the Repair Coy was that?  
 A. Eleven or twelve kilometres.  
 Q. Was SANTA SINGH with RAHMAT ALI at the Repair Section?  
 A. No.  
 Q. Where was he?  
 A. At the Mobile Repair Unit.  
 Q. Why did you ask the Indians to pardon you for any transgressions?  
 Defending Officer objects to this question.  
 Defending Officer withdraws his objection.  
 A. No, I did not make an apology.  
 Q. Do you know a Japanese called HADA Socho?  
 A. Yes.  
 Q. Where was he when you went to the Repair Depot?  
 A. He was at the Service Depot.  
 Q. When you previously received reports about certain conduct of RAHMAT ALI, who made the reports?  
 A. Sgt OKUBO who was in charge of the Indians at the Repair Unit.  
 Q. What were the names of other Japanese\* at the Repair Section?  
 A. I do not know the names of any other NCOs.  
 Q. How many were there?  
 A. I think from 170 to 180, Japanese.  
 Q. Why did you consider it necessary to go personally to the Repair Depot and deal with RAHMAT ALI?  
 A. I had reports before and I thought I would go out and see him.  
 Q. And on that occasion although you had received previous reports you thought 3 or 4 slaps with the hand was sufficient to punish him?  
 A. I slapped him and he apologised and so I told him that in future be sure that you do not let it happen again.  
 Q. Have you ever known before an Indian Officer to apologise to a Japanese?  
 A. There was no such occasion because Indian Officers did not do anything they had to apologise for.

QUESTIONS BY THE COURT

- Q. When you received the order to surrender all swords were you also ordered to surrender rifles and other weapons?  
 A. All weapons.



- Q. Do you know the date of the arrival of the British Forces in RABAU?
- A. I think it was around the 12th or 13th of September.

I swear that I have told you the truth without adding anything.

關 武

Evidence is read over to the witness who does not desire to correct same.

CONCLUDES THE CASE FOR THE DEFENCE.

The Court adjourns at 1155 hrs.

The Court re-assembles at 1330 hrs, the same President, Members, and Judge Advocate being present.

EVIDENCE IN REBUTTAL

The Prosecuting Officer intimates to the Court that he will call a witness in rebuttal.

The Defending Officer objects on the ground that the matter relating to the sword were already referred to in the evidence of Prosecution. The Judge Advocate advises the Court on the law re the right of the Prosecutor to call evidence in rebuttal.

The Court retires to consider the matter.

The Court resumes.

The President announces that the application of the Prosecuting Officer to call this witness is not approved.

PROSECUTING OFFICER MAKES AN ADDRESS WHICH HE DOES NOT DESIRE TO BE RECORDED.

DEFENDING OFFICER MAKES AN ADDRESS WHICH HE DOES NOT DESIRE TO BE RECORDED.



47  
Tripled  
6808 Jemadar RAJAWATALI I.E. No 1 A.E. Coy Depot LAHORE, having been called on 3 Oct 45 and duly sworn, states:

I left SINGAPORE on 5 Jan 45 with a party of 500 men. The party Comd was Subedar GANPATRAO of 13 Aux. Pioneer Bn. Our Detachment consisted of about 50 men including Jemadar ALAF DIN, 1/8 Punjab Regt. and myself, and was attached to WATANABE TAI, TAKAYA Bntai, JIKOGA SHO.

During the first week of February, a Bulletin issued by TAKAYA (Col) BUTAICHO was brought to me by our party Comd JICOME TANAKA, who directed me to explain the contents to officers and NCOs. I did so and expressed my views in that SUBAS CHANDRA BOSE was in reality a traitor to India, and that no further comments were necessary since we Indians were F.W. and did not belong to any political class or creed. Ex No 1 presented to court the court is a propaganda of Japs to cheat Indians.

On 15 Feb 44 Jem. ALAF DIN and myself were beaten by THAI KOGA and threatened us to be shot down if we disagreed to accept SUBAS BOSE as our leader. We preferred death and utterly refused to obey him. On refusal to accept SUBAS BOSE as a leader, KOGA THAI beat both of us officers and NCOs on 15th. Other ranks were beaten by TANAKA on 15/16 Feb 44. KOGA THAI had instructed to all his Japs that they were to particularly beat and give all sorts of trouble to Jem ALAF DIN and myself because we were pro-Americans.

