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Statements by:-

NX 31375. Lync R. L. Melbourne.

OX 19254. Lpt. J. G. Mellor

NX 21428. Pte G. W. McDrose

NX 19804. Lync. J. B. Menzies.

36495 Pte. J. M. Menzies.

J. A. C. Mercer.

(Engineer Officer) A. Meredith

NX 70019. Pte R. J. Metz.

VX 32789. Pdr. V. R. Meylan.

WX 9312. Pte. J. L. Michael.

Mem. of Akam. Village, Gasmata.

VX 19410. Pte L. J. Wiley.

ASN. O-743507. Maj. E. G. Millar AC.

NX 76511. Capt. P. J. Millard.

VX 58572. Pte A. B. H. Miller.

R.L.
2nd/5/46

On this *twentysixth* day of *April*. One thousand nine hundred and forty six REGINALD LINDSAY MELBOURNE of "Braeside" Narrabri in the State of New South Wales Farmer makes oath and says as follows:-

1. I enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force at Sydney and entered camp on the fifteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and forty, was allotted a regimental number NX31375 and was finally drafted to 2/15 Aust. Field Regt. RAA. I embarked at Sydney about the twenty eighth day of July One thousand nine hundred and forty one disembarking at Singapore on the fifteenth day of August One thousand nine hundred and forty one.

2. I was a gunner in 29 Bty of the said Regiment which was in action for six weeks and finally capitulated on Singapore Island at the date of the general capitulation.

R.L. Melbourne
Deponent
A.H. Johnson
A Justice of the Peace
29 APR 1946
MILITARY COMMAND
SINGAPORE

3. I went to Changi Square and later to Changi prison camp from whence I was detailed for several working parties in the district and about a year after the capitulation was drafted in a party of about six hundred and forty Australian soldiers to Thailand travelling there by train in cattle trucks. In the middle of one night we were detrained and marched about 40 miles to Konyou Camp in the jungle where we stayed for two days and then were marched through the jungle for twelve days making a track as we went to the "River Camp".

4. On the train journey we were all completely without food except that given by the Thais surreptitiously. Water was short. It was very hot on the journey from Konyou Camp to the River Camp we were given dry rice about one pint per man per day, when cooked and on arrival forty of the party had dropped out through illness and were not seen any more: of the remainder who arrived at the River Camp all were weakened and thirty were put into an area set apart for the sick immediately.

5. On arrival at the River Camp the party of Australians (there were no others there then) were handed over by their escorts to MOTOYAMA KINZO who was in charge of the camp, he told us so through an interpreter. He appeared to be a private soldier and the only badge he wore was a Korean Star on his shoulder. He was a thick set very dark Korean about five feet eight inches in height and well built.

6. I cannot remember the date on which we arrived at the River Camp but it would be during 1943 possibly about November.

7. I was under MOTOYAMA KINZO for seven weeks commencing from the date of arrival at the River Camp all of which time was spent at that camp or working at building a road later to be a railway cutting round the shoulder of a mountain hereinafter called the "Job", and paragraphs Nos. 8 to 20 inclusive hereunder relate to this period and the said camp.

8. The climate was tropical and it rained four or five

R. Melbourne
Depoent

A. S. Johnson
A Justice of the Peace.

days without stopping at times some individual days were fine but it rained nearly every day, it was the monsoon season. It was humid and practically the same heat day and night.

9. The locality was in thick jungle through which ran a river, fast flowing and deep, about three hundred yards wide. From the river the jungle sloped up to the foothills of the mountain. The Camp was on the river bank and the job was about a mile away up the slope about two hundred feet high on the same side of the river. The Camp area was cleared, probably by a washaway.

10. The accomodation consisted of tents all sizes, some Australian some Japanese for sleeping fourteen or sixteen to a tent. There was no other shelter, no blankets or bedding were provided.

11. The latrine arrangements consisted of one trench about eight feet long and five feet deep at the edge of the camp and later another one. It was always badly infested with flies and no time was allowed by MOTOYAMA KINZO for work to be done on it and no disinfectants or other appliances were furnished.

12. The water for washing was plentiful by access to the river but it was unfit for drinking being infected by Cholera and had to be boiled: it was rationed to a pint a day per man for drinking, but there were occasionally other prepared drinks hereinafter mentioned.

13. Clothing generally consisted of ones own Army clothes which had been carried but no further was provided for those deficient. I in particular had only a loincloth made out of an old Army shirt and a pair of Army boots with no soles at all, my feet were bare: most of us had no boots at all.

14. The food consisted of an allowance while working of two pints of rice (when cooked) per man per day and about every four or five days a piece of dried fish about four square inches surface and an inch thick. Occasionally an old Yak was killed or arrived dead and was made into soup about about four beasts in all during the whole period amongst us all. About every second

R. Melbourne
Deposent

A. H. Johnson

day rice which could be spared was burnt and made into a beverage and we got about half a pint each. I worked all the time and received the above rations.

15. My condition of health when I arrived was that I had lost three stone weight since capture. I had nothing but general weakness, no specific ailment.

16. The general Camp routine was for task work to be done soil to be removed amounting to a cubic metre per man per day. There were about thirty guards in the camp. We had one Aust. Officer Lieut. (I think Reg) Whithycombe and some NCO's but these NCO's were all treated alike: the same as the gunners. Four men were allowed for the cooking per day. We were called by a guard's call every morning sometimes at 0600 hours but sometimes later and were given half an hour for breakfast and then escorted to the job where we stayed until all had finished their tasks sometimes a meal came at noon and the finishing time was nominally 1800 hours but in fact varied from then until 2300 hours once at 0145 the next day. The average time worked was about twelve hours work per day this was the daily routine seven days a week. I myself worked every day during the period on the job my tasks were mainly felling trees and clearing.

17. (a) My first personal contact with MOTOYAMA KINZO was on the second day at the River Camp in the morning. I was unloading rice from a barge a member of a party of sixteen. He said something to us in Japanese which was not comprehended. One of us said "I don't understand" immediately he appeared to lose control of his temper. He lined us up and hit each one with a stick of bamboo about three inches diameter and eight feet long at least three hits each. Each was stood out to attention in front facing him and was hit on the head and body. Jack Francis a young soldier about five feet six inches high and thin was hit many times for about twenty minutes, four times he was knocked over and fell to the ground half unconscious. The first time down

R. Melbourne
Deponent

A. J. J. J. J. J.
A Justice of the Peace.

he got up straight away, the second time he stayed a little longer and MOTOYAMA KINZO went to kick him and he got up. The third time he remained on the ground and MOTOYAMA KINZO kicked him six or seven times in the ribs and stomach, these kicks made the blood run from his nose and ears. He staggered to his feet and MOTOYAMA KINZO knocked him down with the stick straight away with one hit, he was then very weak and stayed there and was left there semi-conscious until we were sent away ten or fifteen minutes later: he was groaning. We were made to turn away from him. For three days after he was passing blood with his urine. I saw him every night then, he was unable to walk, couldn't eat and was vomiting. He got up five days after but didn't work any more for the whole time I was at the River Camp: he was just strong enough to lie about. Arthur Farmer told me that he died and he (Arthur Farmer) had helped to bury him three weeks after I left the River Camp.

17. (b) Three others in the line were knocked down and MOTOYAMA KINZO hit me three times with the stick twice on the right ear and once across the back, I then fell. He then kicked me three times in diaphragm region, he left and went to another chap. As a result of this treatment I was vomiting, my ear was running with blood and later discharging blood for about ten days, and went numb and has remained partially numb ever since and my hearing is impaired still. My stomach region was sore for about five months until Lt. Col. Dunlop (AAMC) operated and removed my gall-bladder at "non-combatant camp" Thailand, a base hospital. He informed me and I verily believe that my gall-bladder was burst open. I did not again come into close personal contact with MOTOYAMA KINZO again.

17. (c) About two weeks after arrival at the River Camp at the job I saw MOTOYAMA KINZO about twenty yards with seventeen or eighteen Aust. soldiers who were digging a pit. It was about 1500 hours and I could see the men were fatigued. I heard

R. I. Melbourne
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Deponent

A. J. ...
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A Justice of the Peace.

all

his interpreter say that the ground was very hard and MOTOYAMA KINZO said something and almost immediately he commenced hitting the soldiers with a piece of bent or twisted wood about two and a half inches in diameter and four feet long. I saw him hit three of them several times each. I saw one Australian soldier, I do not remember his name but he was fair haired, fair complexion, slightly built about five feet eight inches high, I think he was only about nineteen years old and a member of 2/18 Field Regt. RAAA. He was hit by MOTOYAMA KINZO with the stick several times on the back and then MOTOYAMA KINZO dropped his stick and hit him in the mouth with his fist then made him stand to attention on the edge of the pit which he did with difficulty as he was very weak and made him stay like that for over an hour. He did not work any more after that and was in the Camp still when I left it.

18. I saw no one in the Camp at any time who appeared to have any authority superior to MOTOYAMA KINZO

19. I spoke to one Australian Sergeant when we had been there about twelve days, who told me he had made a complaint to MOTOYAMA KINZO earlier in the day. He said he had told MOTOYAMA KINZO the work was too hard and the food inadequate and that MOTOYAMA KINZO told him through an interpreter that the men were prisoners of war and had to put up with what they got. Then MOTOYAMA KINZO made him stand to attention and smacked him across the face, mouth and head generally and told him to go back to work. This Sergeant had two black eyes and a bruised face. The Sergeant was thick set, I think called "Bill" possibly his surname "Blackall" and of the 20 Battery 2/15 Field Regt. RAA.

10. In the Camp there was a visiting Doctor, Capt. Parker, I do not know how often he came. There were no medical supplies in the camp at all. There was a structure with bamboo posts and a tent roof but the only times I went near here were when I went

R. L. Melbourne
Deponent

Alfred J. Mason
A Justice of the Peace.

to visit Jack Francis mentioned in paragraph 17 (a) hereof. He was always out in the open I verily believe because the said structure was already overcrowded.

21. I was freed when some British official came to "non-combatant camp" (near Burma-Thailand Border) on the Eighteenth day of August One thousand nine hundred and forty five and from there I went about a fortnight later to Bangkok and flew to Singapore arriving there about the Twentyseventh day of August One thousand nine hundred and forty five.

SWORN by the abovesaid deponent

REGINALD LINDSAY MELBOURNE at
Narrabri in the State of New
South Wales Commonwealth of
Australia on the *twentysixth*
day of *April*. One
thousand nine hundred and
forty six.

R. L. Melbourne
.....

BEFORE ME:

A. J. Johnson
.....
A Justice of the Peace of
and for the State of New
South Wales.

*MOTOYAMA Rinzo. W.C. 76. No. 124
wrote for identification. Neg. T214
photo secured
C. 2/1/46*

8344

On this twenty-fourth day of June One Thousand nine hundred and forty-six REGINALD LINDSAY MELBOURNE of "Braeside", NARRABRI in the State of New South Wales, Farmer and Grazier makes oath and says as follows:-

The Japanese appearing in photographs T.214 attached hereto is identical with MOTOYAMA Kinzo mentioned in an affidavit made by me at Narrabri on the twenty-sixth day of April, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent }
REGINALD LINDSAY MELBOURNE }
at Narrabri on the twenty-fourth }
day of June One thousand nine }
hundred and forty-six. }

R L Melbourne

BEFORE ME

A. L. Brown JP

A Justice of the Peace.

"On this Nineteenth day of March One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty Eight, REGINALD LINDSAY MELBOURNE of "BRESIDE" NARRABRI. in the State of New South Wales- Farmer and Graquier, makes Oath and says as follows :-

- (I) I am Rm/NX 31375 Gnr MELBOURNE, R.L. of 2/15 Field Reg who was captured at the fall of SINGAPORE.
- (II) After capture I was taken to CHANGI Camp., where I was with approximately 12,000 men employed for about 14 days clearing the bombed area, also well sinking. Work was from 6 to 6, food was half a cup of cooked rice per man per day. Capt RICHARDS together with Capt WRIGHT were the M. Officers with my Reg at CHANGI.
- (III) From CHANGI I was marched with 500 men to BUCHATIMOR HILLS. Capt LINGHRAM was our O/C. Here we were employed at the FORD WORKS Clearing after bombing runs, building roads and hill leveling. Food supplies were as at CHANGI. Floggings by guards were often but through the frequent changing of guards I do NOT know them by name. Worked here for four months, thence back to CHANGI, then per cattle truck to KONGJU (III) SIAM on Railway construction. Was here for 2 years and 4 Months, food was rice and a little yack meat. Major QUICK was our O/C and Capt PARKER M.O
- (IV) Whilst working at the RIVER Camp I witnessed a Korean guard MORTORMA (Known as the Black Snake) bash Gnr Jack FRANCIS of 2/15 Reg with a heavy stick. He knocked FRANCIS down many times and finally brutally kicked him in the stomach and about the head. FRANCIS died a few days later.
- (V) Sgt BLACKALL of 2/15 was also badly belted by The Black Snake, in my presence. BLACKALL never recovered from the hiding and died at TARSO Camp.
- (VI) I was severely belted by The Black Snake with a heavy bamboo at KONGJU (II). He knocked me down several times, then kicked me. I vomited frequently following the bashing was unfit to work and generally was much knocked about. I was finally taken to Non Compatent and was operated upon by Col DUNLOP for a damaged bladder and internal injury.

"Sworn by the abovenamed deponent)
 REGINALD LINDSAY MELBOURNE at)
 NARRABRI on the Nineteenth day)
 of March, One Thousand Nine)
 Hundred and Forty Eight.)

BEFORE

J. Gordon P.

A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

R.L. Melbourne

J.M.

I, John Garratt MELLOR of Wellington Street NEWMARKET BRISBANE in the State of Queensland formerly

QX19254 Cpl MELLOR J.G. Command Pay Office AIF now discharged being duly sworn make oath and state as follows:

1. From approximately the twenty-eighth day of May one thousand nine hundred and forty-three until approximately mid August one thousand nine hundred and forty-three I was a member of the Australian portion of "H" Force who were Prisoners of War at KANYU Camp on the Burma/Siam Railway.

