



Australian War Memorial

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A.W.A. 112/1/2

OPEN

## Statements By -

- NX 35510. Pte. G. Hugh.
160720. Lieut. R. G. Humble.
- WX 10931. Genl. S. L. Hummerston  
Lt Col
- VX 48079. G. P. Hunt.
- NX 46878. Pte. A. S. Hunt.
- WX 11177. Maj. A. Hunt.
402088. W/O. G. P. Hurst.
- NX 33288. Lt/Sgt. G. S. Hussey.
- WX 7332. Cpl. W. W. Hutchinson.
- VX 46415. Pte. G. F. Hutchinson.
- SX 11010. Pte. G. W. Hutton.
- QX 10205. Pte. H. J. Hyde.
- QX 21087. Pte. A. Hynd.
- NX 48018. Sig. M. J. Hyndes.

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Enclosures to 2 A.W.C.S.



171 - 171 A

173 - 173 A

175 - 175 A

170

172 - 172 A

George Formby

"Horseface"

"Gentleman Jim"

"Betty Boop"

"The Smiler"

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

IF NOT DELIVERED WITHIN 7 DAYS, RETURN TO

171



This is the photograph numbered 171  
produced and shown to Arthur Hugh  
at the time of swearing his affidavit  
this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August One  
thousand nine hundred and forty  
eight.

BEFORE ME

*Jane R. Yalcom J.P.*  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

172



This is the photograph numbered 172  
produced and shown to Arhtur Hugh  
at the time of swearing his affad-  
avit this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August One  
Thousand Nine Hundred and Porty  
Eight.

BEFORE ME

*James R. Malcom JI*  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

175





This is the photograph numbered  
175 produced and shown to Arthur  
Hugh at the time of swearing his  
affadavit this 26<sup>th</sup> day of  
August One thousand Nine hundred  
and forty eight.

BEFORE ME

*James K. Malone J.P.*  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

172A



This is the photograph numbered  
172A produced and shown to Arthur  
Hugh at the time of swearing his  
affadavit this 26<sup>th</sup> day of  
August One thousand Nine hundred  
and forty eight.

BEFORE ME

*John K. Malone*

A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

170



This is the photograph numbered 170  
produced and shown to Arthur Hugh  
at the time of swearing his affad-  
avit this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August One  
thousand Nine hundred and forty  
eight.

BEFORE ME

*James Malone J.P.*  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

175A



This is the photograph numbered 175A  
produced and shown to Arthur Hugh  
at the time of swearing his affidavit  
this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August One  
thousand Nine hundred and forty eight.

BEFORE ME

*James H. Falcone JH*  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

173A





This is the photograph  
numbered 173A produced and  
shown to Arthur Hugh at the  
time of swearing his affidavit  
this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August  
One thousand nine hundred  
and forty eight.

BEFORE ME

*James H. Gallows J.P.*

A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

173



This is the photograph  
numbered 173 produced and  
shown to Arthur Hugh at the  
time of swearing his affidavit  
this 26<sup>th</sup> day of  
August One thousand nine  
hundred and forty eight.

BEFORE ME *James Wallace JP*  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

171A



This is the photograph numbered 171A  
produced and shown to Arthur Hugh  
at the time of swearing his affidavit  
it this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August One  
thousand nine hundred and forty eight

BEFORE ME

*James Malcomson J.P.*  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, One thousand nine hundred and forty eight, Arthur HUGH of 21 Webb Street, Croydon, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales, engineer, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX35510 Pte Arthur HUGH of 2/19 Bn, 8 Div, A.I.F. I was taken prisoner at SINGAPORE on 15 Feb 1942 and sent to CHANGI prison camp.
2. In May 1943 I was sent to KOBE where I arrived early in June 1943.
3. On about 7 June 1945 I was transferred to KAWASAKI camp as KOBE was being bombed.
4. At KAWASAKI I was lined up in a parade and compelled to look at a horrible bashing being given to two other POW's named SHIRRIFF and STRINGER. These two were placed in front of the parade and flogged in a very brutal manner with bamboo sticks, and hit with stones. They were also punched and kicked unmercifully. The bashing was so inhumane that WO ROGERSON fainted and a couple of others in the parade also collapsed.
5. After the bashing which was done by about a dozen Japanese who all seemed as if they wanted to be in it SHIRRIFF and STRINGER each had his hands tied together behind his back with wire and rope and the rope was hung over the limb of a tree and the two chaps were pulled up so that their feet were just off the ground. In this position they were still subject to indiscriminate flogging by members of the Jap guard.
6. Amongst photographs now produced and shown to me I recognize the following Japanese who took part in this brutal affair. I knew them by the following nicknames:-

HORSEFACE who is shown in photographs Nos. 173 and 173A  
GEORGE FORMBY who is shown in photographs Nos. 171 and 171A  
GENTLEMAN JIM who is shown in photographs Nos. 175 and 175A  
BETTY BOOP who is shown in photograph Nos. 170.  
THE SMILER who is shown in photograph Nos. 172 and 172A\*

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent  
Arthur HUGH at Sydney, this  
day of August, One thousand  
nine hundred and forty eight.  
BEFORE ME ... *James W. Halliday J.P.* )  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

*A. Hugh*



This is Exhibit "A" referred  
to in the affidavit of Lieut D.G.  
Stamper R.A.F.C. sworn before  
me on January 15<sup>th</sup> 1946 at  
6 Spring Gardens, Westminster, London

Richard Bradwardine  
Major Royal  
Staff.

for  
Military Deputy  
JAG Office.

Jc 178



AME/GK.

IN THAT MATTER OF JAPANESE WAR CRIMES  
AT ORIO CAM KYUSHU, JAPAN FROM 7 JUNE  
1943 UNTIL AUGUST 15, 1945.