From same date we were made to perform very hard labour from 0400 hrs to 2000 hrs without rest.

In Jul 44 TANAKA Bocho told us that from 1 Jul 44 all Indians were to be on the same standard as the Nippon Army, and offered Rank Marks of cloth to be worn by officers and NCOs, but we were against this move and all refused to wear them since we had our own rank marks. On refusal we were all beaten by TANAKA. Jemadar ALAF DIN and some 10 ORs were separated from our detachment and sent to an unknown place. After this most of the NCOs were severely beaten, flogged and kicked by TANAKA. I could not bear this pitiable state of affairs any longer and advised the men to put on the rank marks over their chest, especially since one Sepoy MOHD HUSSAIN had been killed by the Japs. MOHD HUSSAIN was charged to be a spy against the Japanese Government on 19 Jul 44. Thus the NCOs put on the marks on 20 Jul 44, but I absolutely refused to wear them myself, saying that I preferred death and told them not to destroy my corpse like MOHD HUSSAIN but to hand it over to Mohammedans of my party. From this date Sepoy Clerk RAMAN S.K.S. was ranked officer and I had to obey this junior soldier in the party until the date of my recovery as L.I. F.W. Three men named TANAKA, INGAWA, HASHIMOTO had to beat and flog me regularly for one and a half years. When entirely crushed I was utilized as a sweeper.

On 21 Aug 45 after the Jap surrender we were issued with a hat with Jap marking on it which I destroyed. INGAWA who happened to be present without my knowledge, slapped me and shoved me towards his house. I was rescued by KARIMATI HUSSAIN and MIRJAMAN. TANAKA and INGAWA reported to Capt SIKI that I was the same man who once before refused to accept SUBAS BOSE as the Indian leader, and who also refused to put on the red mark for officers and who that day destroyed the Japanese mark from the Jap hat, and that INGAWA was beaten by me and other Indian soldiers.

X On 22 Aug 45, SIKI TAI, HADA SOCHO, G.V. WARREN accompanied by TANAKA and INGAWA came to our camp and paraded all Indians in front of the House. SIKI TAI caught me by the neck and commenced slapping me, and when tired of this, whipped and flogged me with his leather belt. TANAKA and INGAWA used to hold my hands behind my back and SIKI TAI did the flogging. Three times I became senseless and fell to the ground, my nose and mouth bleeding freely. TANAKA and INGAWA kept pouring cold water over my body to revive me and then SIKI again commenced the kickings and flogging. Thereafter I was tied to a tree by TANAKA and INGAWA under orders from SIKI TAI. Then SIKI TAI ordered SOCHO HADA to fetch a sword. The sword was held just above my head by SIKI TAI ready to behead me. I shouted out for ISMAIL to convey my death message to my children and I prayed God to forgive my wrongs. SIKI TAI in a rage swung the sword but HADA SOCHO immediately rushed out from behind and caught hold of SIKI's hand and stopped the butchering. SIKI TAI rebuked SOCHO HADA and again attempted the act but HADA SOCHO once more intervened. Thereafter I was beaten by SIKI TAI with the edge of his sheathed sword causing enormous injuries to my head until I became quite unconscious. I regained my senses on 23 Aug 45 at TANANDORA inside a "shell black hole".

Shankar Singh  
Prisoner

John Hartney  
Judge Advocate



at a distance of 12 miles from my camp, and I noticed that Jap soldiers were outside on guard. None of the Indians were allowed to come near my confinement. The air in the "black hole" was foul and I was not allowed to go out for WC etc - everything was to be done in. I was ~~was~~ fed daily at evening time with only one piece of sweet potato weighing not more than 4 ozs.

On 24 Aug 45 two Japanese <sup>guards</sup> took me to the place of SIKI THAI where Subedar GANPATRAO, C.V. TANKEN, MALAPPAO, Jem SANTA SINGH and others had also been invited by SIKI THAI. SIKI THAI asked me and the other Indian officers to forgive him his wrongs. <sup>Subedar</sup> I refused and was again taken back to the same "black hole". On 12 Sep 45, ABDUL GHANI had me released.