2. There were approximately five hundred Australian and later about two hundred English and a few American Prisoners of War in this camp.

3. Our senior officer was Lieutenant-Colonel OAKES. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the camp was in the charge of a Japanese Sjt however this may be incorrect because of the scattered administration centre of both Japanese and PW Headquarters.

4. During this period we were not split into any permanent groups except for the purpose of detailing the various shifts i.e. the night and day shifts. These groups were called "A" "B" "C" "D" each group supplied approximately one hundred Prisoners of War and two groups worked during daylight hours and the remainder, during the night.

5. We did not have any permanent Prisoner of War Officer or NCO consequently our complaints had little chance of being heard by anyone in authority.

6. The general conditions of the camp were utterly atrocious. I was one of the vanguard of the main force. We left TARSAO Camp on approximately the twenty-seventh day of May one thousand nine hundred and forty-three for what was described as a prepared camp known as KANYU. We were also informed that our duties in this camp would mainly consist of camp maintenance and the fostering of other units who would be required to work on the railway. During one of the few spells allowed on the march, we were informed that we had arrived at our destination and to the accompaniment of kicks, punches and blows with rifle butts and bamboo rods, we were ordered to "get busy and prepare the camp." A little bewildered, believing that we were actually going to a prepared camp, we set to and commenced to beat and out the heavy/^{jungle} growth which was spread in mass right up to the edge of the narrow track upon which we had made out halt.

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

7. Our clearing tools had been carried with us as the native equivalent of a cane knife. We were also informed that if the camp was not prepared by night (the time was then approximately 1530 hours) we would not receive any food. We prepared a space to accommodate about two-thirds of the party and tents were erected. Each tent (12' x 14') was occupied by twenty-five Prisoners of War. While this work was in progress the Japanese demanded and received one hundred of the fittest men for a work party.

8. About one third of the men were forced to sleep in the jungle. The tents were erected in such a manner that only those who occupied the centre of the tent received protection from the heavy rain even then most of these "lucky" PW were soaked because the tents were old and rotten and were in no way waterproof.

9. Up 'till this stage, I cannot remember any of the guards who accompanied us on the march.

10. On the following morning all Prisoners of War were called on parade and approximately three hundred and fifty Prisoners of War were detailed for the work party.

11. We marched a distance of approximately one and one quarter miles to a cutting which later became known as "HELL FIRE CUTTING." Work on this cutting had already been commenced by members of 2/10 Fd Regt and members of the R.A.E. We were then split up into the groups I have referred to hereinbefore and soon became acquainted with the Japanese engineers and guards who were to remain in charge of us.

12. The first Japanese engineer I had contact with, was a man named HIROMATSU commonly known as "MUSSOLINI" or the "HUNCHBACK" or the "TIGER" he was directly in charge of our party. He issued us with picks and shovels and gave us to understand that we were required to work at full pressure. His favourite "catch word" was "Speedo". On the first day "HUNCHBACK" contented himself with making himself acquainted with each Prisoner of War beating anyone he considered was NOT working hard enough.

13. On the following day "HUNCHBACK" began his slave driving tactics in earnest. I saw him beat at least fifty men with weapons ranging from heavy pieces of rock to pick-handles, shovels and hoes.

14. On the fifth day of work I was in charge of the spreading of metal over the side of a cliff. I misunderstood "HUNCHBACK'S" directions as to where the metal was to be tipped from the truck. When he discovered my

W. J. Hocking

mistake, he flew into a terrific frenzy and beat me about the head, face and body with a large heavy bamboo rod. After this incidence I became a marked man and I was beaten by the "HUNCHBACK" every working night (I was on the night shift) until I became ill with cholera approximately six weeks later. So much attention did I receive from "HUNCHBACK", that many of my fellow PW were concerned when they were detailed to work in the same area as myself. The reason was that he did NOT confine his fury to myself but savagely beat all PW within range of myself.

15. On one occasion he called for six men who were to carry six shovels and six baskets. I could not understand the order nor could any of my fellow Prisoners of War. At last, in desperation I gave five men a shovel and a basket each. He then flew at me with a heavy stick and using all his strength and weight struck me many times across the head. I was knocked unconscious. He then turned on the other five men and beat them until he was exhausted.

16. On another occasions another Australian PW who was suffering from an acute form of diarrhoea sought permission to visit the crude latrine. He was refused and being unable to control himself passed motion whilst working under the supervision of "HUNCHBACK." Somehow the shovel handle became contaminated with feces. "HUNCHBACK" immediately beat the Australian viciously about the head and shoulders and then suddenly kicked him in the stomach, rendering him unconscious. He then dragged him towards the fire (which served as illumination) and threw the Australian onto the fire. Immediately two Australian PW rushed across and dragged the victim away from the fire. "HUNCHBACK" began to attack the men and tried to push the victim back onto the fire. W85707 Lieut MANSFIELD G.J. Corps Sigs hurried to the scene and intervened. He too, was beaten. "HUNCHBACK" then ordered the three to pick the victim up and carry him to a small sub-rail where he ordered the victim to be placed across the line. Not knowing his intentions, the three (including Lieut MANSFIELD) obeyed. "HUNCHBACK" walked back to a short distance and took possession of a heavy wooden skip filled with large rocks and ordered Lieut MANSFIELD and two other PW to roll the skip over the body of the victim. They refused, and were again viciously beaten. "HUNCHBACK" then dragged the still unconscious victim to a small cavity beneath a steep loose rock bank alongside the wooden skip and ordered the three PW to empty the contents of the skip onto the victim, beating them all the while. They again refused. "HUNCHBACK" then tipped the contents of the skip onto the victim partially covering him with the large heavy rocks. Lieut MANSFIELD and the two PW



Cellar - *Shankin JP*

seizing an opportunity rushed in and dragged the victim out of the cavity and placed him beside the fire, after "HUNCHBACK" had calmed down sufficiently. He remained there until we had finished work when a number of PW carried him back to camp. He died within a few days of this incident.

17. This incident was typical of the treatment handed out to PW daily by "HUNCHBACK". I am not sure of the victim's name or service particulars but suggest that either Lieut MANSFIELD or HXS2534 Lieut YEO A.R.V. 27 Bde Coy A.A.S.C. could supply the victim's identity and particulars.

18. I have often witnessed Lieut YEO being unmercifully beaten by "HUNCHBACK" and the Sjt in charge of the working parties known to PW as "GENSEO ICHI-NOY"(phonetic). Lieut YEO was continually being subjected to ridicule by these two Japanese and was eventually transferred by the Japanese to another area.

19. Other Japanese known to me in this camp were a Quartermaster known as "PUSS IN BOOTS". This man was directly responsible for the diverting of PW rations to the Japanese staff quarters.

20. I was, on many occasions a member of a party of fifty Prisoners of War detailed by "PUSS IN BOOTS" to draw supplies at the supply depot located on a river approximately three miles distant. The rations were delivered in bulk form with no discrimination between Japanese supplies and those of the Prisoners of War. On our return to the camp "PUSS IN BOOTS" would call a halt at the Japanese camp and would proceed to "break the stores" all the valuable foods, such as live pigs, biscuits, salt, sugar, vegetables, dried meats and the pick of the dried fish were set aside for the Japanese quarters. The poor quality rice and a small quota of broken and inferior dried fish and occasionally a small percentage of salt was allotted to the PW. Towards the latter end of the rail construction, an inspection was made by a high ranking officer. Innumerable complaints were made including atrocities and extreme shortage of food. Papers were then produced by this officer showing clearly the amount of food issued to and received by the PW at KANYO Camp. This proved beyond doubt that "PUSS IN BOOTS" had used PW supplies for his own and other Japanese use. Although "PUSS IN BOOTS" did frequently illtreat PW, he was not as sadistic as "HUNCHBACK" and others. His worst crimes were blackmarketing among the Japanese at the supply depot and the misappropriation of PW supplies.

21. Another Japanese well known to me was known commonly as "BATTLE GONG". This man's treatment of PW was almost as bad as the "HUNCHBACK's". On one occasion I was assisting another PW in boring a hole in readiness for a


Guller - 

blast charge. We did NOT satisfy "BATTLE GONG's" idea of speed. He attacked us with a stick until he worked himself into a fury. He then kicked us about the body and then seizing the steel bar chisel, struck us several blows on the body. After he had assaulted us in this manner for some fifteen minutes he left us and reported to Sgt ICHI-NOY (phonetic) that we had been malingering. He tried to explain that we were working on a particularly hard rock and that other PW around us had "struck" soft rock. ICHI-NOY watched us for some time then walked away and procured several lengths of fuse wire, tying several knots into ^{Lbs} lengths making a crude "CAT'S WHISK TAILS." He returned to the rock and then proceeded to whip my bare back. My back was covered in cuts, bruises and abrasions. He then treated my companion in a similar manner, after which he "stood over us" for about two hours dangling the improvised whip in his fingers.

22. One of the despicable practices of the Japanese Engineers ICHI-NOY "HUNCHBACK" and "BATTLE GONG" was the lighting of the blast fuses on "knockoff" time. It was essential for PW at this time to hand all tools into the tool shed, have them checked, then go to another area pick up two large rocks then run across the area to be blasted then scramble up the steep side of a mountain and deposit the rocks (each weighing approximately ten to twelve pounds) and place them onto a path in part construction. If the rocks were NOT suitable the PW was backed by one of the guards and he was ordered to return and obtain more rocks. The fuses were approximately three minute types and it was only by sheer effort that PW were able to clear the blast area.

23. On one occasion I was exhausted and was being assisted by another PW. He too was exhausted, and had to leave me. Fortunately I was able to take cover and only received minor injuries to my head. It was miraculous that many PW were not killed as a result of this practice.

23. One of the most consistent of the "BATTLE GUARDS" was a Korean known to Prisoners of War as "LITTLE MESSO". This guard was little more than a lad and for a while was most inoffensive. So inoffensive was he, that PW soon took advantage of his generosity and loafed while under his guard "HUNCHBACK" soon became aware of this and began to "teach" the young Korean how to inflict punishment.

24. I was the first one chosen for "practice" after "HUNCHBACK" demonstrated how to punch (he was extremely powerful) "LITTLE MESSO" practiced and I was made a punching bag. "LITTLE MESSO" soon overcame his bewilderment and obvious fear after he had struck me several times. He then childish like went in search of "new victims", and from then on hit every PW he saw just for

Smeller

Hocking JP

practise. "LITTLE MUSSO" then easily became the most consistant "basher" in the Kanyu Area but fortunately his blows were weak and did not inflict much harm.

25. A description of "LITTLE MUSSO" is as follows: Age approximately nineteen years, height approximately five feet four inches, fairly stocky build. was remarkably like "HUNCHBACK" in appearance but much younger and did NOT possess "HUNCHBACK's" gorilla-like arms.

26. Very few PW possessed foot-wear of any description during this period and most of us had badly cut and blistered feet which made marching over the hard stony ground difficult and in many cases, impossible.

27. The PW who were unable to walk were half carried, half dragged along by the more fortunate. The strain on both was terrific. Men soon became covered in large tropical ulcers. No medical supplies were made available by the Japanese. Instead of treating the sick we were informed by a Japanese Warrant Officer known to us as "THE SILENT BASHER" that being sick was a crime and as such, PW would be severely punished if they allowed themselves to become sick. All except the hopeless cases (cholera etc.) were forced to work.

28. Many representations were made to "THE SILENT BASHER" when permission was sought to have the sick percentage held in camp increased and the work quota reduced. These requests were usually met with a heavier demand for workers. It became obvious that it was futile to make such requests. "THE SILENT BASHER" was avoided when possible by all PW. He earned his nickname through his fearsome habit of suddenly appearing on a scene then quietly and deliberately without accusation or attempt of explanation would punch, kick or strike with his scabbard encased sword that he invariably wore, two or three PW then abruptly leave as suddenly as he had appeared. Besides the physical pain caused by this behaviour, he caused an additional tension and we lived in constant fear of this childish but brutal behaviour. He caused an additional

29. I was assaulted once by this Warrant Officer fortunately I was able to "steer clear" whenever I saw him on other occasions.

30. A description of the Japanese Warrant Officer known as "THE SILENT BASHER" is as follows: Age approximately thirty years, height approximately five feet eight inches, stalwart build, athletic appearance, dark complexion, was presumed to be a supervisor of the administrative staff, had little contact with the rail construction.

31. A description of the Japanese Quartermaster known as "PUSS IN BOOTS" also referred to as "OSWALD", is as follows: Age approximately thirty

Queller

Hocking's JP

years, height approximately five feet nine inches, medium build, smart superior appearance, soldierly bearing, took particular pride in his appearance, always wore highly polished knee boots, and "Sam Browne" type belt, as well as other accessories such as a large strapped wristlet watch.

32. A description of the person referred to hereinbefore as "BATTLE GONG" is as follows: Age approximately twenty-five years, height approximately five feet two inches, short stocky build, swarthy scowling appearance, highly excitable, a typical low class character.

33. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "TP" is and contains a true and correct likeness of a person referred to in this my affidavit as a Japanese named HIROMATSU commonly known as "MUSSOLINI" or "HUNCHBACK" or "THE TIGER."

34. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "UP" also is and contains a true and correct likeness of the said HIROMATSU commonly known as "HUNCHBACK", "MUSSOLINI" or "THE TIGER."

35. A description of the Japanese Sjt in charge of work parties known as ICHI-NOY (phonetic) is as follow : Age approximately thirty years, height approximately five feet four inches, medium build, intelligent appearance, neat and clean, wore glasses, continually (severely beat me on a number of occasions because I refused to sell him my glasses for two TICUL) He was as far as I know in charge of a personnel engaged on the construction works.

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

SIGNED AND SWORN by the within-
named Deponent at Brisbane
on the 20th day of March
1947

Before me
A Justice of the Peace

[Handwritten signature]
.....
[Handwritten signature]
.....