A F F I D A V I T

I, No. 160720 Lieutenant DEREK GEORGE HEMBER, R.A.O.C. with permanent home address at 7 Kinross Avenue, Worcester Park, Surrey, make oath and say as follows :-

1. After the capitulation of SINGAPORE ISLAND in February 1942 I was imprisoned with the rest of the British prisoners of war in CHANGI camp. I stayed there until May 1943 when a draft of British prisoners of war were sent to Japan to work in the coal mines in NORTH KYUSHU. We arrived at MUGI on the 7 June 1943 and were split into 3 parties; I was placed in charge of one party with Captain KALHENSEY, R.A.M.C. as Medical Officer. Our party consisted of 150 in all; 100 of which were British and 50 Australians. We were the sick party, that is the men who were physically unfit, when they left CHANGI for Japan and the men that had been ill on board. We entrained at MUGI and went 25 miles south to ORIO and then marched 5 miles to a small mining village called KAKOISIMA.
2. There were other prisoner of war camps on KYUSHU, I think 17 in all. Each camp was numbered, but the numbers were frequently changed and it is not easy for me to say exactly how many camps there were. ORIO camp had its number changed 3 times. First of all it was PW camp No 9, then No. 12 and then No. 6. When we arrived at this camp there were already 300 Dutchmen there. Later on in June 1944 another 300 Dutchmen arrived and in June 1945, 136 Americans and another 164 Dutchmen came in, bringing the strength of the camp up to 1065. Each time the numbers were increased further barracks were taken over and the camp enlarged.
3. When we arrived Lieutenant SAKI was the camp commandant. He remained so until August 10, 1943 when Lieutenant SUMATSU took over from him. Under SAKI was a Serjeant Major named IWANUMA. He was very hard to get on with, but was later replaced by a man named MINAGI.
4. Accommodation was not too bad. There were 74 men and one officer to each barrack ~~room~~. Japanese straw mats were provided for sleeping on and 4 fibre blankets were supplied to each man.
5. Work. The men were forced to work in the local coal mines; working in three shifts, each shift was sub-divided into smaller groups. Each of these smaller groups being in charge of a Japanese miner. These men were usually very brutal and worked the prisoners of war very hard, beating them if they did not work hard enough. I instructed the men to report each incident to me, then a written report was made out and I interviewed the Japanese Commandant. In some cases nothing was done as the Japanese ward was always taken against mine but in some cases when bruises or cuts could be shown the Japanese miner concerned was given a talking to.
6. Food. The first 6 months the basic ration was 480 grams of rice, 240 grams of bread. Soup for the morning and evening meal consisted of Turnip boiled in water with a little soya sauce, once or twice a week meat or fish was added. A small quantity of fried fish being provided for the midday meal. Later the rations decreased and the non-workers received smaller allowances. In 1945 the miners were receiving 420 grams of rice, 200 grams of bread, 2 bowls of very thin soup and no soya sauce. Fish or meat once a month. Workers not down the mine received 170 grams of bread, and 400 grams of rice and the same sort of soup as the miners. Gardens and camp workers 140 grams of bread and

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*Al. Sh.*

CONT.

and 400 grams of rice. Sick people 100 grams of bread and 300 grams of rice. It was not surprising that the sick were so long in recovering on a diet such as this but we tried to keep special soup or any extras we could steal from the Japanese for the men in the sick bay.

Attached to this affidavit and marked Exhibit "A" is a photograph of 5 of the fit men in the camp. These were men considered fit enough for work in the mine. This photograph was taken on the 29 August 1945 after 14 days of reasonable food.

7. Red Cross Supplies. Approximately 3 1/2 parcels were received per man during the time we were at ORIO. No parcels were issued complete to the men or officers. The food in them was issued in small quantities at special times. With regard to clothes, about 120 complete parcels were received for 450 men and this clothing was not issued until May 1944, although it had been in store all winter and we had continuously asked for it as the only clothing we had was of the tropical kind. As a result of this many men died from pneumonia during that winter.

8. Health. The men when they arrived at the camp were all sick or disabled. After we had been in the camp about a week 30 men were sent to hospital, mostly with violent diarrhoea.

The diet was completely lacking in certain vitamins and was only just sufficient during the first few months. As the war went on the diet gradually grew worse. On average the loss of weight varied from 25% to 33%. Everybody lost weight. The main illness was either violent diarrhoea or oedema. In the winter months pneumonia caused the most trouble. Any injury received by anybody always went septic and refused to heal up. Capt. NAIRNSEY, the Medical Officer, had an extremely difficult time as very little drugs, bandages or ointments were available and when Red Cross supplies did arrive in the camp the Japanese N.C.O. refused to let them be used unless the men were actually dying and by then it was usually too late. This deliberate with-holding of medical supplies and drugs made us so desperate that we were compelled to break into the sick bay store at night and steal our own medical supplies. Sometimes we were caught doing this and given savage beatings for doing so. Despite all this only 14 British and 5 Australian died during our time at ORIO. This included 4 men killed in mine accidents and one man was executed by the JAPANESE for attempted escape.

9. This incident occurred on the 20 August 1943. At 06.00 roll call No. VX50024 Pte IRWIN, A.I.P., was missing from his barrack. The whole camp was searched and no trace of him could be found.

Some boot marks on the wooden wall which circles the camp pointed to where he might have gone over the wall.

The Japanese Commander Lieut. SUMATSU was interviewed and I impressed upon him and the Military Police Sgt. Major that Pte IRWIN had been wounded in the head during the Singapore campaign and he was not responsible for his

actions. Having twice escaped from CHANGI an inquiry had been held by the Japanese Officials in CHANGI and he had not been punished because he was not responsible for his actions. This was told to the Nippon officer and M.P. several times.

On the 21 August 1943 at 15.00 hrs I was told that Pte IRWIN had been

CONF.

executed while trying to escape a second time after having been caught in a town about 12 miles away from the camp. 16.00 hrs his body was brought into the camp in a rice sack and it was taken round to the M.I. Room. Nobody was allowed to go near it. 17.00 hrs, all Barrack Commanders were lined up and the Nippon Officer read out some I.J.A. orders. That they were not hostile to the P.O.W. but Pte IRWIN had been caught and while being brought back to the camp had escaped again and had been shot.

10. Discipline. The Japanese were very strict on saluting and all Japanese personnel had to be saluted when seen by anybody. When the Japanese officer appeared a Japanese word for salute had to be called out and you had to stand to attention. Failure to do this resulted in your being beaten. Usually by being struck in the face with fists, in more serious cases with sticks as well. A serious offence to the Japanese was lying down in the barrack rooms while smoking, punishment for this was to be beaten. There was a roll call twice a day at 06.00 hrs and 19.00 hrs. Often after evening parade we were made to run round the camp walls being beaten and kicked if you were not able to run fast enough. This especially happened when there had been snow, so that a path would be trodden down for the guards to walk around on.