Statement is read over to Complainant and signed by him.

Rahmat Ali Jem I.E.  
Signature of Complainant

T. Prayag Singh  
President.

Sub. 13 Pioneers.

Member Ahmedshayji Jem. H.K.S.R.A.

John Gantrey Capt.  
Judge Advocate



142846 HQ Clerk G. V. WARRIN of 13 A.P. En. having been called on 3 Oct 45 and duly sworn, states:

On 22 Aug 45 Capt SIKI (Jap CO of No 11 Indian working party) and HATA Socho came to KIMUCHITHAI where I was quartered, and requested me to proceed with them to YAMAMOTOTAI at FUJIMIDORE. On the way, I deduced something from the talk between one TAMAKA Gungo and HATA Socho about a cap - officer - star etc but I couldn't make out the real matter.

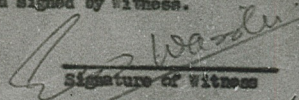
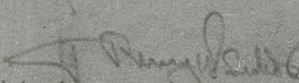
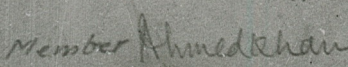
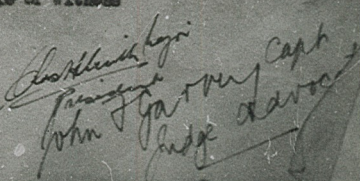
At about 3 o'clock we reached the place where Jemadar RAHAMATALI's party was camped. Capt SIKI ordered Jem RAHAMATALI to proceed with him immediately but he refused. Later I came to know the reason for getting Jem RAHAMATALI separated from his men, after getting the version from both sides. The gist was - 2 or 3 days after the Jap surrender they issued the Indians with Jap army hats with the star on them. Prior to this, whenever a hat was issued with the star it was ordered to be removed. Under the same impression, Jem RAHAMATALI was removing the star when he was found doing this by one INAWA Heicho who began to assault RAHAMATALI. Some of Jem RAHAMATALI's men, seeing this act, wanted to separate them and in doing so probably seized INAWA Heicho's hands to break his hold on the Jemadar. It seems that INAWA Heicho went and reported to his superior officer, giving quite a different version of the matter, i.e., that all Indians led by Jemadar RAHAMATALI were attacking the Japanese. This seemed to have enraged Capt SIKI furious.

Jemadar RAHAMATALI refused to leave his camp alone and said that he preferred dying at the camp rather than to be taken and murdered in some other place. SIKI ordered all Indians there to assemble and called out Jem RAHAMATALI and started beating him. Firstly, he caught hold of Jemadar's beard and shaking it, began to beat him on the face with his fists until he fell to the ground. TAMAKA and INAWA Jemadar up from the ground and Capt SIKI ordered them to tie him to a tree. SIKI commenced beating him on the face with his fists continuously for half an hour. Several times the Jemadar fell unconscious, at which times water was poured on his face and he was forced to stand upright. SIKI ordered one GUNGO there to bring a sword. When the sword was brought the situation was tense. Jemadar RAHAMATALI called one of his men and gave him his so called 'last words' to be conveyed to his family and began praying to God for forgiveness. Capt SIKI removed the sword from its case took up a position to cut Jem RAHAMATALI's head off and raised his sword above his head. Suddenly HATA Socho leapt forward and caught hold of the sword and beseeched Capt SIKI not to do such an act. Thereupon, SIKI put the sword back in its case and began beating the Jemadar over the head and face with the sword case. Blood began pouring down his face and he fell forward unconscious on the ropes that bound him. All were under the impression that he was dead. Jem RAHAMATALI was then untied and water poured over his face and body. Luckily he stirred a little and a Jap soldier dressed his head and face, and in this condition he was taken to the truck that was waiting and then taken to Capt SIKI's place at TUNAN and confined to a hut.

On or about 24 Aug. Subedar GANPATRAO, myself and other officers of TAKAYA Batai Indian detachment were invited by Capt SIKI to his place and he confessed that he had beaten Jem RAHAMATALI in his anger and he requested Jem RAHAMATALI to forgive him.