"On this 8th day of July. One thousand nine hundred and forty seven, Clarence William Melrose of Palace Hotel, Tennyson Road, MORTLAKE in the State of New South Wales, labourer, makes oath and says as follows:

1. As NX21428 Private Melrose C.W I was taken Prisoner of War by the Japanese Forces at SINGAPORE on the 15 February 1942. My Unit was 2/18 Battalion AIF. I was confined at Changi until about 4 May 1943. I was then taken by boat from SINGAPORE to KOBE, where I remained until about 1 May 1945 and from there was removed to NOTOGAWA.

2. During the four months spent at NOTOGAWA conditions were very bad, and by far the worst period that we suffered in captivity. Our treatment was very severe, food was bad and not near enough on which to do the hard work. We were practically starved. We were all sick men from lack of food and we were employed on the reclamation of land, mostly swamps, in which we worked sometimes up to our thighs in water and mud.

3. I recall that FUJIKI, known to me as "Little Sgt" took Red Cross food for his own use. Frequently he would take these supplies to our kitchen and compel our cooks to prepare special meals for him. On occasions these special meals were provided for a visiting Colonel, whom I believe was in charge of OSAKA area. I do NOT remember the Colonel's name or the dates of these instances. I identify the photograph numbered 69 and 69a as FUJIKI.

4. I would definitely charge the Medical man WATANABE with stealing Red Cross food and supplies. He was known to me as the "Rat". Theft of our Red Cross food and supplies was well known to most prisoners in the camp. Being compelled by threats and force to do hard work under appalling conditions with miserably inadequate rations, we were constantly ill and too weak to work at all. The theft of our Red Cross supplies we considered as worse than the harsh treatment we suffered. I recall that WATANABE made 10 very sick men run approximately two miles at the end of a bayonet. When they fell they were beaten with heavy sticks and compelled by bayonet threat to continue. These men were then sent to work the full day when actually they were sickbed patients. I do NOT remember the date of this incident, or the names of the 10 men concerned. I find it very difficult now to remember names and dates.

5. I state that during the 4 months at NOTOGAWA absolutely NO medical supplies were provided for treatment of our sick men, although there were ample supplies at the camp. The majority of us were ill from starvation, Beri-beri and Dysentery and I would hold WATANABE as one responsible as he withheld Medical supplies and stole Red Cross food. WATANABE always had a large audience of women and children from the nearby village to witness his parades. During the parades prisoners were punished with beatings. He appeared to derive great pleasure from this and enjoyed the

Ben
Bergerson G.P.

Clarence W. Melrose

applause from the audience. I identify the photograph numbered 73 and 73a as WATANABE.

6. The Commandant of the camp we rarely saw; he was old and we considered weak. It appeared that he was over-ruled by the three main tyrants, namely, WATANABE, FUJIKI and NAKAMURA. To us it appeared that they had some hold over the Commandant. I do NOT remember the Commandant's name, we believed that complaints never reached him, and if they did the matter would be dealt with by the three I mentioned.

7. The camp INTERPRETER whose name I do NOT remember, we suspected of carrying distorted and untrue reports to the Commander. All action was left to WATANABE, FUJIKI and NAKAMURA to punish as they wished. This interpreter tried to extract a large sum of money from our corporal in charge. I do NOT recall the Corporal's name, he was from W.A. When refused the money the interpreter made conditions more difficult by distortion of facts in his reports of happenings and complaints to the Commander. He was a very dangerous man.

8. I recall one occasion, approximately July 4th 1945 when heavy raids were in progress, there were 25 of us compelled to bow to the ground 25 times. I had completed about half of this when I was unable to carry on and collapsed. I was very sick at that time with Beri-beri and Dysentery. I was severely beaten by NAKAMURA who used a heavy club about 4 inches in diameter at the base. I was beaten until unconscious and remained unable to move for three days. Exact dates and names of victims of beatings by NAKAMURA I do NOT remember. But I recall that a fellow prisoner names McDonald from my Unit (2/18 Bn) was bashed frequently by NAKAMURA, and being a very sick man he was close to death. When I last heard of McDonald he had a Taxi service at ROCKDALE NSW. I frequently observed NAKAMURA ill treat and bash Americans in the section adjoining ours. He would employ various tortures; such as lifting full water buckets and holding them motionless overhead without spilling the contents; pushing sticks up the nostrils, and cane whippings. The treatment of the Americans by the Japanese I mentioned was much worse than our punishment. I identify the photograph ~~XXXXXXXX~~ numbered 70 and 70a as NAKAMURA.

"Sworn by the abovenamed deponent
Clarence William Melrose
at HOME BUSH on the 9th day of July
One thousand nine hundred and
forty seven.
BEFORE ME

Clarence W. Melrose
A Justice of the Peace

Clarence W. Melrose

On this thirteenth day of September one thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Clarence William Melrose, of 1 Venus Street, Gladesville, in the state of New South Wales, Labourer, makes oath, and says as follows:-

1. As NX21428 Pte C.W. Melrose, 2/18 Bn., I was taken PW at SINGAPORE. I spent most of my imprisonment at KOBE. I have nothing to report on that camp.

2. On 20 May 45, I was transferred to NOTAGAWA. We were on starvation diet. Rice which was the ration in the beginning, was discontinued and green wheat substituted. This caused acute diarrhoea among the prisoners. I lost 3 stone in two weeks. There was no other food offered.

3. No medical treatment was available. An American doctor was unable to give any treatment, because of lack of medical supplies, and because of fear of punishment by the Japanese.

4. Clothing was adequate, as were blankets. Living quarters were of single pine walls, with bark roof. They leaked badly, and were little protection from the rain. Each man was allotted a patch 6' x 2'6" on planking platforms. Latrines consisted of a hole in the mud floor of the building, and men slept within 3'6" of it.

5. I recall seeing American Red Cross butter and milk being made into cakes for the Japanese camp administrative staff, particularly whenever a senior Japanese inspecting officer was expected. PW were reclaiming a lake, and working in slimy water and mud. Work began at 7.30 am and finished at 5.0 pm. The work was particularly arduous. Some pairs were moving spoil on a miniature tramway, each loaded truck weighing about one half ton. Frequently trucks were derailed and had to be re-set by the two Psw responsible. Japanese soldiers stood over us continuously, and beat us continuously to increase our work.

6. I recall one occasion when PTE NAKAMURA accused me of not working hard enough. He made me lie on my face at full length with my hands beneath my chest, and instructed me to raise my body by straightening my arms. In my weakened condition, I collapsed after the eighth press. He then attacked me with a six foot bamboo pole, four inches in diameter. I was wearing only shorts at the time. He beat me about the head and body for about 10 or 12 minutes, bellowing with rage the while. By this time, I was semi-conscious, but quite helpless, and had to be carried to my bed by my companions.

C W Melrose *L. H. Fin* 78

7. The interpreter HIGHASHI was particularly vindictive, cruel and deceitful. I remember one occasion when he demanded 200 Yen from the prisoners so that he could go to OSAKA. It was decided after some debate among the PW not to agree to this demand. HIGHASHI lost control of his temper, and assured us that we would suffer for our decision. From then on, his treatment towards us Australians became, if possible, harsher. There were 52 Australian PW in this camp. We were there only three months, but by that time, all had wasted away to a state of complete physical exhaustion, due to the lack of food, its upsetting quality, and the arduous work.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,
Clarence William Melrose, at Sydney,
this thirteenth day of September,
one Thousand nine hundred and forty-
six

Clarence William Melrose

BEFORE ME

L. H. Jones

A Justice of the Peace



"This is the photograph numbered 73^{as}
produced and shown to Clarence
William Melrose at the time of swear-
ing his affidavit this ²⁴ day of ^{July}
One thousand nine hundred and forty
seven.

BEFORE ME

Requena J.P.
A Justice of the Peace"

Photo No 73 ~

"This is the photograph numbered 73
produced and shown to Clarence
William Melrose at the time of swear-
ing his affidavit this ^{8th} day of ^{July}
One thousand nine hundred and forty
seven.

BEFORE ME

Requena J.P.
A Justice of the
Peace"

Photo No 73



Photo No 69 2 AWCS SCAP

"This is the photograph
numbered ~~67~~ produced and shown
to Clarence William Melrose
at the time of swearing his
affidavit this ~~...~~ day of ~~...~~
One thousand nine hundred and
forty seven.

BEFORE ME

Augustus J.P.

A Justice of the Peace"

Photo No 69a 2 AWCS SCAP

"This is the photograph
numbered ~~67~~ produced and
shown to Clarence William
Melrose at the time of swear-
ing his affidavit this ~~...~~ day
of ~~...~~ One thousand nine
hundred and forty seven.

BEFORE ME

Augustus J.P.

A Justice of the Peace"



"This is the photograph numbered
70a produced and shown to
Clarence William Melrose at the
time of swearing his affidavit
this ^{1st} day of ^{July} One Thousand nine
hundred and forty seven

SIGNAL CORPS
BEFORE ME

[Signature]
A Justice of the Peace.

Photo No 70a 2 AMCS SCAP

"This is the photograph numbered
70, produced and shown to Clarence
William Melrose at the time of
swearing his affidavit this ^{3rd} day
of ^{July} One thousand nine hundred
and forty seven

SIGNAL CORPS
BEFORE ME

[Signature]
A Justice of the Peace

Photo No 70 2AMCS SCAP

fjk
"On this ~~third~~ day of April One thousand nine hundred and fortysix John Burgess MENZIES of Amalgamated Textiles Aust. Ltd. 65 York St. SYDNEY in the State of New South Wales - Clerk, makes oath and says as follows;-

I NX19804 Gnr. John Burgess Menzies was a P.O.W. in Camp at YAMANI on the island of SHIKOKU during the period from Sept. 44 until April 1945.

Capt. MURAKAMA - Perpetrators.

Description - Height 5'8" Weight 15 Stone, Extremely fat, age about 45.

Nick-Name - "The Lolly LOPPER".

WARRANT OFFICER - Name not known.

Nick-Name - "Happy Jack".

Description - Height 5'7" medium build, Approx. 11 Stone age about 35.

Lieut. P. S. WITHYCOMBE - Victims

Description - Height 6'1½ weight about 11 Stone, Slim build, fair complexion age approx. 30.

BDR. PAYNE R.

Description - Height 5'6" weight about 9 Stone, medium build Medium complexion age about 28.

Bdr. Payne with a few other personnel were called to the Japanese Camp Office, in connection with the theft of sugar. They were severely tortured by the abovementioned Warrant Officer, "Happy Jack" with the knowledge of Capt. Murakama, by driving spikes through the flesh between the fingers and pinning the hand to the table.

Bdr. Payne was also stripped of his trousers and made sit on an electric radiator.

The above torture was carried out in an effort to obtain information regarding the theft of sugar.

Lieut. Withycombe, was subject to a severe stick bashing, simply because he was in charge of the Australians in this Camp, but was in no way implicated in the theft.

I did not see the crimes committed, but heard of same from Bdr. Payne, and actually seen where the spikes had been through the flesh between the fingers.

Capt. Murakama was Camp Commander, and at the time of these atrocities, was present at the Camp Office and had full knowledge of same, but did not take any active part in the torture.

As the Camp Commander was present at the time these atrocities were being carried out, and the fact that Lieut. Withycombe had who would normally make the complaint, had already received a

Receivedx/

a bashing, ~~that~~ complaints in this case were worthless.

The living conditions and sanitation in this Camp was fair, food was very scarce and of poor quality and we were always hungry.

Medical supplies were very scarce, we had our own Doctors and they done everything possible to relieve our suffering without them.

Unless you were extremely sick, no medical supplies were made available to our Doctors to treat the case.

"SWORN by the abovenamed deponent
John Burgess MENZIES at GOULBURN
on the 4th day of APRIL ONE
thousand nine hundred and fortysix.

J. B. Menzel
Signature of deponent.

BEFORE ME

William J. P.
A Justice of the Peace.

A F F I D A V I T

WAKAYAMA Honshu
(Place)

14 Sept '45
(Date)

Gunner

I Menzies, John A., ASN — NX 19804, of

Wharf Road Watsons Bay, serving in the grade of Gunner with
(Home address)
the 2/15th Field Regiment, Australian Armed Forces at the time
(Unit) (Nation)
of my capture on 23/2/42 at Malaya do hereby depose and say
(Date) (Place)

1. Japanese prisons, camps or hospitals in which I was confined are as follows:

Place or Location	Date	Japanese Commander
<u>Pudu Prison Kuala Lumpur Malaya</u>	<u>25/2/42</u> <u>1/10/42</u>	
<u>Changhi Singapore</u>	<u>1/10/42</u> <u>11/3/43</u>	
<u>Thailand</u>	<u>19/3/43</u> <u>20/6/44</u>	<u>Cpl. Ishi</u> <u>Cpl. Suzuki</u>
<u>YAMANE - JAPAN</u>	<u>10/10/44</u> <u>12/9/45</u>	<u>MURAKAMA, Cpl.</u>

2. Conditions in each camp, hospital or prison with respect to food, medical care, clothing, sanitation and required work were as follows:

- (1) Conditions at Kuala Lumpur & Changhi were fair except for food which was very poor.
- (2) Thailand conditions right through were terrible in every respect.
- (3) BEATINGS - MISTREATMENT - EVERY DAY OCCURRED.
- (4) YAMANE Japan. Food could not have been much worse. Clothing inadequate for severe winter - No medical supplies - Work in mines severe.

3. I have personal knowledge of killings, tortures, beatings, other cruelties (including starvation) or improper punishments as indicated:

Name of Victim	Date	Place	Japanese Perpetrator
<u>LT. Withycombe</u>	<u>Dec 1944</u>	<u>YAMANE</u> <u>JAPAN</u>	<u>Hobby Jack</u> <u>MURAKAMA</u>

Name of Victim	Date	Place	Japanese Perpetrator
BDR PAYNE	Dec 44	YAMANE Japan	"Happy Jack"
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Wagon
officer

Brief description of each atrocity:

LT W. Thorne. VERY SEVERE BEATING + ASSAULT ON EYES with pointed stick

BDR PAYNE MADE to sit on electric heater & hands were spiked to tables to try to inform re sugar stealing

4. I have heard of and have reason to believe the following atrocities were also committed:

Name of Victim	Date	Place	Japanese Perpetrator
/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/

Brief description of each atrocity:

5. I do ~~have~~ (not have) a diary or other documentary evidence. It is presently located at _____

John B. Keenan
(Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of September, 1945 at WAKAYAMA.