11. The Japanese officer in command of the camp told me that I was to be responsible for discipline amongst our own troops and see that camp orders were carried out. I was allowed to give punishment but any punishment had to be reported to the camp commandant. Mostly this arrangement worked pretty well, though on one occasion an individual whom I had had up before me twice before refused to take my punishment and immediately went to a Japanese friend of his in the office. I was later called in front of the Japanese to whom this person had reported me. This Japanese, a man named KAVANAMA first hit me across in the face with his fists until he was tired, then another Japanese named TAKAHASHI took over and beat me until he was tired. Later that evening the senior Dutch officer in the camp, Captain NAIRNSEX and myself had a meeting in the M.I. Room to discuss this matter. S/Major IWANUMA came in while we were all there. He first hit the Dutch officer then myself with his fists as hard as he could. Next day we reported this to Lieutenant SUIMATSU who said he was sorry but we were still responsible for order in the camp and had to punish the men if necessary, but to report to him our punishment as before.

12. On the whole treatment of the PWs while I was S.B.O. at ORIO was reasonably good. There were mild beatings up every day which we got accustomed to. The only serious incidents were the execution of Pte IRWIN for the attempted escape and the running round the camp walls in the snow which caused a lot of pain and suffering. The worst case of this happened on February 5 1943, when there was 3 inches of snow on the ground. That evening, after roll call at 19.00 hrs, we were made to run round the camp. Many men at the time were only wearing sandals and were unable to run in them. They were beaten if they did not run, some doing so bare-footed. Sapper PALMER, owing to a leg injury couldn't move at the double, but was nevertheless kicked by S/Major IWANUMA. In addition 6 men fainted in the dining room afterwards. One other serious complaint we had was the with-holding of warm clothes during the bitter winter weather.

13. The Japanese staff consisted of Lieutenant SAKI who was the camp commandant up to 10 August 1943 when Lieutenant SUIMATSU took over; but the camp was really run by the Sgt Major IWANUMA who was very brutal and the one who would not allow the Red Cross clothing to be issued and on several occasions kicked and beat the men. On May 17 1944 he was replaced by Sgt. KUNIGAI who immediately issued the clothing and food. Also during the next winter provided the sick bay with fires and definitely tried to help as much as possible.

CONT.

Of the civilians TAKAHASHI was easily the worst while he was guard commander, continually hitting and beating the men. He being one of the men who assaulted myself. No charges were made against S/Major IWANUMA or TAKAHASHI as they left the camp before the end and we had been told that they had both died in action. I have subsequently heard that TAKAHASHI was seen alive on or about 15 September 1945 at ORO, and S/Major IWANUMA may also very easily be alive.

SWORN by the said DEREK GEORGE HUMBER  
at 6 Spring Gardens in the City of  
Westminster, this fifteenth day of  
January, 1946,

*D.G. Humber*  
(SIGNED) D.G. HUMBER.

BEFORE ME,

*A.M. Bell-Macdonald*  
(SIGNED) A.M. BELL-MACDONALD.

Major Legal Staff,  
Military Department,  
Judge Advocate General's Office.

REPORT ON ORIO P.W. CAMP JAPAN (ALSO CALLED FUKUOKA  
CAMP 15, FUKUOKA CAMP 9, FUKUOKA CAMP 6) BY LIEUT. D.G.  
HUMBER, R.A.O.C. 160720.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Draft arrived at Nuigi, Kyushu, Japan on the 7th June, 1943 and was split into three parties.

I was placed in charge of one party, with Capt. Nairnsey R.A.M.C. as Medical Officer.

The party consisted of 95 British, 50 Australians, 1 American, 1 Canadian, 1 Merchant Fireman, and 2 Officers 150 in all

We were the sick party, that is the men who were physically unfit when they left Changi, Singapore, and the men who had been ill on board.

We entrained at Nuigi and went 25 miles south to Orio then marched 3 miles to a small mining village Kaghoeisima arriving at about 21,00 hours.

We were met by Lieut. Saki and given a talk by him, and asked if we would swear not to escape. I advised the men to agree as we already had signed a document to that effect in Changi.

We were then given a meal and allotted to quarters. 74 men and 1 officer to each barrack, 6 men sleeping in one upstairs room, and 4 men on the ground floor. Upstairs rooms approx. 12 ft by 9 and downstairs approx. 9 ft. by 9 ft, sleeping on Japanese straw mats.

4 blankets made out of fibre were provided for each man.

The camp consisted of 9 barracks, being enclosed by a wooden wall about 10 ft high being approx. 360 ft by 400 increasing later when more men came into the Camp.

There was a separate dining hall with kitchen attached. The cooks were provided from the prisoners under two Japanese. There also being a Jap kitchen staffed with prisoners.

The Japanese staff consisted of a full Lieutenant Saki, 2 Sgt Majors, 1 Sgt i/c Kitchen and 16 soldiers for the guard, which was usually commanded by a Cpl. or L/Cpl. In addition there were three ex N.C.Os working in the office.

The food was provided by the Army and the Camp run by the Army.

On 1.12.43, the Army guards were replaced by civilians from the coal mines, also the mine Company took over the food supply, greatly to its detriment in quality and quantity.

When we arrived, there were already 300 Dutchmen in the Camp. On June 18th, 1944 another 300 Dutchmen arrived in the Camp and on 21st June, 1945, 136 Americans and 164 Dutchmen arrived bringing the strength of the Camp up to 1,065. Each time the numbers increased further barracks were taken over, and the Camp enlarged.

The first 18 days were taken up by the men being given camp fatigues, and Jap drill. I had to learn Jap commands and the men were taught to drill to them.

The Japs were very strict on saluting, all Jap personnel had to be saluted when seen, by everybody, and when the Jap Officer appeared a Jap word for salute had to be called out, and you had to stand to attention and salute.

On failure to do this, you were beaten usually on the face with fists and in some cases with sticks as well.

Smoking was only allowed in the barracks and dining room, and at all times an official ashtray had to be beside you. Lying down while smoking was a serious offence, punishment by beatings and sometimes jail for a few days.