Thereafter, what happened to Jem RAHAMATALI I did not know until I met him on or about 15 Sep at KUMRIYAMA, when he told me that he had been released by Subedar ABUL GANI of 2/15 P.R.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by witness.

  
 Signature of Witness  
  
 President  
 SUB. 13 PIONEERS  
  
 Member Ahmed Khan  
  
 John J. G. over Capt  
 Judge Advocate  
 Jem. H.K.S.R.A.



264246 IWO Clerk G V WARREN, of 13 AP Bn, having been called on  
8 Oct 45 and duly sworn states:

On 22 Aug 45 Capt SIKI (Jap CO of No. 11 Indian working party) and BATA Socho came to KIMUCHUTAHAI where I was quartered and requested me to proceed with them to YAMAMOTOTHAI at FUJIMODORE. On the way I deduced something from the talk between TANAKA Gunso and BATA Socho about a cap - officer - star etc, but I couldn't make out the real matter.

At about 3 o'clock we reached the place where Jemadar RAHAMATALI's party was camped. Capt SIKI ordered Jem RAHAMATALI to proceed with him immediately but he refused. Later I came to know the reason for getting Jem RAHAMATALI separated from his men, after getting the version from both sides. The gist was - 2 or 3 days after the Jap surrender they issued the Indians with 'Jap' army hats with the star on the Prior to this, whenever a hat was issued with the star it was ordered to be removed. Under the same impression, Jem RAHAMATALI was removing the star when he was found doing this by one INGAWA Heicho who began to assault RAHAMATALI. Some of Jem RAHAMATALI's men, seeing this act, wanted to separate them and in doing so probably seized INGAWA Heicho's hands to break his hold on the Jemadar. It seems that INGAWA Heicho went and reported to his superior officer, giving quite a different version of the matter, i.e., that all Indians led by Jem RAHAMATALI were attacking the Japanese. This seemed to have made Capt SIKI furious.

Jemadar RAHAMATALI refused to leave his camp alone and said that he preferred dying at the camp rather than be taken and murdered in some other place. SIKI ordered all Indians there to assemble and called out Jem RAHAMATALI and started beating him. Firstly, he caught hold of Jemadar's beard and shaking it began to beat him on the face with his fists until he fell to the ground. TANAKA and INGAWA ----- Jemadar from the ground and Capt SIKI ordered them to tie him to a tree. ----- SIKI commenced beating him on the face with his fists continuously for half ----- Several times the Jemadar fell unconscious, at which times water was poured ----- body and he was forced to stand upright. SIKI ordered one gunso there to bring ----- sword. When the sword was brought the situation was tense. Jemadar RAHAMATALI called one of his men and gave him his so called 'last words' to be conveyed to his family and began praying to God for forgiveness. Capt SIKI removed the sword from its case took up a position to cut Jem RAHAMATALI's head off and raised his sword above his head. Suddenly BATA Socho leapt forward and caught hold of the sword and beseeched Capt SIKI not to do such an act. Thereupon, SIKI put the sword back in to its case and began beating the Jemadar over the head and face with the sword case. Blood began pouring down his face and he fell forward unconscious on the ropes that bound him. All were under the impression that he was dead. Jem RAHAMATALI was then untied and water poured over his face and body. Luckily he stirred a little and a Jap soldier dressed his head and face, and in this condition he was taken back to the truck that was waiting and then taken to Capt SIKI's place at TOMAN and confined to a tunnel.

On or about 24 Aug Subedar GANPATRAO, myself and other officers of TAKAYA Butai Indian detachment were invited by Capt SIKI to his place and he confessed that he had beaten Jem RAHAMATALI in his anger and he requested Jem RAHAMATALI to forgive him.

Thereafter, what happened to Jem RAHAMATALI I did not know until I met him on or about 15 Sep at KUMRIYAMA, when he told me that he had been released by Subedar ABDUL GANI of 2/15 P.R.

Evidence is read over to witness and signed by witness.

(Signed) G V Warren  
Signature of witness



Ex C

164150. Jem SANTA SINGH, No 9 Platoon Comdr C Coy, 13 Aug Pnr Battalion, having been called on 20.1.45 and duly sworn, states:

There were 109 men in my party at SIKI TAI.