Obi S. Karasick - 1st Lt - 1st Cav Div
(Army or Navy Officer Authorized to take Oaths)

ASN - Organization
Summary Court

Aliens and Special Branch,
Central Police Station,
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.

14 th May 1946.

I, JOHN MICHAEL MENZIES, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows :- I am a married man, 36 years of age and I reside with my wife and family at 1198 Dominion Road, Auckland. I expect shortly to take up my former employment in the joinery shop at the Railway Workshops, Otahuhu.

I was formerly a member of the New Zealand Military Forces. I was a private and my number was 36495. I left New Zealand in 1940 and went with an Army unit to Fiji. About the end of August I was one of thirty three soldiers detailed for special coast watching duties in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands group. I was detailed to duty on Butaritari arriving there on or about the 1st September 1941. Also detailed to this island were Michael Menzies my brother, and John M. Jones. Jones was a telegraphist of the New Zealand Post and Telegraph Dept. He was not a member of the Army and was in civilian clothes. My brother and I were really companions for Jones. Our duty was watching for ships and planes which we reported by radio to the Navy at Fiji.

We were actually stationed on a small island named Pikati which is the Northernmost point of the Makin Atoll and is about 10 to 15 miles North of Butaritari. At the island of Pikati there were only about 50 natives besides ourselves, but at Butaritari lived Mr George Williams, the British Government Administrator. There were also two Japanese civilians running a trading post at Butaritari and also a Chinese trading post under a Chinese named On Chong. The Japanese in charge of their post was named KONSUKI. I do not know the name of the other Japanese. I visited Butaritari on three occasions. The Japanese had no concrete buildings on Butaritari. I omitted to say that there was also a French priest named "JISHAW" (spelling not known) on Butaritari, he was a missionary. The Japanese never visited Pikati.

I never actually saw anything to lead me to believe that the Japanese had radio communication at Butaritari but I remember one incident about three weeks before the Japanese military forces landed on the island. One of the natives at Pikati, who periodically visited Butaritari in their canoes, one day came to our house and told us that the Japanese would land soon. I asked him how he knew and questioned him further, but the native would not say anything more, except to repeat his statement. This native had at the time been drinking an alcoholic liquor known as "tuba", and no doubt under the influence of this he made the statement.

On another occasion, after we had been on the island about 6 weeks, we saw a plane coming from the sea in the direction of the Marshall Islands. It was somewhere about midday and the plane was flying extremely high. We could tell that it was a big plane and we suspected that it was Japanese. We reported this immediately by radio.

Apart from these two incidences^{es} I saw or heard nothing to indicate Japanese preparations for war, except for occasional ships seen in the distance, on the horizon, and occasional lights at night at sea. All these matters were reported by Jones.

On first indication to the approach of the Japanese military forces to the Makin Atoll was at noon on the 11th December 1941 when we saw ships at sea on the horizon to the North. We posted natives for coast watching suspecting that they were Japanese ships. At about 6 a.m. the following day Jones received a message from Mr Williams (station at Butaritari) that the Japs had landed and that we were next. Later on a Japanese plane flew over our house and came back several times when Jones

J. M. Menzies

R. J. P.

started to transmit over the radio. It was about 10-30 a.m. the same day when Japanese military forces came down from Butaritari by a large Navy launch. Before they arrived we destroyed our radio, code books and battery charging motors. We also emptied out our benzine stocks. Before the Japs actually landed I wrote out messages to my wife and to my commanding officer and buried them in a tin under the house of a native. I asked the native that in the event of the British retaking the island to hand over the tin with the messages.

On being captured we were not badly treated and the same day we were taken aboard a Japanese cruiser at Butaritari. There I was questioned about the defence of Fiji and I was told that I would be killed if I did not tell the truth. My brother was with me. The Japanese produced a large and perfect map of Fiji and told us to point out aerodromes and coastal artillery positions. They also asked us about Suva Harbour minefields. To every question we told them that we did not know anything about Fiji. We were also asked if there were any other soldiers on the nearby islands. We were kept in a Chinese house on the end of the wharf at Butaritari and the same or following day we were joined by Privates Muller, Weir and Mr McQueen, who had been taken prisoners on Little Makin.

We left for Japan on the 27 th December 1941 on a mine laying vessel, calling at the Marshall Islands, where we were transhipped. We arrived at Yokohama, Japan on the 7 th January 1942 on the ship "Yamagara Maru". We were not ill treated on the voyage although we were kept in the hold with a large number of Japanese coolie workmen.

After about two weeks at Yokohama we were sent by train and ferry vessel to the island of Shikoku. There were eight New Zealanders and one American when we landed at Shikoku. We were taken to the prison camp of Zentsuji. I remained there until I was released following the Japanese capitulation.

For the first two years our conditions as prisoners of war at Zentsuji were reasonably good. Food was sufficient to live and work on, although it was Japanese type of food. However, conditions quickly became very severe because of overcrowding.

Conditions became very bad and food became very inadequate as the war became worse for Japan. After we had been there about ~~three~~ two years there were about 600 prisoners in the camp which was about twice as many as there should have been. The sanitary conditions were appalling, the lavatories being just concreted holes just outside the door of the living and eating quarters. Almost all day long Japanese coolies would be dipping out these holes and carrying the contents away in barrels. In the sleeping and living quarters thirty men had to sleep on wooden raised platforms which were infested with bed bugs, in a sleeping area about 15 feet to every eight men.

I was a working prisoner, doing repair work around the camp, but the great majority were out doing heavy work on loading freight on trains. When food supplies in the camp got very scanty after about two years all we got to eat was a small bowl of rice three times a day and a watery soup made of turnip top leaves or seaweed. On this diet malnutrition in the camp began to increase in the form of dysentery and beriberi. There were at least 75% of the prisoners lost over 20 pounds in weight.

The Japanese used to weigh each prisoner every month and keep careful records. About a week before the Japanese surrender I saw the Japanese guards burn all these records.

I remember the incidents of the deaths of two prisoners - Lieut. Farnar, A.E.F. and Flight Lieut. Moulden, R.A.F.

To deal with the case of MOULDEN. This officer died in the camp on the 21 st November 1944. About two or three weeks

J. M. Menzies

before he died some tobacco was stolen by an American prisoner. It was leaf tobacco from a bale. I had got to know Moulden and often used to talk with him. He was in a very low state of health and was exceedingly thin. He smoked a lot whenever he could get tobacco as his nerves were in a very bad state. The American gave me a couple of leaves of the tobacco which I passed on to Moulden. As Moulden was cutting it up on a table a Japanese interpreter named NOBIASHI saw him and took him to the Camp Commandant Captain OSATANI. Moulden was put into solitary confinement and his rations were cut still lower. He was kept in what we called the "Brig". He was released from solitary confinement when the Japanese found out that I had given Moulden the tobacco. I was then put into solitary confinement for about two weeks. When I was let out Moulden told me that he was sorry that he had had to tell the Japanese that I had given him the tobacco. Within a week after that Moulden was found dead in his bunk one morning. The day ~~before~~ after he died all the prisoners were issued with a Red Cross parcel each, which were kept under lock and key by the Japanese. Lieut. Commander Van Peenan, U.S. Navy who was a Navy doctor examined Moulden's body. He told the Japanese and all of us that Moulden had died from starvation. Dr. Van Peenan's home address is 529 W. Vine Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Moulden's body was cremated and his ashes were kept and later returned to England.

Lieut. FURNER, A.I.F. was also known to me in the camp. We often talked together. He was a man who worried a good deal about camp conditions and food and his own health. He knew he was going down and getting weaker in health. The outstandingly main reason for this was not sufficient and ~~an~~ incorrect food for his condition. He died on the 25th June 1945. As was quite a common thing among the prisoners Furner collapsed one day at muster and was taken into the sick bay. The Japanese medical officer in charge of the camp was Lieut. Dr SATO. He would see Furner and admit him to sick bay. I think that Furner was in the sick bay from 8 to 10 days before he died.

As far as I know neither Moulden or Furner were suffering from any disease that would cause their death. Neither of them ever told me that there was anything wrong with them except malnutrition caused by lack of food. Both of them often told me on different occasions that they had not enough to eat. They discussed me on occasions the chances of obtaining any smuggled food that sometimes get into the camp. I know of no reason why these men should have died except that they were not supplied with sufficient food to keep them alive. They got as much food as other prisoners but because of their weakened condition and the almost entire absence of medical care and supplies they were not able to hold out as long as the others.

I myself was in a normal fit state of health when I went into the camp. On release I was suffering from beriberi and malnutrition and had had dysentery. I was also suffering from a weak chest caused by the severe working conditions and lack of food during the last winter of captivity. We were working in the snow for weeks on end.

Of my own knowledge I know that there was a considerable quantity of medical supplies, including vitamin pills in the storeroom at the camp. I know this because I helped to unload them and stack them in the storeroom. I know that Dr Van Peenan would often have to ask Dr SATO on several occasions before he would be issued with a very inadequate supply of medicines and vitamin pills. I can say that there were adequate supplies in the storeroom and I can also say that there were never enough supplies issued to cope with the cases of sickness among the prisoners.

J. M. Menzies

CAPTAIN OSATANI was a man of about 45 years of age, about 5 ft 6 ins, medium build, slightly grey hair, always wore horn rimmed glasses, he could speak in English but seldom did. He is said to have been a school teacher. Rather a good looking man for a Japanese. He left the camp just before the war ended. The only occasion when I have known him to use violence towards a prisoner was when he hit my brother Michael Menzies across the face with his open hand. I saw this, or rather I heard the smack.

Dr Sato was a man about 50 years of age, about 5 ft 7 or 8 ins, very thin, had a slight stoop, rather dark for a Japanese. Did not wear glasses. He had a small black moustache. Did not speak any English.

I personally was struck on one occasion by a Japanese guard known as "CLUB FIST". I do not know his proper name, he was a private. He knocked me across the jaw one day about 9 months to 1 year before the end of the war. The blow just made me reel back. I do not know what he hit me for. I had often seen this man kick and beat prisoners with his fist, so much so that I have seen some men covered with blood in their faces. There were very few men in the camp who had not been hit by this guard.

He was about 25 to 35 years of age, about 5 ft 4 ins, medium build, had a pasty face and was an evil looking Oriental type. He had a deformed right arm (I think), his hand being clenched and he always wore a white glove on this hand. He said he had been wounded by the Americans in the Phillipines. He was easily the most brutal guard in the camp and many complaints were made to the Japanese Commandant about him. He was never restrained as far as I know.

I, JOHN MICHAEL MENZIES, of 1198 Dominion Road, Auckland, New Zealand do solemnly and sincerely declare that this statement of four pages is true: And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Justices of the Peace Act, 1927.

J. M. Menzies

Declared at Auckland in the
Dominion of New Zealand this
15 th day of May, 1946, before
me -

R. J. Mills J. P.

Justice of the Peace in and for
the Dominion of New Zealand.

Statement taken and witnessed by

E. Stevenson

Detective Sergeant.

15.5.46.

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JOHN STATEMENT BY CUTHBERT SWAN - JONES
and JOHN ADAM CAIRNS MERCER

John Adam Cairns Mercer, Engineer, of c/o British Linen Bank Ltd., Galashiels, Scotland, Captured Sandakan and Interned Sandakan May 1942 to March 1943; Kuching March 1943 to Sept. 1945 states in conjunction with :

Cuthbert Swan-Jones, Rubber Planter of Sandakan B.M.B., captured at Papar and interned at Jesselton and Kuching states :

As requested we herewith submit the following report regarding atrocities we have seen at Kuching Internment Camp.

1. ISHIMOTO, Yoshio. (Stepping Stone). This man has persistently carried out beatings on P.W. and Internees throughout the last 3 1/2 years. His favourite method was to knock a person down and beat them with both bare hands and feet.

2. OKUBAYASHI, Takemitsu. (Woman Beater). This man is known to have on one occasion assaulted a member of the 'Woman's Camp', Mrs. E. Bishop. He also took Dr. Mrs. Lesseur to the guard room and humiliated her and made her stand to attention for 3 hours at the main guard hut.

3. MATSUDA, Takeshi. (Ball Kicker No. 2, Junior Ball Kicker).

4. KATO, Tadeo. (No. 2 Ball Kicker)

These two soldiers have persistently used the same technique in assaulting P.W. and Internees. Their usual procedure was to knock down the persons and kick them in the testicles, or to make them stand with bended knees and hands raised above their heads, and then kick them in the same regions as has been mentioned before. The latter, Kato, was also known for his extremely filthy language which he used to the lady internees. These were English words that he had picked up.

5. NAGATA, Tomio. (Moonface, Woman Beater, Grass Cutter) also known as KYOGAWA

This man, who was usually No. 2 in the day's guards party, was known on several occasions to hide himself in some place overlooking any of the camps and to distinguish people by their clothes, and afterwards fake up charges against them. The charges, which were usually denied, brought about severe punishment on the supposed culprit.

6. HAYAMA, Takeo. (Fish Face). The same applies to this man as to No. 5. but if anything he was more persistent in his cruelties to P.W. and Internees. Mr. Mercer was severely beaten with hands, sticks and feet on one occasion by this man for no reason whatsoever.

7. KOBAYASHI, Teruo. This man's usual method was to fake charges against P.W. and Internees and to make them stand facing the sun, on toes, knees bent and hands above the head, and to slap on the face with open hands.

8. OKAMOTO, Keimei. (Weasel). This man excelled all others for beating and causing injury to persons. One of the last incidents by this fellow was to beat Capt. Atkinson, Mr. Linguard and also Mr. Wrenn. The latter, Mr. Wrenn, was seriously injured. He has been seen, not only on this occasion mentioned, but on previous occasions to use both fists, booted foot and rifle in assaulting persons.