There was a rollcall twice a day at 06.00 and 19.00 hours, the men fell in in barracks with the barrack commander in charge, he had to call out the total number of men, absentees and those present.

Often after evening parade we were made to run round the camp walls, being beaten and kicked if you were not able to rear fast enough. *run*

This especially happened when there had been snow, so that a path could be trodden down for the guards to walk round in. ~~XXXX~~ After one such treatment seven men fainted from cold and exhaustion.

### WORK.

The men were forced to work in the local coal mine working in three shifts; day shift from 06.30 to 17.00 hours, afternoon shift 14.30 to 24.00 hrs. Night shift 22.30 to 08.00 hours. Each shift was divided into groups under a leader generally a warrant officer, the group consisting of 50 to 80 men called Shotais, these were again divided into smaller groups of about 10 men called Buntais, again being under a leader usually a N.C.O., but sometimes only a private, if no good N.C.O. was available. Each shift consisted of approximately about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the men.

Later on a permanent day shift was made working in the workshops, and doing maintenance in the mine.

In each Shotai, and Buntai there was a Jap miner who was in charge, these men usually were brutal, and worked the men very hard beating and often hitting them with anything they could lay hands on when they did not work hard enough.

I instructed the men to report each incident to me, and then a written report was made out, and I interviewed the Jap Commander.

In some cases nothing was done as the Japs word was always taken against mine, but quite often, especially when bruises or cuts could be shown the Jap concerned was brought into the office and the Jap officer gave them a talking to, and in some cases the Jap was taken away from the command of prisoners. Usually conditions improved for a time. Also any incidents in the Camp, I reported to the Jap officer, and occasionally the Jap responsible was beaten for the offence. Also when I personally was beaten I always made a point of seeing the Jap officer, and reported the happenings.

It was very difficult, as each Jap, even the lowest private, was a law unto himself and seemed to do as he liked. A frequent punishment was to make the offender squat on his heels, or go on the hands down, and hold that position for some considerable time, receiving blows every time one relaxed or moved.

The Jap officer told both the Dutch Officers and myself that we were responsible for discipline, and for seeing that the Camp orders were carried out. But any punishment given had to be reported to him, and the offender brought into the office, and the man put in jail for a period ranging from 1 to 10 days, usually the first 24 hours being without food, and quite often a beating was received as well; sometimes I was able to prevent this.

When we were first in the Camp, I tried to keep discipline amongst the British without informing the Japs, but on the 19th

December, 1943, Pte. Warner 7619938 R.A.O.C. was brought up before me for the third time. Pte. Warner worked as office boy in the Jap office, and had been causing a lot of trouble, and I gave him a month's latrine fatigue, which meant 10 minutes work every morning

He refused to take punishment, and immediately went to a Jap friend of his in the office. I was called in front of this man, severely beaten on the face with a ruler, and fists, both by him, and another Jap who was guard commander at the time. Next day the occurrence was reported to the Jap officer, who said he was very sorry? but still insisted that the officers had to keep discipline, and punish the men, but everytime we had to report to him.

This meant that the men received punishment at the hands of the Japs, and made conditions very difficult for me; as if the men were not reported to the Japs each time, there were traitors amongst the Dutch who informed the Japs of everything which went on in the camp. But I used my discretion, and in many cases did not say anything to the Japs, the only cases being for theft from a fellow prisoner, and then only when it was the second time, or if the case was very bad.

#### PAY.

At first the men were paid 10 cents per day for mine and camp work, receiving the money monthly. After 3 months this was increased to 15 cents per day for privates, and 20 cents for N.C.O's, Warrant Officers receiving 25 cents. Later the pay increased to 20 cents, and the last few months to 25 cents per day for privates, the N.C.O's and Warrant officers being increased in ratio.

In May 1944, the Japs called in all the Jap coins, and instead of the pay being received by the men it was paid in a lump sum to myself for the British, and to a Dutch officer for the Dutch troops. An account was kept for each man, and any purchases came out of each man's account.

The men in the sick bay received no pay, unless they were mine accidents and then only 10 cents per day.

But I kept a Unit Camp Fund made up from a 10 yen levy Captain Mairnsey and myself and 10 % from those men who earned more than 3 yen in the month; the officers paid every month, but the men only for ~~their~~ separate months. Out of this fund we were able to keep the sick men supplied with cigarettes, fruit and anything which was issued by the Japs for sale. On one occasion when a fair quantity of fruit was available at 3 yen per portion, I was able to borrow enough money from Captain Mairnsey to buy one for everybody. Also there were occasionally a Soya sauce, and paste, priced 12 and 15 yen respectively, which contained a certain amount of vitamins which we were able to buy, the sick bay men receiving their share from the fund.

The officers were paid at the same rates as the Jap officers of the same rank.

#### HEALTH.

The men when they arrived at the camp were all sick or disabled, but only one man an Australian, went to an outside hospital from the ship. But after we had been in the Camp a week, more than 30 men were sent to hospital, mostly with violent diarrhoea, all these men returned to the Camp after a month, cured

The diet was completely lacking in certain vitamins and was only just sufficient during the first few months, afterwards gradually getting worse as the war went on.

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Everybody lost weight, especially the men who were working down the mine, although they had extra rations.

The main illness was either violent diarrhoea, or Oedema. In the winter months pneumonia caused the most trouble.

Any injury we received immediately went septic, and refused to heal up.

Captain Nairnsey the M.O. had an extremely difficult time as very little drugs, bandages, and ointments were available, and when Red Cross drugs did arrive in the Camp, the Japs N.C.O. refused to let them be used, unless the man was actually dying, and by then, it was usually too late. So we had to break into the sick bay store at night, and steal our own drugs.

One man was executed by Japs for attempted escape. Eleven British and three Australians died. 4 men were killed in mine accidents, and in one case there was definite neglect by a Jap miner. There were numerous cases of small permanent injuries to the men, and two serious injuries, one the loss of a leg and the other four fingers from one hand, full particulars are attached on a separate list. *(not attached when received in Cas No)*

The average loss of weight varied from 25 % to 33½ %, average sick in hospital 10 %.