At about 2200 hrs on 22 Aug 45 SIKI TAI brought Jem RAHAMATALI and kept him in a (hole) trench. Jap guards were posted and no Indians were allowed to see and interview Jem RAHAMATALI until 12 Sep 45. Once, on 24 Aug 45, all Indian officers were called upon and requested by SIKI TAI to pardon him; that time we had no opportunity to talk to Jem RAHAMATALI. SIKI TAI was not pardoned. Not one of my men gave meals to Jem RAHAMATALI - we were not allowed even to pass by the side of the trench where Jem RAHAMATALI was kept under Japanese guard. On the arrival of Subedar ABUL GANI, representative from I.L. PW Reg. I duly reported to him to get Jem RAHAMATALI released before the other ones in SIKI TAI. Accordingly he had Jem RAHAMATALI released.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by Witness.

*Santa Singh*

Signature of Witness

*T. Rungel Sudo*  
President

Sub 13 Pioneers

Member Ahmed Khan

Jem. H. K. S. R. A.

*John H. Garvey, Capt.*  
President  
Advocate  
*Indal*



EX D  
12701 Sepoy FEROZ KHAN, 5/2 Punjab Regt., having been called on and duly sworn, states:

In Feb 44 KEOKA THAI gave Jem RAHAMATALI a circular to translate and read to the Indian party. It was stated therein by SUBAS CHANDRA BOSE that all Indian POW should take up arms against our King and join the Japanese forces. Jem RAHAMATALI told us that SUBAS CHANDRA BOSE was a traitor, and we replied to the Japanese Officer that we were not followers of Subas Chandra Bose. Jem RAHAMATALI and Jem ALAF DIN were severely beaten by KEOKA THAI. Both were forced to work hard day and night without rest and adequate food and were also threatened to be shot.

In Jul 44, red marks for officers and NCOs were issued. All refused to wear them. Jem RAHAMATALI replied that he preferred death and requested that his corpse be returned to the Indians and not destroyed as was the case with Sepoy MOHAMMED HUSSAIN who had been killed by order of TAKAYA Col, a day or two before this occurrence. All NCOs were beaten and we were all awarded heavy thrashings. TANAKA GHOCHO, INGANA HECCHO, and HASEMOTO GENSUO used to beat Jem RAHAMATALI daily for 1 1/2 years. He was given only one quarter of the potatoes given to individuals. At last Jem RAHAMATALI was utilized by them as a sweeper.

On 21 Aug 45, i.e. after the surrender of the Japs, Jem RAHAMATALI was noticed by INGANA pulling off the Japanese mark on his hat which had been issued that day to all Indians, and as a consequence he was beaten. On 22 Aug 45 SIKI THAI came and gave him a severe thrashing with belt and then with sword. He inflicted several wounds to RAHAMATALI's head and kept on thrashing him until he became unconscious. In fact SIKI THAI wanted to behead Jem RAHAMATALI but HADA SOCHO intervened. Jem RAHAMATALI was then tied by SIKI THAI to a tree and TANAKA and INGANA to a tree and SIKI THAI commented beating him on the head with his sword. In the evening SIKI THAI took Jem RAHAMATALI away on a truck to a place not known to me. Jem RAHAMATALI was not in his senses and we thought he was dead.

No one was allowed to see Jem RAHAMATALI until 16 Sep 45.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by Witness.

66/123  
Signature of Witness

Interpreter's Certificate

I T.A. Wajid do hereby certify that this statement was made by Feroz Khan in Urdu and after same had been written down in English was read back to witness in his own language before he signed it and the translation is a correct translation of witness' evidence.

T.A. Wajid  
Signature of Interpreter

T.A. Wajid  
President

Sub. 13 Pioneers

Member Ahmed Khan

Jem. H.S.R.A.