9. TAKAMURA, Shoji. (Moonrat). This man was usually put in charge of any special working gang of Internees, viz., Firwood, and on these occasions watched carefully for any small opportunity to beat persons. This man also took every occasion to enter the ladies camp and interfere and impertinently molest them.

10. KIYOSHI, Yoshioka. (Man with Mole). This man, being of small stature, picked out tall Internees and P.W. and beat them with pieces of wood and his rifle. He has also been seen to kick people on the shin. This man severely beat up Mr. Bewsher, tied him up to a tree and, with a companion, (Name unknown) continued to assault both of them for about half an hour.

JOINT STATEMENT OF MR. SWAN, JONES and MR. MERCER (Contd.)

11. SHIMIZU, Kanji. (Papaya Legs, Piano Legs). This man assaulted Lt. Col. Adams, by slapping and openly ridiculing him, on parade and in the presence of Internees.

12. KUBO, Akihiko. This man was attached to the camp as interpreter, and acted on all occasions like a maniac. His usual procedure was to enter any of the camps, pick up any small object and maintain it against regulations to have same. On one occasion he called Mr. Eric Smallfield to the office for questioning in connection with a compass which had been found in his baggage. He detained him for a whole day exposed to the sun and standing to attention and before allowing him to return to the camp severely beat him on the head and face. On other occasions this man has been seen to mete out similar punishment to others.

13. INAGAKI, Tetsuo. This man was employed as an English interpreter. He was seen to severely punish a Sikh P.W. on 2nd Sept. '45. He knocked this man down several times and kicked him in the ribs. This man used to sit in his Office and watch for anyone passing who failed to bow or salute. He would then rush out of his office and severely assault them by throwing them on the ground and kicking them anywhere in the body with heavy military knee boots.

14. KANEKO, Sogemo. This man was usually in charge of the firewood party. His treatment was generally strict but he did not actually indulge in ill treating P.W. except on two occasions when he hit an Australian officer a savage blow with a billet of wood, knocking him out, and again later exactly similar treatment with a English officer. He also beat Mr. Penlington, R.N.B. Civil Servant, with his hands and fists in August 1945.

We have seen and identified all the above named in the compound.

I, John Adam Cairns MERCER, solemnly affirm that this statement is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

WITNESS: *C. Williams Capt*

I, Cuthbert SWAN-JONES, solemnly affirm that this statement is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

WITNESS: *C. Williams Capt*

J. A. C. Meyer

C. Williams

ALEXANDER MEREDITH, Engineer Officer, M.V. "Hauraki", being
duly sworn, gives the following evidence:

27 My full name is Alexander Meredith. My home address is
20 Margaret Street, North Sydney.

I was first taken prisoner on 12 July 1942 in the middle of the
Indian Ocean. I was taken to Penang, where I remained for
about ten days. I was then taken to Singapore, where I remained
for about five months. We were kept on our own ship all along.
We had our own food and the ship's cargo was mostly food, so
conditions were fairly good on the ship.

I was then taken to Saigon in our own ship, where conditions
were reasonable. From Saigon I went to Formosa, again in our
own ship, and from Formosa to Moji, Osaka, Kobe and Tokyo, in
Japan. While in Singapore, protests were made that we did not
belong to the fighting services, but the Japanese said we
would have to man the ship because they did not know how to
run the machinery. The deck crew were taken off and interned
in Changi camp gaol. The engineers had to remain on the ship
with the exception of the Chief Engineer and the Captain, who
went on the "Tokyo Maru" to Japan.

After ~~xxxxx~~ arriving at Tokyo, I was taken to Camp D.1,
Yokohama. There were approximately 500 men in that camp.
When I arrived conditions were bad; more than half the men
there were sick, mostly with dysentery and malaria; there were
several cases of beri beri also. The Japanese Commander there
was nicknamed "Blitzkrieg". The food was not sufficient
considering the condition the men were in; they all suffered
from malnutrition.

We were employed working in the shipyards in various gangs,
such as ship fitters and fitters and turners. That work was
assisting the Japanese war effort. The camp had no distinctive
markings whatsoever. We used to arrive at the shipyards at
half past six in the morning and back at the camp at 5 o'clock
at night. Sick men were forced to work and in the first
three or four months of the winter, 45 died. With adequate
medical supplies and proper treatment, all those men could
have been saved. Approximately 58 died altogether. In the
camp were about 15 Australians, of whom two that I can remember
died. There were also 14 or 15 Dutch in the camp as well as
Americans and British. We were paid 10 sen a day for our
work. On the ship we did not receive any ~~xxxx~~ payment at all.

Beatings were very frequent and occurred almost every day.
At roll calls we would be made to stand up after work for
anything from an hour to four hours, for very minor offences.
Sick men were also beaten; they were dragged from their bunks
and stood up and beaten and knocked down with fists or sticks
or perhaps rifle butts. ~~Kxxxx~~, the First Commandant, ~~xxx~~
and Komura, the interpreter, were responsible for this.
Other members of the staff were Konbeit, Okada and Shishidori.
The first commandant beat me on one occasion with fists. The
interpreter had told us that we were to wear boots at roll call
in the morning. Apparently, however, his orders had been
misinterpreted and we should not have worn boots. ~~xxx~~ Ours was
the first section examined, and when the commandant took the
roll call he beat the whole section for wearing boots. All
the engineers from the ship were beaten by other Japanese;
these engineers were Falconer, Thompson, Brody, ~~xxxx~~, Porteus,
Scott, Gable, Innes and Capt. Creese. ~~Hurley~~

The health of the men was very bad, due to malnutrition. We
received insufficient medical supplies, which caused many
deaths. The clothing was very poor; we were issued with a
winter suit and a summer suit but we had no woollen underclothes.

Of the first 45 who died, about 20 died from pneumonia and malnutrition. The wind at the shipyard was very severe and the underclothing was in a terrible state.

We received about four or five Red Cross parcels during the three years we were imprisoned, plus bulk issue from the South African Red Cross.

Our accommodation was reasonable, as Japanese standards go. We were in a big cargo shed - approximately 500 of us. One part was partitioned off for the officers.

I was taken from D.1 to the hospital camp at Shinigawa with beri beri. I remained there from January 1944 till August 1944. The food was terrible. They used to give us bread and soup and on many occasions the bread was absolutely green. There were many patients at the camp. The sick men were beaten. The first interpreter who was at D.L. camp was transferred to the hospital; his name was Kamarasan. He beat sick prisoners for perhaps not saluting; he would punch them and then they would be made to stand to attention for an hour or two. They would probably collapse and be carried back to their rooms. I have seen that myself.

In May 1945 I was sent to Kamaishi, where I remained until August 1945. The food there was the staple diet. One of the worst things we had to contend with was that on our day of rest (of which we had about three a month) we would be sent out to the mountains to pick grasses for soup; so that actually we did not actually receive a day's rest at all.

We were working in a steel mill for the first couple of weeks and then I was transferred to another gang. The men who came to that camp from Yokohama picked up in health and their health was fairly good. There were several bashings but they were minor ones. We were paid for our work. More medical supplies were available at this camp than anywhere else.

There was a shelling of the camp on 14 July 1945 and another one on 9 August 1945; as a result, five or six died from the first shelling and about 26 in the second shelling.

We did not receive any Red Cross parcels in that camp. Red Cross supplies were given to the "diligent workers", as the Commandant called them. Medical treatment was adequate.

When the camp was burnt down, we were taken to a school room alongside the factory. That room had been bombed before and there was not sufficient room to satisfactorily accommodate all the men. We were all sleeping on top of one another. Hardly any cooking facilities were provided; all the cooking was done out in the open. There were about 14 Australians in that camp, who had come from Yokohama. Altogether, there were 380 men in the camp; there were 200 Dutch when we arrived and the rest were British and Americans. All nationalities were treated similarly.

All the electric supply had been burnt out of the school house and there were no means of sounding the air raid sirens. We received no instructions whatever with regard to the air raid shelters and the dive bombers came over. There was a bit of a panic in the school room and one chap went to run out. He was stopped from getting out by others who were running about and a huge stone came through a hole in the roof and he was killed on the spot. He was an American named Walsh. After that bombing, the Commandant gave us a speech and told us that we were frightening the Japanese by running around, and then he told us where the air raid shelters were should any more bombing take place. None of our camps had distinguishing marks, until ten days after the surrender, when marks were painted on one camp.

The camp that was burnt down was right in the middle of the target. We were about 200 or 300 yards from the military barracks and A/A battery; another 500 or 600 yards across the road was another A/A battery, and the steel mill was immediately behind the camp. There was also an oil pumping station just across the road from the camp.

I certify that the above evidence is true and correct.

Taken and sworn before me at
Manila on 3 October 1945.

A. M. ...
Commissioner.

A. M. ...

On this twenty-first day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Ronald James Metz, of 32 Kingston Avenue, Mortlake, in the State of New South Wales, Motor Mechanic, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX70019 Pte Metz R.J. I was taken PW in Java, approx. mid-march 1942. I was transferred to a camp on SHIKOKA Island on the Inland Sea, Japan, approximately at the end of 1944. Early in 1945 I was transferred to NIYAMA Camp on Shikoka Island where there were only Australian and Dutch PsW.
2. The Officer in charge of PsW was a Dutch Captain and two Australian Captains assisted in the command.
3. "Little Hoppy" was a Jap Cpl in charge of rations. His height was about 4'6"; age approximately 25 yrs; one leg was shorter than the other, giving him a decided limp when walking.
4. "Big Hoppy" was a Jap Cpl who worked in the office. His height was about 5'3"; age approximately 25 yrs; broad solid build. He had a wooden leg but I do not know which leg was missing.
5. The Jap commander of the camp was not concerned in the following. Both "Little Hoppy", and "Big Hoppy" were afraid of being discovered by the commander while the atrocities were being committed.
6. The Japanese had retained for their own use part of the rations intended for issue to PsW. One night with another Aust. I raided the Japanese store and stole sugar and mesu. "Little Hoppy" and "Big Hoppy" tortured PsW by burning them over room heaters, pinning their hands to tables with ice-picks and beating PsW with heavy wooden swords in an effort to discover who had broken into the store. The other Australian, whose name I have forgotten, and I confessed to save further torture to the men.
7. "Little Hoppy" and "Big Hoppy", with another Jap guard, each wearing a boxing glove, punched me continuously for an hour and a half. As a result of the beating both eyes were closed, I was bleeding profusely and I was in a state of collapse. In between punchings I was thrown about by the Japs ju-jitsu fashion.
8. I received no treatment that night by my own request, but I was treated by an Australian doctor, name, unknown, the following morning. I was forced to continue working as usual.
9. Approximately a week later, at night, I was caught stealing rice from the Jap cache where they were hiding stores to later divert them to their own uses.

R. J. Metz

R. J. Metz

10. I was placed in a cage approximately 2 ft by 2 ft where it was possible to stand but not move about, sit or lie down. The only clothing I had was a pair of short cotton underpants. The weather was very cold and there were six inches of snow on the ground. I was imprisoned there continuously (except for trips to the latrine) for three days and three nights. During this time I received only one meal of one pint of boiled rice. As a result of this treatment I was capable of standing but was physically distressed.

11. Prior to being placed in the cage I was taken by "Big Hoppy" and "Little Hoppy" to the orderly room for interrogation through a Japanese interpreter, whom I cannot describe or name. When I refused to give the names of the men who were with me an ice-pick was stabbed through my hand between the knuckles, pinning my hand to the table. This was done five times to each hand. They left me pinned to the table and began hitting me between the neck and the shoulder with a heavy wooden sword. This paralysed both shoulders, but the punishment was continued for about ten minutes. Both hands as a result were temporarily useless and shoulders paralysed and heavily bruised for about a week. Immediately after the above torture I was placed in the cage as previously described.

12. I received no medical treatment and had to work as usual the day after my release from the cage.

13. An Australian Sgt who was imprisoned in the cage before me for stealing rice at work died about a fortnight later with pleurisy. I cannot give any details of his name or unit. The Commander of NIYAMA camp was responsible for ordering the punishment of this sergeant.

14. Food at Niyama was very poor. Every man was hungry and grass and roots were cooked to supplement our rations. A large number of PsW contracted Beri Beri and some died. Clothing was plentiful. Medical supplies were inadequate. Grease and oils from the mines were used to make up ointments.

15. At Niyama PsW received two and a half Red Cross parcels per man in twelve months.

16. Pte Basil Jones, unit unknown, of Bondi, NSW, witnessed the pinning of my hands to the table and my imprisonment in the cage. My unit was 2/3 MT Coy.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,)
Ronald James Metz, at Sydney,)
this twenty-first day of May,)
One thousand nine hundred and)
forty-six)

LSA - J. J. J.

BEFORE ME

A Justice of the Peace

R. J. Metz

A 3/7

1. VX32789 Bdr Sydney Rowland MEYLAN of 4 Anti Tank Regt, now in Heidelberg Military Hospital, make oath and say :

1. I was taken prisoner of war in SINGAPORE on 15 Feb 42 and left for BURMA with "A" Force on 15 May 1942.
2. We arrived at TAVOI on or about 7 Jun 42 and stayed there about a month.
3. About three days after landing at TAVOI eight men of my regiment tried to escape but were brought back to the Japanese HQ at TAVOI on or about 15 Jun 1942.
4. I was told later by Lt Col ANDERSON of 2/19 Bn that these men had been shot by the orders of the Camp Commandant who was Capt (or Colonel) SHINA on or about 18 Jun 1942.
5. SHINA was about 5 feet 5 inches in height, nuggety in build, very full in the face, about 35 years old, wobbled when he walked and spoke very little English.
6. The names of the men who were shot were :

- WO QUINTERTON
- Sgt TREMNER
- Bdr CUMMING
- Bdr GLOVES
- L/Bdr EMMETT
- Gnr Arthur Jones
- Gnr J WILSON
- Gnr REEVE

7. Bdr JELLY of 4 Anti Tank Regt helped to dig the graves of these men. He is a Victorian.

SWORN at HEIDELBERG
in the State of VICTORIA
this day of MARCH, 1946

SR Meylan

Before me,

(Major Gordon Harman FULLBROOK)

An Officer of the Australian Military Forces.