#### FOOD.

For the first six months the basic ration was 420 grams, Rice, 240 grams bread. Soup for morning and evening meal, consisted usually of chopped dykon (a giant radish or turnip) boiled in water with a little soya sauce, about once or twice a week meat or fish being added. A small quantity of dried fish being provided for midday meal. Later the rations decreased and the non-workers received smaller allowances, so that in 1945, the miners were receiving 420 grammes rice, 200 bread, 2 bowls of very thin soup, boiled in water only no soya sauce being available. Fish or meat only about once a month, and then only about 1½ oz per man, no midday dried fish. Hard workers not down the mine received 170 grammes bread and 400 grammes rice same soup. Garden workers and permanent camp workers 140 bread and 400 rice. Temporary camp workers that is men sick and working in camp, and sick bay patients 100 bread and 300 rice.

But we always tried to keep special soup or any extras we could steal from the Japs for men in the sick bay.

At one time those in the sick bay, and temporary camp workers, including officers were down to 330 total weight of bread and rice, but this only lasted for three months.

During the last four months, half soya beans, and half rice were received instead of all rice. The soya beans aggravated the diarrhoea, as we were unable to soak them long enough to make them soft.

#### RED CROSS FOOD AND CLOTHING.

Approximately 4½ parcels of food were received per man, no parcels were issued complete to the men or officers. At first they were opened and the food issued in small quantities, afterwards all the food went into the kitchen and was cooked with the rations. Nearly all the milk was kept for the sick bay only a very small quantity being issued to the men.

The tin food of one complete parcel per man was kept until after the 15th August, 1945.

Clothes. About 120 complete parcels were received for 450 men, and approx. ½ comforts parcels were received.



Clothing was not issued until May, 1944 although it had been in store all winter, and we had continually asked for it, as the only clothing we had was of the tropical kind and many men died of pneumonia that winter.

RECREATION.

The men were supposed to have one Rest Day every tenth day, but quite often when the day arrived, the work shifts were changed without any rest. On rest days cards could be played, but usually the day was taken up with parades, searches and additional camp fatigues. One game of football was played in 2 1/2 years and that was on Xmas day 1943. After evening roll call 19.00 hours cards could be played during week days.

I arranged about half a dozen concerts usually on the first rest day of the month, but for the rest of the time, singing and whistling was looked upon as a serious offence.

Church services were held every rest day, and before the dead were taken away for cremation, I always held a short service, except in the case of Irwin the Australian who was killed, then no service of any sort was allowed.

JAP STAFF.

Lieut. Saki was the camp commander up to 10.8.43, then Lieut. Suimatsu took over and stayed till the end, but the camp was really run by the Sgt. Majors, the first one being S/M Iwanuma who was very brutal, and the one who would not allow the Red Cross clothing to be issued, and on several occasions kicked and beat the men. On ~~May~~<sup>17th</sup>, 17th, 1944, he was replaced by Sgt. Kumagai, who immediately issued clothing and food. Also during the next ~~next~~ winter provided the sick bay with fires, and definitely tried to help as much as possible.

Of the civilians Takahashi was easily the worst, while he was guard commander continually hitting and beating the men. He being one of the men which assaulted myself. No charges were made against S/M Iwanuma or Takahashi as they left the camp before the end, and we had been told that they had both died in action.

MEN. GOOD CONDUCT.

Several men were outstanding in their behaviour, and both helped me and their comrades considerably. So that although made up from many different regiments and even services, we kept together as a unit, and only <sup>one</sup> man was missing during the difficult period from August 15th to when we eventually left the country more than a month later., compared to some camps where more than 10% went A.W.O.L. The following men I would like to mention especially and if possible get some reward for their great help.

1524983 Bdn. JONES FRANK 80th Anti Tank worked as a Buntai N.C.O. kept his men together, and helped them in their dealings with the Japs showed great courage, and fortitude after his unfortunate accident when he lost his leg.

835770 W.O. STANLEY. S. I.A.O.C. Shoytai, leader, always reliable and helpful.

880803 Cmr. PICKERING, J. 80th Anti Tank worked as Buntai N.C.O. a good leader and looked after his men.

3391641 Pte IRWIN, C.R. R.A.O.C. always reliable and helpful.

1699573 Sgt. ASTILL, J. 21st L.A.A. A Buntai N.C.O. looked after his men, and helped them with the Japs.

180720 Lieut. Derek George HUMBER, Royal Army Ordnance Corps,  
being duly sworn, gives the following evidence:

My full name is Derek George Humber. My home address is  
7 Kinross Avenue, Worcestershire Park, Surrey, England.

I was first captured at Singapore on 15 February 1942. I was  
imprisoned in Changi camp, where conditions were very good.  
I left there on 15 May 1943 to go to Japan. We went to No. 15  
camp, which was later changed to No. 9 and then still later  
to No. 6; the camp was in Orio district, Kyushu. On the voyage  
we were very crowded and confined to the hold, although after  
a while we were allowed out. There were 900 of us altogether  
in three holds. Our hold was the biggest and contained 400 men.  
There was just room for us to lie down. The heat was very  
severe.

We landed in Japan on 7 June. I was ill all the way up with  
dysentery. We had only our own doctors and the medical supplies  
they were able to carry themselves. The sick were put out on  
the hatch cover of the ship. Our sanitary convenience was a  
wooden box which the sick had to use as well as the others.  
There was sufficient food from point of view of quantity, but  
its quality was very bad. We had rice and soup. There were  
400 Japanese on board, who used to have fish which was boiled in  
a big pan. They took the fish and gave us the soup; it was not  
too bad.

On 20 August 1943 Private G. A. Irwin (VX.50024) was missing  
at the roll call at Orio No. 6. The officers had been told  
that they were responsible for the discipline of the men. I  
interviewed the Japanese C.O., Suimatsu, about Irwin. I told  
him that Irwin had twice escaped from Changi and that he had  
been court martialled there, but that the Japanese had released  
him, and I said that he was mentally unstable because he had  
been blown up in action and had received injuries to the head.  
The Japanese military police arrived and I went to see them  
again, and again impressed upon them that Irwin was not responsible  
for his actions. I was afraid I would make him appear too insane  
so went to see them again and told them he was quite harmless.  
The rumour went round the camp that Irwin was dead. I went to  
see the Japanese Intelligence Officer; he was not there but I  
was told by the Japanese in the office that Irwin had been killed.  
I did not see his body, although I asked to see it. I usually  
took the funeral services. We had the coffin on the square and  
we would have a service which all the men would attend. This  
time all the officers were asked to come in front of the office  
and they brought the coffin out on a little go-cart. The officer  
read out a statement that anyone who tried to escape would be  
executed. A man called Takatashi, who was the guard commander,  
demonstrated with his sword that he had killed Irwin himself.