John F. Garry Capt.  
Judge Advocate



164359 Subedar GANPATRA SURYAWANSI 19 Aux. Pioneer Battalion, having been called on 30.6.45 and duly sworn, states:

I was party commander of 500 men who arrived at RAHAUL on 13 Feb 45. Jemadar RAHAMAT-ALI was in my party. The Japs separated RAHAMATALI with a party of about 50 men under KECKA THAI. There was a propaganda of TAKAYA Butai that all Indians had to follow SUBAS CHANDRA BOSE, but Jem RAHAMATALI and his men rejected this traitor as their leader. The result of this was that the officers, NCOs and I, CRs already divided by TAKAYA THAISA into small groups were beaten, whipped and given all sorts of punishments.

In July 44, the Japs issued red marks for officers and NCOs and on this occasion Jemadar RAHAMATALI was again beaten and threatened to be shot. by KECKA THAI

SIKI THAI came to my camp after the surrender of the Japs on this island on 22 Aug 45 and accompanied by HADA SOCHO and Clerk G. V. WARREN, went to Jem RAHAMATALI's camp. On that same evening G. V. WARREN returned and told me that Jem RAHAMATALI had been brought by before SIKI THAI and was now shut in a tunnel adjoining SIKI THAI's house and that RAHAMAT-ALI was unconscious and might die before sunrise. G. V. WARREN said that Jem RAHAMATALI was first of all beaten with hands, whipped with leather belt and afterwards with the blunt edge of a sword by SIKI THAI at SUTUNETAI. He said that SIKI THAI had determined to behead Jem RAHAMATALI but HADA SOCHO immediately intervened. I could not interview Jem RAHAMATALI during those days as I was also separated from my men and confined to a hut surrounded by Japs.

On the evening of 24 Aug 45, SIKI THAI called together at his house all Indian officers and requested all to pardon him, as he had beaten and exiled Jem RAHAMATALI and repeatedly asked all of us to recommend to Jemadar RAHAMATALI that he forgive him for all the unbearable trouble and beatings SIKI THAI had awarded him. TAKAYA THAISA (Col) wanted to pay damages to all Indian officers and I, CRs in cash but every individual of my party refused to accept this bribe. Jemadar RAHAMATALI did not pardon SIKI THAI. All officers expressed their incapability of acceding to SIKI THAI's request. Jemadar RAHAMATALI's head and face was swathed in bandages and his mouth and cheeks were swollen. He could hardly speak and was unable to move from one place to another without the aid of two men.

On 12 Sep 45 Subedar ABUL GANI, 2/15 Punjab Regt, representative of L.I. POW HQ arrived and accompanied by me went to SIKI THAI's party. We then recovered Jemadar RAHAMATALI from a hole where he had been kept in exile as a serious criminal.

Evidence is read over to Witness and signed by Witness.

Ganpat Rao Sub 13-PN  
Signature of Witness

President

Sub. 13. Pioneers

Member Ahmed Khan

Jem. H.K.S.R.A.

Chakravarthy  
President

John F. J. G. very Capt  
Judge Advocate



EX F.

Interrogation of Capt. SEKI TAKASHI  
of 20 miles behind Dept. at Rabaul on  
20 May 40 by Capt. F. Schuler with  
Japanese interpreter KAWASAKI JUN.

Q. I am going to ask you some questions.  
You are not obliged to answer them  
but whatever you say will be taken  
down in writing and may be used  
as evidence. Do you understand?

A. Yes.

Q. Was there a S.M. HADA in your  
unit?

A. Yes.

Q. Was HADA in your camp in 1940  
and half of August 1940?

A. ~~Yes~~ No.

Q. Where was he?

A. At a place called TONAN, about  
10 miles away.

Q. Was there another KAWASAKI in your  
unit?

A. No.

Q. Did you know anyone who

was a Japanese KAWASAKI?

Q. Did you know anyone who

was a Japanese KAWASAKI?

*Working copy  
made  
John G. Gurney  
Capt. Gurney  
Judge Advocate*

*1. Kawanishi*

*武 武*



AF

Q8. Do you remember anything about...

14975-14

110

Q9. Now did you know RAHMATTARI?

A9. Since I was in command of the  
labors party and the Indian was  
a secret agent and I was in the

Q10. Was RAHMATTARI working for you?

A10. It was not working under me, it  
was working as a secret agent.

Q11. How was it that you knew RAHMATTARI?

A11. I took charge of personnel matters  
in connection with Indian working  
parties.

Q12. When did you finish doing that job?