14/5/46
I, VX 32789 Bombadier Sydney Roland MEYLAN, formerly of 4 Anti Tank Regt AIF, now at Stonnington Convalescent Depot in the state of Victoria make oath and say :-

1. I was taken prisoner of war at SINGAPORE on 15 February, 1942.
2. In January 1944, I went to TAMARKAN PW Camp in SIAM.
3. The Camp Comdt at TAMARKAN was known to us as Lt-Col ISHI, about 5'9" or 10" in height, about 15 to 16 stone in weight and very fat.
4. In about May or June of 1945, I was in charge of a working party outside the Camp on Tamarkan Bridge.
5. While engaged on this work, eight American bombers came over the area. We were not allowed to take cover under threat of shooting. When the planes were almost on us, the guards broke for cover and we seized upon this opportunity to run for it also.
6. There were about 250 PWs working on the bridge at this time and when the guards left to take cover about 150 of them had to jump off the bridge into the river below to avoid the attack.
7. The bridge was destroyed by this attack. To the best of my knowledge, no PW's were wounded or injured.
8. We were exposed to a similar attack on Tamarkan Bridge again about a month later.
9. In early December 1944, after an air attack, by Allied planes on 29 Nov 44, I, along with other PW's were engaged on carting Japanese ammunition from a rail-head across a river because the bridge had been bombed. This ammunition consisted of rifle and MG Amn., 18 pounder shells and hand grenades.
10. About the same time, a little earlier in Dec 44, I was engaged on digging gun pits at TAMARKAN.
11. I do not remember any names or nicknames of any of the guards as they were continually being changed.

Sworn at MELBOURNE in the State of Victoria this 18th day of April, 1946.

S.R. Meylan
Bert Zealendous Riddell
Captain Bert Zealendous Riddell
An Officer of the ...

I, VX 32789 Bombadier Sydney Roland MEYLAN,

formerly of 4 Anti Tank Regt., now at Stonnington Convalescen Depot in the State of Victoria make oath and say :-

1. I was taken prisoner of war at SINGAPORE on 15 Feb. 1942.
2. In about November 1943 I was at either 75 or 105 Kilo Camp, the exact name I cannot remember owing to lapse of time.
3. One of the guards at this camp was a Korean named MATSUMOTO, also known as the "SILVER BULLET". He was about 5'6" in height and thick set.
4. During my stay in this Camp, a period of two months, I repeatedly saw MATSUMOTO beat PWs. His main method of attack was to knock a PW down and kick him with his boots, mostly around the private parts.
5. These bashings were meted out for no apparent reason, the "SILVER BULLET" would just walk up to a PW and begin beating him. At times he would use a stick.
6. Another particularly sadist type at this camp was a Japanese nicknamed "WIRE WHISKERS". He was about 5'4" in height, well built and was very much like a monkey about the face.
7. On one occasion "WIRE WHISKERS" attacked me with a chunkol, a tool like a hoe, for about ten minutes. I then had to stand to attention with the chunkol raised above my head in the hot sun without a hat for an hour. My left leg was deeply cut during this beating.
8. I do not know anything of the torture of 10 PWs in October, 1944.
9. While being marched from 75 Kilo Camp to 105 Kilo Camp, a distance of 25 kilometers, I along with many other PWs, collapsed from a disease of the feet. I was threatened with a rifle by one of the guards. I then became unconscious and was carried the remainder of the way by other PWs. All the men in this march were sick men being transferred from one camp to another.

10. The guard who threatened me was "BOY BASTARD" about 5'6" in height and well built.

11. The commander of this march was Lt. HOSHI. He was about 5'7" in height and very heavily built.

Sworn at MELBOURNE in the State of
VICTORIA this 18th day of April, 1946.

SR Meylan

Bert Zealicious Riddell

Captain Bert Zealicious Riddell
An Officer of the AMP

MATSUMOTO (SILVER BULLET) W.C.R. 64 - NEG. NO'S. T1094 T206

" WIRE WHISKERS" - No trace.

" THE BOY BASTARD" - HAMI. Koei. W.C.R. 5.

Neg no's. T150 - T268.
T333 - T334.

HOSHI. ^{Capt.} May be Lt. HOSHI, Hiki,

W.C.R. 31. Neg. no's. T26 and 272.

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

IN THE MATTER of NOTOGAWA PRISONER
OF WAR CAMP OSAKA AREA NO.9.

War Crimes Commission No.....

Reference No.....

I MICHAEL JOHN LEAHY formerly Pte WX9312 of the 2/4th Machine Gun Battalion Australian Imperial Forces but now of Bohemia Hotel Murray Street Perth in the State of Western Australia being duly sworn make oath and say as follows:-

1. ___ I was taken prisoner of war by the Japanese at Singapore in 1942 and was held in various Camps until early in the year of 1945 when I was taken to Notogawa Prisoner of War Camp Osaka Area No.9 and I remained there for approximately three or four months up to the date of my liberation in August 1945.

2. ___ I remember a Japanese civilian named Nakamura who was as far as I remember in charge of a QM store in the said Camp. He was mainly responsible for the issue of clothing. Periodically prisoners of war were taken to the store for the issues of necessary clothing. Nakamura would issue items if he thought fit. He also frequently inspected working parties of prisoners on their return to Camp. It was a common occurrence for him to bash the prisoners and use as an excuse some trivial accusation such as not taking care of clothes.

3. ___ While I remained in the Camp the work of the prisoners consisted of hard labour such as bogging and digging in connection with the reclamation of lakes. At the end of nearly every day's work the prisoners were taken out on parade although they were in an advanced state of exhaustion and made to perform physical training and drill by the guards. The penalty for any small mistake or incapacity on the part of the prisoners was a severe beating. Owing to the state of exhaustion of the prisoners on these parades it was impossible to carry out all

M J Leahy

*Howard A. Soper
a Commissioner*

the orders made by the guards. I myself was often struck by the guards with a bamboo stick or cane rod. Several times I saw Nakamura strike prisoners with a stick. He was apparently permitted by the guards to take part in the general illtreatment of the prisoners which was a feature of every day Camp life.

4. I also remember a prisoner named Melrose who was in the Camp at the time and who was on one of the evening physical training periods after the day's work. His general physical condition was one of weakness at the time and owing to the exhausting nature of our work and the Camp routine he failed to perform the required number of body presses. Nakamura then proceeded to bash Melrose with a bamboo rod very severely. Melrose felt the effects of the beating for some days and I remember noticing the bruises on his legs which remained for some months.

5. I recognize the photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "A" as that of the Japanese Nakamura referred to above.

SWORN by the abovenamed
MICHAEL JOHN LEAHY at
Perth in the said State
of Western Australia
this 2nd day of
July 1947: Before me:

M. J. Leahy

Howard T. Epton

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

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

- and -

IN THE MATTER of NOTOGAWA PRISONER
OF WAR CAMP OSAKA AREA NO.9.

- and -

War Crimes Commission No.....

Reference No.....

A F F I D A V I T

H.F.E. WHITLAM
Commonwealth Crown Solicitor
Atlas Buildings
Esplanade
PERTH.

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of Atrocities
committed at OSAKA Camp No.9,
NOTAGAWA

United Nations War Crimes
Commission Reference

I, Michael John LEAHY of Care of Bohemia Hotel, Murray Street,
Perth, Medical Orderly, make oath and say as follows:

1. I was a member of the 2/4 M.G. Bn. and was taken prisoner
in Singapore in February 1942.

2. My Army number was WX.9312.

3. In 1943 I was moved to Japan and in June 1945 I was moved
to OSAKA Camp No.9, NOTAGAWA, where I remained until the end
of the war.

4. Food. We were given three alleged meals per day, 90% of
which during the whole period I was in the camp consisted of
boiled rice moistened with boiled cucumbers. The quantity of
rice for each meal was the equivalent of a breakfast cupful.
Once per fortnight the meal was varied and we were given a
similar amount of rice, but in lieu of the boiled cucumber we
received approximately 1 oz. of boiled meat and part of the
liquid in which the meat had been boiled.

5. The camp had a fortnightly ration of tea which only lasted
for one week. There was no milk or sugar supplied with the tea.

6. Medicines. I know nothing concerning the medicines which
were supplied as I was never in the R.A.P.

7. Clothing. We were given an issue of clothing consisting
of khaki coat, shirt and trousers. There were no underclothes
or socks. Boots were issued to only a very few Prisoners-of-war
and large numbers of them were compelled to go barefooted during
summer and winter through the lack of boots.

8. Quarters. These consisted of huts made from pine with
bark roof. They were quite airy but when it rained the roofs
leaked very badly.

9. Red Cross parcels. During the three months I was in the
camp I only received a quarter of one parcel. It was common
knowledge that the Japanese had stated that they had a perfect
right to take the Red Cross parcels.

10. Working conditions. The work on which I was engaged was
the building of a causeway across a lake. It consisted of
loading trucks and pushing them along a rail-track and emptying
them into the lake. Work commenced at 7 a.m., continuing until
midday; recommenced at 1 p.m. and finished at 6 p.m. The work
was very dirty and unpleasant as it was necessary to work in
water for considerable periods at a time.

11. Tortures and beatings. For breaches of discipline such as
taking a rest, breaking tools, stealing vegetables or failing to
salute, prisoners were subjected to tortures by the following
methods:

(a) a man would be compelled to hold a bucket of water above his head. He could only do this for approximately 1/2 hour and as soon as he made any attempt to put the bucket down he was thrashed and beaten with bamboos and compelled to keep the bucket of water above his head for a further period. This went on for periods up to three or four hours when a man could no longer stand. At the end of the torture, in some cases, they would collapse.

(b) beatings with bamboos was inflicted for minor breaches of discipline and consisted of four or five Japanese thrashing a prisoner with bamboos. The prisoners stood as long as they could for as soon as they fell to the ground they were attacked by the Japanese with their boots and then compelled to get up and take more beating until such time as they collapsed completely.

(c) On one occasion I was passing the guard tent and saw six or seven Japanese surrounding an English prisoner. One of the Japanese was pushing a bamboo stick up the Englishman's nostrils. He would pull the stick out and push it up again. The Englishman was in front of the guard tent three or four hours and his torture went on periodically until he finally collapsed. I do not know the name of the Englishman nor the name of the Japanese who perpetrated the crime.

12. Once or twice a week we were compelled to run for the last half mile back to the camp from our work, and on reaching the camp would be made to do P.T. for approximately 1/2 hour. This was done for no apparent reason and it was very hard on the prisoners after a hard day's work, and also as they were all suffering from malnutrition.

13. I know HIGASHI JUCHI who was the Camp Interpreter and was well-known to myself and all other prisoners. As he was the interpreter all negotiations had to be carried on through him, and it was the general opinion of all the prisoners in the camp that he did not interpret requests and explanations for breaches of discipline correctly. The result was that whereas other prisoners would on some occasions get additional rations in the way of rice, the Australian prisoners would not receive the ration and it was assumed that this was through the action of HIGASHI. On one occasion HIGASHI asked Australian prisoners to donate their pay to buy a present for the Commandant. They refused and HIGASHI informed us that we would be very sorry. From that time on all the unpleasant and very hard jobs were given to the Australian prisoners.

SWORN by the said Michael John LEAHY
at PERTH in the State of Western
Australia this 23rd day of October 1945

M. J. Leahy

Before me:

[Signature]

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

For breaches of discipline such as taking a rest, breaking tools, stealing vegetables or failing to work, prisoners were subjected to torture by the following methods:

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of Atrocities
committed at OSAKA Camp No.9,
NOTAGAWA

United Nations War Crimes
Commission Reference

AFFIDAVIT OF
MICHAEL JOHN LEAHY

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

I, Leslie Thomas Miley of 34 Repton Road, East Malvern, in the State of Victoria make oath and say:-

1. Prior to discharge I was VX 19410 Pte. MILEY L.T. of 2/2 Pioneer Bn.
2. I was taken prisoner of war on 9 March 1942, at JAVA.
3. In October 42, I was moved to BURMA, thence to THAILAND, in Jan 44, thence to SAIGON in INDO-CHINA in April 44.
4. In Jan 45, I was moved to FUKUOKA CAMP No. 22.
5. Lieut. YAMADO KONZO was Camp Commandant at FUKUOKA Camp No. 22, from Apr - June 45. YAMADO was about 5 feet 6 inches in height and weighed about 10 stone.
6. YAMADO was directly responsible for many beatings and, although I did not witness him ill treat Prisoners of War, he definitely knew that his guards were mistreating Prisoners of War.
7. YAMADO, with sword drawn, often threatened to kill those who were incapable of working.
8. He was responsible for the short supply of Red Cross Parcels.
9. At one time, he removed from ^{the} ~~N~~ Camp, approximately 130 Red Cross parcels and took them to his home. His home was near the camp.
10. He was the cause of the low morale in the camp by his beast like nature, forcing us to work long hours in the coal mine on very reduced rations.
11. He made many promises which were never carried out.
12. Sgt. IRIO YOSHIAKI was known as Sgt. IDEO and the "IDIOT SGT"
13. He was 21/c of FUKUOKA CAMP during the period Jan - June 45.
14. He carried out the orders of Lt. YAMADO and at the same time, he made his own orders, which were unbearable.
15. Sgt. IDEO was responsible for many beatings, cutting down of rations, withholding cigarette and Red Cross supplies.
16. His presence in the camp brought fear and hatred to PW. The Japanese guards also feared him.
17. I personally witnessed Sgt. IDEO carry out many beatings.
18. I witnessed Sgt. IDEO beat. VX 21631 Cpl JOHNSTONE G.L.
19. For approximately 10 days, Cpl JOHNSTONE was placed in the guard tent without food.
20. During that period he received beatings every day with bamboo rods, on and around the head, and on many occasions Cpl. JOHNSTONE collapsed on account of this treatment.
21. On other occasions when Cpl. JOHNSTONE was in solitary confinement on NO rations, he was forced to work down the mine, during which time he received beatings and was bodily ill treated.

R.S.M.

22. Sgt. IDEO was responsible for sending sick and injured to work and threatening with beatings, if the work was not carried out.