On 21 August 1945 a dinner was given which everybody attended.  
I again brought up Irwin's case and Suimatsu told me that Irwin  
had asked to make water; the car had been stopped and Irwin got  
out and ran away, and was shot.

The food in the camp was very bad. At the end there were 1061  
men in the camp; 75 had died, of whom 14 were British. Most  
had died from malnutrition, pneumonia, beri beri and tuberculosis.  
Three men died after the capitulation, two from tuberculosis  
and one from pneumonia. Medical supplies were very bad at the  
beginning, especially under the first sergeant-major we had,  
Iwanuma. He definitely did not do anything to help us at all.  
He received Red Cross stuff and had winter clothing and bales  
of Red Cross clothing, but they were kept all winter and not  
given out at all, although men were dying from pneumonia; we  
had only tropical clothing. This sergeant-major went to the  
Philippines and was replaced by Sergeant Kumagai, who issued  
everything he had; he did his best to help us as much as possible.

The camp was not marked by any distinguishing marks to show it

contained prisoners-of-war until after the capitulation.

The prisoners were doing mine work for long hours. The day shift started at six o'clock in the morning and came back again at about 4.30 in the afternoon; the afternoon shift worked from 2.30 p.m. till midnight; while the night shift worked from 10.30 p.m. until about 8 o'clock in the morning. Sick men were also forced to work. When we had an inspection, we were told that only 50 could be accommodated; if there were 80 in the hospital, 30 had to be pushed out. A South African doctor with the English Army, Capt. Wainsey, was at this camp.

In December 1943 we had received five crates of condensed milk from the Red Cross. Altogether, we received about 4½ parcels in 2½ years. We had odd bits and pieces at different times. The officer in charge there was completely neutral.

Beatings were common and I myself was beaten by Takahashi and Kabanaga. This was in the early days of our stay at that camp. I had punished one of my men, Warner, because he used to get food from the Japanese and then distribute it amongst his friends. I told him that the food should go to the sick bay where the men were in much greater need of it, but he refused to give it to them. We had to keep the rooms absolutely private because there was a lot of stealing. I told Warner to do two months' latrine duties for entering one of these rooms. He refused to do it and told the Japanese that I had punished him. I was called round to the office and was asked had I punished him. I said, "Yes." The Japanese had told us that we must maintain discipline. I was hit first with a ruler and then Kabanaga took me outside and hit me on the face as long as he could; he then called Takahashi, who was the guard commander, and he hit me also. I was very badly bruised about the face and could not move my mouth for some time; however, none of the injuries was permanent.

The health of the men was poor.

We did not receive any damage at all from shelling.

I have my original diary and other books, which were kept by me on matters relating to the camp.

---

I certify that the above evidence is true and correct.

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

Commissioner.

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

- and -

IN THE MATTER of Fukucka Prisoner of  
War Camp No. 17 Omuta.

War Crimes Commission No. . . .

Reference No. . . .

I SLADE LAWRENCE HUMMERSTON formerly No. WK.10931 of the 2/4th  
Machine Gun Battalion Australian Imperial Forces but now of  
Corrigin 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 the fall  
of Singapore and after being held in various places I was taken  
to Fukucka Prisoner of War Camp No. 17 in July 1944. I was held  
there until liberated.

2. \_\_\_ At this Camp the prisoners were engaged in coal mine work  
and for that purpose were handed over by Camp guards to Japanese  
civilian overseers who were in charge of the prisoners while they  
were at work.

3. \_\_\_ I remember a number of these civilian overseers who were  
known to us by nicknames. There was one Japanese called "The  
Greyhound" who used to stand me to attention and give me a severe  
beating with his fists for a period of up to two minutes for  
allegedly not working hard enough to suit him. This beating  
happened nearly every night over a very long period and appeared to  
be the result of ~~the~~ the Greyhound's natural bent for cruelty.  
There are also other overseers known to us as "The Goat", "The  
Screamer" and "Mito Man" who were exceedingly harsh in their  
treatment of the prisoners. I was repeatedly beaten by each of  
these overseers and I also saw them illtreat other prisoners at  
different times. Along with the Greyhound they at all times forced  
sick men to work and punished men who were really not able to work  
with beatings for failure to carry out all the tasks they demanded.  
I remember particularly on one occasion when the Screamer gave an  
extremely severe beating to a fellow prisoner by the name of

*Slade Hummerston*

*W. J. L. L. L.*

Flanagan.

4. \_\_\_ During my work in the mine under these overseers my health was poor and I was in a fairly severe state of debilitation. At that time my weight was down to 116 pounds whereas my normal living weight had been and is now approximately 170 to 180 pounds. The work in the mine demanded of the prisoners was very hard and I suffered two ruptures through being made to work while not physically able to do so. Even after sustaining the ruptures I was still forced to work just the same.

SWORN by the abovenamed  
at Perth in the State of  
Western Australia this  
20<sup>th</sup> day of October  
1947: Before me:

*A. Sturgeson*

*W. H. L. L. L.*

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

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

- and -

IN THE MATTER of Fukuoka Prisoner  
of War Camp No. 17 Omuta.

War Crimes Commission No. . . .

Reference No. . . .

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A F F I D A V I T

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

11 May 44

r,

H6 Officers Party

On 17 May 43, 68 Officers and 1 Other Rank (Medical Orderly) of the AIF, of which you have particulars, left Changi with myself as Senior Officer, as part of Group 6 of B Force.

The party entrained at Singapore in a similar manner to previous parties, i.e. 27 persons to a "C.G." truck, and after a rather uncomfortable journey reached Banpong, Thailand, on 21 May, going into a hatted camp there. Heavy kit was placed in a dump to be sent on and, travelling fairly lightly, the party moved off the following night on foot. After travelling a distance of about 40-kilometres in two night marches, the party entered a crowded tented camp at KAMBURI. Here, medical examination and inoculations took place and some of the heavy kit was recovered.