A12. I was doing it from 1 Jan 1944  
until 14 October 1945.

Q13. You were doing that work when it  
was finished.

A13. Yes until we handed it to Indians  
over.

Q14. In August 1945 did you know all  
RAHMATTARI?

A14. I saw him once.

Q15. When was that?

Answer

Check by  
John P. Garry  
Judge Advocate  
Capt

AF



*Wm H. W. Lupton*  
*Judge Advocate*



A23. After he was carried the Japanese supplied the Indians with clothing. I explained to them that these or four Indians stole the clothing and urged others to do the same.

Q24. What did you say or do when you saw Rhamatani?

A24. I called all four Indians and Rhamatani and told them they should not do it. The four said that they were wrong. Rhamatani would not say he was wrong for a long time so I cautioned him very much and he then said he was wrong.

Q25. Did you strike Rhamatani?

A25. I pushed him with my hand three or four times. I slapped him with my open hand did not push him. When I said I cautioned him very much, what is the time I slapped him.

*Charles E. L. Jr.  
President  
John Harvey  
Capt. Judge Advocate*

漢 武

KAWASAKI JUN do hereby certify that this statement was made by Capt. JOHN TANIUCHI in Japanese and after the same had been written down in English was read over to him in Japanese before he signed it and that the translation is a true translation of the statement.

*John Taniuchi  
Capt.*

*John Taniuchi  
Capt.*



219  
Capt. SERI TAKESHI of 26th Motor Vehicle Depot states;

1. I am Army Capt. SERI TAKESHI of 26th Field Motor Vehicle Depot.
2. Though it is stated in the Deposition as on 4th Oct., it must be revised as on 14th Sept.
3. I had been the commander of the Indian Labour Unit since 1st Jan. 45 to 14th Sept. 45 when Jap. Force transferred the commanding right to Lt. Col. Isak, Indian Army.
4. RAHMAT ALI was the Indian officer, who commanded 65 Indian labourers dispatched to the Repairing Coy. (Coy. Commander, Capt. YAMAMOTO) from the Labour Unit.
5. After the suspension of the war, the Jap. Force supplied a suit of new clothing to each Indian labourer. At that time, agitated by RAHMAT ALI, some 3 or 4 labourers tore those clothings.  
I noticed this fact by the report of the Repairing Coy.
6. RAHMAT ALI had agitated the Indian labourers to tear clothings, so I went over to the Repairing Coy., taking a labourer, named WARREN, as interpreter with me, to give warning to him, as I was the officer in charge of both personnel and internal affairs.  
It was, I remember, about 2nd or 3rd Sept. 45.
7. Leaving the H.Q. Labour Unit about 1400 hrs, I arrived at the Repairing Coy. about 1600 hrs.
8. After confirming the fact that RAHMAT ALI had agitated labourers to tear clothings without any reason by the report of Capt. YAMAMOTO, Commander of the Repairing Coy., I went over to the living quarter of the Indian labourers and ordered those who had torn clothings to proceed forward.  
RAHMAT ALI and other 4 personnels proceeded forward in front of me.  
At my question about the reason why they had torn clothings, 4 labourers answered that they had done it by RAHMAT ALI's order.  
RAHMAT ALI did not answer to my question about the reason why he had agitated them to tear clothings. He did not answer, too, to my question whether he thought such an act wrong, so I pushed his body with my hand and gave 3 or 4 slaps with another hand.  
Then he apologised me with his head bowed, so I forgave him and went back to the H.Q. at Fomudai at 1900 hrs.
9. Directly after the suspension of the war, the Jap. Force was disarmed and all the weapons were taken off. As it was, I did not have my sword or leather belt since 20th August.
10. I can promise you that I never imprisoned RAHMAT ALI.  
Until he removed to Karavis, he stayed at ~~PAKINAKI, NIKIN, I, FUKU~~  
the Repairing Coy. at Fugimadai, which I think should know this fact most clearly.  
*and Capt. Yamamoto*

SERI TAKESHI, Capt.

I hereby certify that the above translation is true and correct.

*H. H. Kawara*  
H. H. Kawara, L. P. M.

*John Murray*  
John Murray, Esq.