23. He was very arrogant and received much delight in bashing and ill treating prisoners of war. Bashings under him were a daily occurrence.

24. Medical supplies were stored and withheld from us. I suffered from tropical ulcers, but was unable to get much treatment and I was forced to work with sore and swollen legs.

25. BERRI-BERRI was very bad, but Vitamin Tablets were not given to us.

26. There was an abundance of medical supplies, and if issued in the proper manner, the deaths and sick rate would almost have been negligible.

27. The Japanese FUGITA and SATO of FUKUOKA CAMP No. 22 were in charge of labour gangs working in the mines.

28. I received many bashings and kicking whilst working in the mine, for no apparent reason, from these Japanese.

29. FUGITA and SATO received much delight in ill-treating and bashing us whilst working in the mine.

Sworn at Melbourne in the State of
Victoria this 6th day of August, 1946.

R. Miley

Before me,

R. S. Hetch

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

I, Leslie Thomas Miley, of 34 Repton Road, East Malvern, in the State of Victoria, make oath and say:-

1. I refer to my previous affidavit sworn on the 6 th day of August 1946.

2. The photographs endorsed "A" and "B" produced, and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit, I identify as those of YAMADA Konza, referred to in para 5 of my said previous affidavit, as Lt. YAMADO Konza.

Sworn at Melbourne in the State of Victoria this 11 day of September 1946.

L. Miley

Before me,

R. S. Hitch

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

I, Leslie Thomas MILEY of 34 Repton Road, East Malvern, in the State of Victoria, make oath and say:-

1. I refer to my previous affidavit made on 6 August 1946.

2. The photographs endorsed "A" & "B", produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this, my affidavit, I identify as those of IRIO Yoshiaki, referred to, in para 12 of my said previous affidavit, as Sgt. IRIO, Sgt. IDEO and the IDIOT SGT.

R.S.H.
U.S. Sworn at Melbourne in the State of Victoria the 2 day of ~~August~~ September 1946.

Before me,

R.S.Hitch

L.Miley

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

C 1/3. 53

Place Washington, D. C.
Date 19 December 1945
Case No. MEW d547-WCI

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: WAR CRIMES

Re: Interview with Major Edward G. Millar, AC, ASN O-742507, who was reported to have information pertaining to War Crimes.

On 18 December 1945, Major Edward G. Millar, AC, ASN O-742507, was interviewed at CAF Statistical Control Division, Personnel Section, Room 149, Building P-626, Bolling Field, D. C., by Special Agent Lloyd E. Gluck, SIC, MEW, and stated in substance:

When I was taken to Outram Gaol on 7 March 1945, an interpreter dressed in Japanese Army clothing devoid of any insignia other than five stars in the form of a comet and tail over his breast pocket, interrogated me. When asked the name of my group commander during the 2 March 1945 raid over Singapore, I answered, "Colonel Faulkner." The interpreter immediately informed me that Colonel Faulkner was dead and could not have been the raid commander. As a matter of fact, no one at our base knew what had become of Colonel Faulkner, who had been missing since the time that he led a raid on Singapore on 5 November 1944. It had been believed that his plane had been lost en route to the target. I later learned from unidentified British prisoners of war at Outram Gaol that they had been on work details around Singapore on the morning of 5 November 1944 and saw one of the lead B-29s hit by anti-aircraft fire and drop into Jahore Straits. They did not know what had happened to the crew. Faulkner's plane carried 11 men and was the only one which failed to return from this mission.

About 1 April 1945, 10 men were brought to our cell block from downstairs. These men had previously been confined on the lower level and I had heard unidentified voices talking from that tier. They were talking about evading capture and some member of the group stated, "We evaded them for three months." When brought to our cell block, the men were placed two in a cell. I was only able to observe their legs and occasionally get a glimpse of their faces through a peep-hole as they passed my cell daily, stripped, on their way to the bath. On or about 15 June 1945, one man per day was removed in order to receive a hair cut and have his beard clipped. The men were then confined in the cells for about 10 more days. Toward the end of July, the entire group was taken

*M D W list: EE 0/ sub 1-3-46
2000-5 copies
file - 1 copy*

(MEMO _____)

(Signed) Lloyd E. Gluck
(Name typed) Lloyd E. Gluck
Special Agent, SIC

RESTRICTED
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR CRIMES
MDW d547-WCI

(Page 2)

out of the jail one afternoon at about 1400 and returned the same day at about 2000. The following day, the group left the cells carrying their blankets and pillows. They never returned.

After my liberation, I talked to an unidentified British prisoner of war and he informed me that these ten men, whom he believed to be Americans (and he had been told they were Americans by a Korean guard), had been taken to an adjacent cell block where they had been given extra rations. The Korean guard further informed the British prisoner of war that the men had been beheaded. The Korean had witnessed the execution but had become ill because it had taken several strokes of the sword to behead one of the men. The victims were buried at Buka Tima (phonetic) Shrine which is a memorial shrine to the Japanese soldiers killed in the Malayan campaign and which is located about 25 miles from the Outram Road Gaol.

I heard the harangue of Major Kobayashi, the camp commandant, which was delivered around 1 July 1945 at the prison but could not understand its contents.

I am unable to identify the ten men involved in this incident because when I attempted to speak to them, there was no answer. This was not unusual because we were all in solitary confinement and attempts to communicate were severely punished by the Japanese. Inasmuch as these men were stripped when they passed me, I could not identify them by uniform. The structure of the cells was such that it was impossible to get a good view of their faces. However, it is possible that these men were members of the missing Faulkner crew.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ **RESTRICTED**

Shooting of 10 first American Feb. 4.5.
Crime Reg. No 38.

LIAISON DETACHMENT
HEADQUARTERS USF IBT
WAR CRIMES INVESTIGATION DIVISION

Singapore, Malaya
23 January 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: Allied War Crimes Registry, Singapore

SUBJECT : Transmittal of Statement of Major Edward G. MILLAR

1. Inclosed herewith are two copies of report of interview with Major Edward G. MILLAR, at Washington, D. C., 19 December 1945, forwarded to this office by our Headquarters at New Delhi, India.

2. The interview pertains to the alleged murder of ten aircrew members at Outram Road Prison, Singapore, formerly listed under IBT Suspect List Cases 103-109. Subsequent investigation disclosed that the victims were Australians, and the cases have been eliminated from our lists.

3. It is requested that these copies of report of interview be passed on to the Australian War Crimes Section.

JOHN E. MURRAY
Lt. Col., CMP
Director

Incl 1:

- 1 - Report of Interview with
Major Edward G. MILLAR
(In duplicate)

FOR REGISTRY

By: NX76511 Capt Millard P.T. A.A.M.C. 8 Div A.I.F.
C/- Bank of New South Wales George St. Sydney N.S.W.

Date and Place: Phetburi Camp Thailand.
February 45 to September 45

Particulars: Housing and food were reasonably good. Medical supplies were very scanty. Prisoners comprised about one third transferred direct here from hospital. No medical supplies were allowed to come with the parties; drugs in possession of individual medical officers were removed in a search before setting out. The usual reason was given, that all supplies would be available at our destination. In fact, no Medical supplies were made available for several weeks. Thereafter they were very scanty. Malaria was very prevalent, mostly relapses and only a small amount of quinine Hydrochloride smuggled into the camp saved the lives of several cases of cerebral Malaria. In spite of this, the health of the troops improved here. A ridiculously large amount of transfusion apparatus appeared in this camp in July '45. It appeared to have been in storage since the arrival of Red cross supplies in June 1944.

Witnesses: Capt. H. DeWardner R.A.M.C.
Capt. D. Gotla R.A.M.C.
Capt. C. Anderson A.A.M.C. A.I.F.

Responsible: Group M.O. responsible for sending this party away with no medical supplies. Lieut. NOBISHAWA I.J.A.

Signed.

P.T. MILLARD
Capt A.A.M.C.

Q FORM

File No

Statement No

70

By: NX76511 Capt Millard P.T. A.A.M.C. 8 Div A.I.F.
C/- Bank of New South Wales George St. Sydney N.S.W.

Date and Place: Hindarto Camp 201 kilo. Thailand
Oct. 44 to Jan. 45

Particulars: Housing and working conditions were quite good and U.S. Red Cross supplies were still available. However, malaria (ST type) was very prevalent and quinine almost unobtainable. 98% of the camp suffered from attacks during this period. Cerebral malaria and blackwater fever occurred in large numbers. For most of the time, the treatment was 15 grains per day for three to four days. As can be expected many men suffered from weekly relapses. This party was in quite bad shape with anaemia and debility when evacuated the camp. Food was very poor here.

Witnesses: Major H.G. Greiner - A.I.F.
Lt Col. V. Mapey Cambridge Rgt.
Capt. H. DeWardner R.A.M.C.

Responsible:

Signed: P.T. MILLARD
Capt A.A.M.C.

Q FORM

File No:

Statement No: 20

By: NX76511 Capt Millard P.T. A.A.M.C. 8 Div A.I.F.
C/-Bank of New South Wales George St Sydney N.S.W.

Date and Place: Conquta Camp 246 kilo Thialand.
July - Oct. 1944

Particulars: Conditions here were very good indeed; houses and food were satisfactory and American Red Cross supplies arrived here.

Responsible:

Signed: P.T. MILLARD
Capt. AAMC

Q FORM

File No:

Statement No: 70

By: NX76511 Capt Millard P.T. A.A.M.C. 8 DIV A.I.F.
C/- Bank of New South Wales George St Sydney N.S.W. Aust

Date and Place: July '43 - July '44
Tarsao Hospital Thailand.

Particulars: Conditions were exceedingly bad, chiefly owing to lack of medical supplies. At one time there were 500 cases of extremely bad tropical ulcers and no dressings were available except torn up clothing or mosquito nets. Refer to Lt. Col. Dunlop AAMC. After evacuation of the majority of this camp in May '44, the conditions were excellent.

Responsible: Group M.C. responsible for medical supplies
Lieut. NOBISAWA I.J.A.

Signed P.T. Millard
Capt AAMC.

Witnesses: Lt. Col. Dunlop A.A.M.C. A.I.F.

By: NX76511 Capt Millard P.T. A.A.M.C. 8 DIV A.I.F.
C/- Bank of New South Wales George St. Sydney N.S.W. Aust

Date and Place: Konyu No2 Camp May - July 1943

Thailand

Particulars: Conditions

Included in this report is copy of a letter sent by me to Camp Commander at Konyu main Camp in June '43. I gives an indication of the conditions prevailing then. (This letter produced no acknowledgement.) Until the Camp was evacuated in mid July conditions grew worse, mainly because the weather worsened and cholera appeared. The cholera was anticipated and provision was made in the form of two tents which leaked badly, they were pitched in the thick jungle a quarter mile from camp. The men lay on the ground or on bamboo slats and it was impossible to keep the men dry or dry their blankets as the rain was incessant. No treatment was available beyond salt and water, and we were not able to get materials or labour to construct a still as was done in other Camps to provide distilled water for intravenous saline injections. Many men after recovering from the acute cholera died of uraemia which might have been prevented by intravenous treatment. The mental conditions induced by dirt, depression, and squalor contributed to the death of several men. The I.J.A. authorities were unable to supply more than a very small amount of disinfectant and no proper preventative measures could be organised. Drinking water was boiled, but utensils and fuel was not available for sterilization of eating gear. On two occasions, several hundreds of coolies were camped for the night within twenty yards of the cookhouse and the sleeping huts and within thirty yards of the jungle stream which was the source of drinking and washing water. These coolies had travelled from the south through other camps where cholera had broken out. Out on the railway our men worked side by side with the native coolies who were responsible for the whole area being thoroughly fouled. Dead coolies were frequently seen between the camp and the job, in the jungle. The universal wetness ensured that mud from the latrines and other contaminated areas was carried into tents and on to blankets. No medical supplies beyond quinine were issued by the Japanese during our stay here and we eked out stores which had been carried up from Tarsac on our march up. The only treatment for most cases of dysentery was charcoal made from burnt rice. The camp was evacuated on 4 July '43 to lower Konyu where the sick men awaited evacuation. Conditions here were slightly better as purchase of fruit and eggs was possible. Overcrowding was extreme and nursing facilities scanty. Bedpans were made from bamboo, but nursing of cholera patients still presented extreme difficulty. Cholera cases from Konyu 2 and 3 Camps were carried down to this Camp on improvised bamboo litters. The way lay down a precipitous mountain track and two cholera patients died from falling off their stretchers. Evacuation from lower Konyu was by barge to Tarsac (4 to 5 hours) and patients remained here or went on to base camps by goods van (at least 12 hours). The barges were packed very tightly and it was not possible to provide any nursing facilities for Dysentery cases en route. Acts of physical brutalities were not frequent in the camp being chiefly confined to slappings on the face and being stood to attention. I myself was only beaten once by Japanese Private because party of sick men were not standing properly to attention.

Particulars (cont)

Copy of letter:
to IJA commander,
Konyu.

Konyu No 2 ^Camp
June 12 1943

Sir,

I am forced to bring to your notice the present state of P.O.W.s in this Camp. A critical situation is arising and I fear that a general breakdown in the health of the men is imminent.

The facts are as follows:

- 1 General: The hours of work have been very greatly increased. The men leave camp at first light (8.30 a.m.) and are not back before 8 p.m. On one occasion, a party of sick men worked with them until this late hour. There has been no rest day for 16 days.
2. The men are, I am afraid, being starved. The ration today is rice and six peanuts for breakfast, rice and twelve white bait for lunch, half an ounce of meat and three oz. of vegetable in the evening. The total rice for the day is 19 oz. This is for 12 to 15 hours work.
3. Malaria is very prevalent and some degree of dysentery is almost universal. One quarter of the men show signs of beri beri and this is increasing every day. The effect of these ~~and other~~ illnesses is that these sick men cannot eat such rations as provided, especially the breakfast and many of them vomit on the way to work. The mid-day meal is cold when received.
4. The men get wet in the morning and remain wet all day. Many have to sleep in wet clothes; many have no shirts. Many have no boots, and all, through having to march and work in deep mud are developing septic feet.
5. Those who are set aside as too sick to work on the railway, receive reduced rations and still get no rest. Today 40 sick men are being sent to Konyu No.1 (2½ miles) to carry rice, and the remainder have to carry bamboo in camp. Men suffering from malaria frequently with temperature of 104 (40.6) are being sent out to work daily. Sick men who work till late at night are too weary to get medical treatment on their return to camp. Quinine is available in only very small amounts, the amount allowed is ½ gram. per man. The health of the men in the past week shows an alarming failure due to extreme fatigue, long hours of work, exposure to weather and starvation, and the effect of malaria and dysentery. A situation of the very greatest seriousness has developed and I beg that you will intervene to avert a serious calamity.