On 28 May, the party again entrained travelling about 60 k.m. to WAN YAI, where a 3 k.m. march in the dark ended in a bivouac just north of TASAQ. Next morning a 6 k.m. march up steep hills brought the party to FOMCHAN SOUTH where the establishment of a permanent camp was commenced. Next day was allowed to complete the work, which entailed clearing the jungle (mostly heavy bamboo clumps and timber), erecting tents and "chungs" (bamboo platforms within the tents on which to sleep) and constructing latrines.

It then transpired that the Officers Party was required to do labouring work on the railway construction and immediate protests were made which, however, proved ineffective, being informed that there must be some misunderstanding as the party was sent to Thailand for that purpose.

In the light of subsequent experiences, working conditions at FOMCHAN were not unduly unpleasant in the main, although some tasks such as carrying and burying the bodies of coolies who had just died, or were about to die, of cholera, called forth further protests. Also for some of the time the working hours were very long, affording no daylight time in which to carry out such domestic tasks as washing and mending clothes. Another task was when some officers were obliged to act as assistants to GR cooks in IJA cockhouses.

By the end of June, almost 50% of the AIF personnel were sick in a greater or lesser degree, mainly due to ulcers (some of which reached alarming proportions), dysentery and malaria, so that on 28 June, when orders were received to send a party further north, almost every fit officer was required to go. On that day, a party including 28 Officers under Capt F.T. Johnstone moved to Hintock River Camp, about 23 k.m. north, on foot, with their own cooking gear and tents.

On 1 and 7 July, two further parties including respectively 5 AIF Officers under Lieut Ambrose and 6 AIF Officers under Major G.M. McKay moved to Hintock Jungle Camp about 20 k.m. north, but about 3 weeks later joined the River Camp. These

personnel were NOT fit.

Conditions at the River Camp were better as regards food, but quarters (tents) were overcrowded, working conditions unpleasant and working hours long - for some time leaving camp just as daylight was breaking and returning after dark, travelling some distance both ways over muddy jungle tracks often in rain. The work here was all connected with railway construction. Nations had to be carried long distances on foot and cholera was raging, many cases occurring in the camp.

Information was received during June that the heavy kit had been brought forward to TASAO, but although all possible efforts were made it could not all be collected due to the limited labour available and the scattered parties. Some of it had apparently gone astray and quite a lot was never recovered.

Early in July the IJA decided to evacuate the worst of the sick cases from TONCHAN to KAMBURI BASE HOSPITAL and on 14 and 15 July, parties which included 20 AIF Officers left TONCHAN SOUTH by rail for that destination.

During June and July cholera raged throughout the whole district and many deaths resulted. The AIF portion of H6 was fortunate in suffering only one death from that cause, Lieut S.A. Davidson, 2/29 Bn., at Hintock on 24 July, but also lost Lieut A.A. Hutton, 2/10 Rd Regt at the same camp on 17 Aug 43, from cerebral malaria with complications. These were the only two deaths amongst the H6 AIF personnel.

Conditions at TONCHAN SOUTH considerably improved during July - work was lighter and food good. The less sick still remaining there made progress and 6 were able to go north with the next party required, which departed on 31 Aug leaving only 3 officers and 1 OR at TONCHAN SOUTH from the original AIF party. The remaining party, soon after, moved to TONCHAN (SPRING) CAMP, 5 km north, thence after a couple of weeks to KAMBURI FIT CAMP.

The party proceeding north was joined by several other parties including 14 of the AIF officers who had gone earlier to HINTOCK and HINTOCK RIVER Camps. Personnel left at those camps were evacuated to KAMBURI HOSPITAL over the following three weeks. The party of 20 AIF proceeding north were in the charge of Maj. A.S. Ball.

Following a railway journey estimated about 100 km from HINTOCK SIDING, the party moving north executed a march over difficult country with very poor tracks for a further estimated distance of about 40 km over the following three days, arriving at KONKOITA on 29 Aug. The physical state of the majority of the officers and the conditions of the march necessitated carrying only a minimum of essential kit. A lot of kit therefore became lost to the owners as no provision for storage existed and it had to be abandoned.

Immediately on arrival at KONKOITA a start was made to clear a camp site from the jungle and to erect tents.



EXHIBIT "B"

This is the document marked Exhibit "B" referred to in the affidavit of VX48079 Lt-3cl G. P. Hunt, HQ AMF, sworn before me this *fourteenth* day of *March* 1946 as being produced and shown to him at this time of swearing his said affidavit.

*W. H. C. Capt*  
NA 76207 SC DPW-1 HQ AMF

Outside work commenced after 2 or 3 days and continued until November. During this period a number of officers became ill and spirits were somewhat lowered. The factors contributing to both of these conditions were probably the following :-

- (a) The fatigue produced by the difficult marches prior to arrival caused officers to commence a strenuous working period already tired.
- (b) The rainy season coincided with the greater part of the party's stay and for long periods officers went to work daily in continuous rain and in the same wet clothes as adequate drying facilities could not be arranged.
- (c) The tents leaked badly, letting water through on to clothes and sleeping places. This could not be rectified as other tents were not available.
- (d) The long working hours - for several weeks on parade before daylight, returning after dark, 7 days a week - rendered necessary by the time limit on the railway construction, considerably fatigued personnel and made personal tasks such as washing and mending clothes very difficult.
- (e) Working in mixed gangs with Tamils and Chinese coolies on such work as hauling heavy baulks of timber by rope up steep river banks also proved very fatiguing to officers not accustomed to such heavy work.
- (f) The demand on available man-power in order to complete the railway on time necessitated all officers who were not seriously ill working every day so that minor ailments that would otherwise have cleared up rapidly became serious through lack of attention and rest.
- (g) Although bulk appeared in the main to be adequate, there was lack of nourishing food on occasions due to the difficulty in obtaining supplies. Local purchase was also very restricted, making it difficult to supplement rations.

No doubt due to the foregoing, increasing numbers of officers became too ill to work. The worst of these, with others from the same camp, were evacuated from time to time to KAMBURI HOSPITAL where different conditions and better medical facilities assisted their recovery.