Responsible: Group Commander Col. Ishi I.J.A. Group M.O. Lieut. Morooka
I.J.A. Group 4 H.Q. Tarsao
Cpl Kikimoto I.J.A. In charge of Konyu 2 Camp

Signed PT. Millard
Capt AAMC

Witnessed: P.W.BN COMMANDERS: Major G Schneider A.I.F
Major J. Marsh R.A.S.C.
Major Lyne F.M.S.V.F.

Karu
Tarsao

160

On this 8th day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty-six Philip Thomas MILLARD of 6 Beaconfield Parade, Linfield in the State of New South Wales, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX76511 Capt P.T. MILLARD RANMC attached 8 Div I was MO at KONYU No.2 Camp THAILAND from May to July 1943. There were from 600 to 800 prisoners in this camp which comprised a portion of the Group 4 (Thailand) Force. This group was under the command of Jap Lt-Col ICHI with his HQ at TARSAO Camp. The Jap MO for Group 4 was Lt. MORUOKA who also lived at TARSAO Camp. The Jap in charge of Konyu No.2 Camp was Col KIKIMOTO and this camp was a subsidiary of the main camp at ~~THAILAND~~. KONYU.

2. Until we evacuated Konyu No.2 Camp in Mid-July 43, conditions grew worse, mainly because the weather was becoming worse and cholera appeared. Cholera was anticipated and provision made in the form of two tents which leaked badly. They were pitched in the thick jungle one quarter mile from the camp. The men lay on the ground or on bamboo slats and it was impossible to keep them dry or to dry their blankets as the rain was incessant. No treatment was available beyond salt and water and we were unable to get materials or labor to construct a still as was done in other camps to provide distilled water for intravenous saline injections. Many men, after recovering from acute cholera died of uraemia which might have been prevented by intravenous treatment. The mental conditions produced by dirt, depression and squalor contributed to the death of several men. Kikimoto was unable to supply more than a very small amount of disinfectant and no proper preventative measures could be taken. Drinking water was boiled but utensils and fuel were not available for sterilisation of eating gear. On two occasions several hundred coolies were camped for the night within twenty yards of the cook house and the sleeping huts and within thirty yards of the jungle stream which was the source of drinking and washing water. These coolies had travelled from the South through other camps where cholera had broken out. On the railway our men worked side by side with the native coolies who were responsible for the whole area being thoroughly fouled. Dead coolies were frequently seen between the camp and the job in the jungle. The universal wetness ensured that mud from the latrines and other contaminated areas was

P. Millard.
Philip Thomas

carried into the tents and on to blankets. No medical supplies beyond quinine were issued by the Japs during our stay at Konyu No.2 Camp and we eked out stores which had been carried up from Tarsao on our march up. The only treatment for most cases of dysentery was charcoal made from burnt rice.

3. Attached hereto and marked with the letter "A" is copy of a letter sent by me to the Camp Commandant at Konyu Main Camp in Jun 43. It gives an indication of the conditions prevailing at that time. The letter was handed by me to Mikimoto at Konyu No.2 Camp to be passed to the Jap commandant at Konyu Main Camp. The letter did not produce any improvement in the living conditions of the camp. Although Ichi was Group Commander neither he nor the MO, Moruoka, made any inspection of the conditions in Konyu No.2 Camp during our stay there.

4. Konyu No.2 Camp was evacuated on 4 Jul 43 and we moved to Lower Konyu Camp where the sick men awaited evacuation. Conditions here were slightly better as purchase of fruit and eggs was possible. Overcrowding, however, was extreme and nursing facilities scanty. Bed pans were made from Bamboo but nursing of cholera patients still presented extreme difficulty. Cholera cases from Konyu No.2 and 3 Camps were carried to this camp on improvised bamboo litters. The route lay down a precipitous mountain track and two of the bed patients died as a result of falling from their stretchers. Evacuation from Lower Konyu Camp to the main camp at Tarsao was by barge and occupied approximately four to five hours. The barges were packed very tightly and it was not possible to provide any nursing facilities for dysentery cases en route.

5. From Jul 43 to Jul 44 I was stationed at the main TARSAO Hospital. Conditions were exceedingly bad, chiefly owing to the lack of medical supplies. At one time there were 500 cases of extremely bad tropical ulcers and no dressings were available except torn up clothing or mosquito nets. The Jap MO at Tarsao Camp during this period was the aforementioned MORUOKA. Despite frequent representations for improved conditions he showed a complete disregard for the health of the patients. During this period the aforementioned Lt-Col ICHI was also Camp Commandant at Tarsao.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent
 P. Hilip }
 Thant } Millard
 at Sydney this 8th day of
 March One thousand nine hundred
 and forty-six.

Millard

LA for JP

BEFORE ME

A Justice of the Peace.

This is the annexure marked "A" referred to in the annexed affidavit of P. Hillet T. Lawton Millard sworn at Sydney this 8th day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty-six.

L.H. for M

BEFORE ME

A Justice of the Peace

"A"

Copy of letter:

To I.J.A. Commander,
Konyu.

Konyu No.2 Camp
June 12 '43

Sir,

I am forced to bring to your notice the present state of POWs in this Camp. A critical situation is arising and I fear that a general breakdown in the health of the men is imminent. The facts are as follows:-

1. General: The hours of work have been very greatly increased. The men leave camp at first light (8.30 am) and are not back before 8 pm. In the case of one party they have for four nights in succession returned to Camp after 11 pm. On one occasion, a party of sick men worked with them until this late hour. There has been no rest day for 16 days.
2. The men are, I am afraid, being starved. The ration to-day is rice and six peanuts for breakfast, rice and twelve white bait for lunch, half an ounce of meat and three oz. of vegetables in the evening. The total rice for the day is 19 oz. This is for 12 to 15 hours work.
3. Malaria is very prevalent and some degree of dysentery is almost universal. One quarter of the men show signs of beriberi and this is increasing every day. The effect of these illnesses is that these sick men cannot eat such rations as provided, especially the breakfast and many of them vomit on the way to work. The midday meal is cold when received.
4. The men get wet in the morning and remain wet all day. Many have to sleep in wet clothes; many have no shirts. Many have no boots and all, through having to march and work in deep mud are developing septic feet.
5. Those who are set aside as too sick to work on the railway, receive reduced rations and still get no rest. To-day 40 sick men are being sent to Konyu No.1 (2½ miles) to carry rice, and the remainder have to carry bamboo in camp. Men suffering from malaria frequently with temperature of 104 (40.6) are being sent out to work daily. Sick men who work till late at night are too weary to get medical treatment on their return to camp. Quinine is available in only very small amounts, the amount allowed is ½ gram per man. The health of the men in the past week shows an alarming failure due to extreme fatigue, long hours of work, exposure to weather and starvation, and the effect of malaria and dysentery. A situation of the very greatest seriousness has developed and I beg that you will intervene to avert a serious calamity.

(Signed) P.T. MILLARD A.A.M.C.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE



Forward to 1st Aust War Amies
A/c (SERV)

Attached to affidavit
of Capt. P. T. MILLARD.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
IF NOT DELIVERED WITHIN 7 DAYS RETURN TO

.....

.....



T. 309.

S.M. C54
OKADA SEIICHI
BANGKOK 25 FEB .46

A black and white mugshot of a man in profile, facing left. He has short, dark hair and a mustache. He is wearing a light-colored, short-sleeved collared shirt. Behind him is a height chart with markings at 5.0 and 5.4. He is holding a dark rectangular sign in front of his chest with both hands. The sign has white text written on it. The text on the sign is arranged in three lines: 'S.M. C54' on the top line, 'OKADA SEIICHI' on the middle line, and 'BANGKOK 25 FEB .46' on the bottom line. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

This is the photograph
numbered T.308 referred
to in affidavit sworn by
Philip Thornton MILLARD
at Wagga this fourth
day of July, one thous-
and nine hundred and
forty six. *Millard*
BEFORE ME:
A Justice of the Peace.

John ...
6-2-46

T34



T. 34.

This is the photograph
numbered T.34 referred to
in affidavit sworn by ²
Philip Thornton MILLARD
at WAGGA this fourth day
of July, One thousand nine
hundred and forty-six

BEFORE ME:

M. Millard

A Justice of the Peace.

She [unclear]

E4 3
11. 7. 46

T 302



T. 302

This is the photograph
numbered T.302 referred to
in affidavit sworn by
Philip Thornton MILLARD
at WAGGA this fourth day
of July, One thousand nine
hundred and forty - six.

BEFORE ME: *Millard*
A Justice of the Peace.

W. H. ... P
10-7-46

Ann C 7/14 8452
Ann C 7/10, 11, 14, 24, 25, 26, 18, 23, 16, 23,
C 7/14 9, 17, 11, 29, 27, 05/4
C 7/27, 7/8 06/25

2. Philip
"On this fourth day of July, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Philip Thornton MILLARD, of 69 Bayliss Street, WAGGA in the State of New South Wales, Doctor, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. I NX.76511 Captain MILLARD, Philip Thornton, A.A.M.C. 8th Division Reinforcements, A.I.F. was taken Prisoner on 15 February, 1942.
2. I was taken Prisoner at SINGAPORE in February 1942 and was transferred to THAILAND in March, 1943. I did NOT arrive at KANU Camp until 25 April 1943 and therefore did NOT witness or have any knowledge of the bashing of P.W. by Sgt. OKIDA and the forcing of sick P.W. to work at KANU Camp in February 1943.
3. Sgt. OKIDA is NOT known to me, and the Japanese whose photograph number T.309 cannot be identified with any Japanese whom I saw or contacted during the period that I was a prisoner at KANU Camp.
4. The photographs numbered T.34 and T.302 have been studied by me and I identify Col. ICHI as being the Japanese whose photograph is numbered T.34 attached hereto. Also I identify Lieut. MORUOKA as being the Japanese whose photograph is numbered T.302 attached hereto.

2. Philip
"SWORN by the abovenamed deponent
Philip Thornton MILLARD, at WAGGA WAGGA
on the fourth day of July, One thousand
nine hundred and forty-six.) P. Millard.

BEFORE ME: *John ...*
4-7-46

1. Alexander Duncan Hart Miller, of Millicent, in the State of South Australia, make oath and state as follows:

- Para 1. That I was formerly VX58872 Pte ^{John} A D H Miller, of 13 Aust General Hospital, and was taken Prisoner-of-War by the Japanese in Singapore on the 13th day of February, 1942.
2. That after a fortnight in Singapore I was sent to Selarang Camp and I remained there until the 24th April, 1943. From there I went by rail to Bang Pok and then marched from there to Kami Sonkurai, No 3 Camp, Thailand. I arrived there in May, 1943, and remained there until the beginning of December, 1943. At this stage I was transferred for ten days to Kamhuri, and then back to Singapore for a further ~~twelve~~ ^{four} six months at Selarang. In June, 1944, I was transferred ^{to} Changi and remained there until July, 1945. Then I was transferred to Johore "p" Party, from where I was released in August, 1945.
3. That I look at photographs marked S330 and I identify them as being photographs of an Oriental who was at No 3 Camp, Kami Sonkurai, from August to December, 1943. This man was known to us by the name Toyama; he took considerable part in the running of the camp, although he wore no badges of rank.
4. That Toyama was a particularly brutal man who had a persistent hatred of Europeans. He customarily carried a golf stick, steel-handled, which he used to administer severe beatings to prisoners on little or no excuse. He would make his attacks spasmodically rather than continuously; that is, he would beat some four or five prisoners on the one afternoon without apparent reason and then perhaps a week would pass before his next outburst. He had a habit of visiting the Hospital whenever numbers in working parties were considered insufficient, without regard for the condition or the illness of prisoners, he would detail a number he considered necessary for work and these men would be ordered from their beds and forced to join the working parties. He took this action approximately twenty times between August and November, 1943, and the number of sick men involved varied from twenty to fifty. The majority of the sick men forced to work suffered either from unhealed tropic ulcers, or were convalescents not yet recovered from cholera or amoebic dysentery. These men would be expected to work the normal shift from 0630 hrs in the morning until about 1830 hrs at night, and they were employed on heavy labouring work, **The** whole twelve hours except for half an hour for lunch. These men would generally not last more than four days working under these conditions. By about the fifth day they would be physically unable to get out of their beds and the majority would soon die. I estimate that upwards of 100 men died in No 3 Camp, Kami Sonkurai between the months of August and November, 1943, as a direct result of being forced to work by Toyama while they were hospitalized.
5. That from the middle of October to the end of November, 1943, I was working in the medical store. For the first three weeks I served under Lt. Burke, E/26 Bn, who was a chemist. He became ill and for the last three weeks I ran the store on my own. When I went into the store our supplies were chiefly drugs of a type which were of no practical use.- the Japanese seemed to pass on to us only those supplies which they themselves could not use. We were always short of anaesthetics, bandages, gauze, atefrin, and until late in November, 1943, of vitamin pills. We had a microscope, but this could not be used to test for malaria, as the Japanese refused to issue to us stain for slides. Supplies of this were available because in the last days of November, 1943, the Japanese suddenly required us to test everybody in the camp, Japanese and prisoners, for malaria, and they produced sufficient stain for testing three times the number of personnel.
6. That I know the facts deposed to herein of my own knowledge, except where otherwise appears.

SWORN BEFORE ME AT ADELAIDE, 30th DAY OF MAY 1946

H. A. Evans
Justice of the Peace

A. D. H. Miller