The remainder of the party returned to KAMBURI PIT CAMP about the middle of November 43 from where all have now returned to SINGAPORE in parties of which you already have particulars. Since their return the general standard of health has substantially improved notwithstanding many cases of malaria and skin affections.

Copies to

1 Lt. Col. R. V. Baker (Senior Staff Officer)  
H. Forest

2 Lt. Col. W. S. Whitcomb (Senior Officer)  
H. 6

Major Major R.M.  
Senior Staff Officer  
Party H. 1.

In the matter of the War Crimes Act 1945

I VX48079 George Percy HUNT, HQ AMF, make oath and say

1. I am acquainted with the signature of Maj F. Ball. He was a Battery Commander RAA 8 Aust Div when I was EM RAA 8 Aust Div and I have seen his signature many times during the past four years.
2. I am of the opinion that the signature on the document produced and shown to me marked Exhibit "B" is the signature of Maj F. Ball.

Sworn before me at  
HQ 8 Div, 431 St Kilda  
Rd, Melbourne,  
this *fourteenth* day of *March* 1946

*G. Hunt*  
.....

*George Percy Hunt*  
.....  
NX 76207      SC DPW-1  
                    HQ AMF

No Inform J.S. 23/46

When COMPLETED this document must be classified as SECRET.



AUSTRALIAN WAR CRIMES COMMISSION.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

NOTES:—

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

1. Army number NX46875 2. Rank Driver  
 3. Full name (in BLOCK letters) HUNT ARTHUR SHELTON.  
 4. Unit at time of capture and/or place of capture 3/3rd Res. MT Coy A.I.F.

(State here unit in which soldier was serving at time of capture, e.g., 2/1 Fd. Regt. or H.Q. 6 Aust. Div., &c.)

5. Home address Sawtell, North Coast N.S.W. Aust.  
 6. At what enemy camps and hospitals were you confined and when were you at each? Batavia, Burma, Thailand, Singapore, French Indo-China, Japan.

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

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

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

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

8. Details of Atrocities.—

- (a) Kind of crime.....
- (b) When and where it happened.....
- (c) Who was the victim? (Give complete description including name and whether military or civilian personnel).....
- (d) Who was the perpetrator? (Give as complete description and as much information as possible).....
- (e) State if you saw it yourself. If you did not see it, who told you about it? (Give names and addresses of other witnesses).....
- (f) Give brief story of crime. **Full statement required on pages 3 and 4.**

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

(Signature of Interrogating Officer)

12/9/45  
(Date.)

(Signature.)

3rd Ind Rec. Co.  
(Place and/or Unit at which interrogation was made.)

Comment by Interrogating Officer.....

\* Other war crimes not specifically mentioned include :—

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

FULL STATEMENT OF ATROCITY OR CRIME.

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

7.b/ I was badly beaten by three "Fu-men" (civilian guards). I carried two "black" eyes and cut lip for a fortnight. My wife born at Shubisara Engineering Works Yokohama reported me for being at the latrine too frequently. Camp 11 D. Commandant. Sgt. End.

7.c/ Shubisara was turning out all shipping parts

7.d/ Always camped near industrial areas. Busted out at 11 D. Sea-mine dropped in 15 D Camp Mizata.

15-5445 Impeded on 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. 6 days out from Singapore. 81 survivors out of 750 Australians landed at Moji having been picked up by Jap. corvette on 14-Sept. Arrived Moji. 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. 45.

7.i/ In Burma, hundreds of lives would have been saved if proper medicines had been provided.

Advent

*[Signature]*  
W

TRUTH STATEMENT OF ATROCITIES OR CRIMES

The truth is stated in the report which is contained in the...

I have only had a few days to write this report...

The following are the names of the persons...

I have been informed of these matters...

On this THIRTIETH day of OCTOBER One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty Six Arthur Shelton HUNT of SAWTELL in the State of New South Wales Carpenter's Laborer makes oath and says as follows:-

I was NX. 46875 Pte. A.S. HUNT of the 2/3 Res/ M.T. Coy. I was taken prisoner at JAVA on 9 March 1942. I was held prisoner in Prisoner of War Camp No. 11D. TOKYO from 1 Oct. 1944 till 15 April 1945. Lt. TANAKA was Camp Commandant from Dec. 1944 till I left his camp in June 1945. Lt. TANAKA was a domineering type, a typical product of the regime. I know that during March 1945 Lt. TANAKA knocked down and kicked in the Pelvic Region Warrant Officer William DOWNS. I did not witness the incident but heard of it from DOWNS afterward. Sgt. INO was the camp 2/i.c. and was the man who continually controlled the camp. On New Years Day 1945, he became enraged because the members of my section, No. 7 section, did not rise when he entered our quarters, and prior to issuing us with our Red Cross parcels, he lined us up and bashed us individually, after which he presented the parcels. Any requests made to Sgt. INO were made through the interpreter, but nothing ever came of them.

CIVILIAN GUARD " RUBBER NECK " was in charge of us after leaving camp to proceed to the factory to work. The men were all suffering from the effects of the liquid diet and malnutrition, and were unable to hold their water. About March 1945 on the way to work, Pte Walter WILLIAMS of the 2/20 Bn. was forced to urinate on the road to work. On arrival at the factory he was singled out by " RUBBER NECK " and in front of the other prisoners was given a most severe bashing. This type of act was an every day happening from RUBBER NECK.

About May 1945 I received my worst bashing, at the hands of factory guards ADA ( GOGGLES )? ENDO ( PASTY FACE ) and KONDO. I was charged with loafing on the job and ENDO knocked me down with a blow on the throat, and being weak from chronic diarrhoea I had a motion of my bowels. I was allowed to go to the latrine, but on return to the factory the three guards attacked me, bashing and kicking me for half an hour. I received two black eyes and a badly cut mouth. I was forced to continue working immediately after the bashing, even though I was bleeding profusely from the nose and mouth. MEDICAL SUPPLIES in the camp were very scanty. we had a Dutch prisoner as camp Medical Officer. I was forced to work for the five days prior to my being admitted to the hospital with a temperature of 105, suffering from Pneumonia. I was placed in SHIGOMA hospital, where the treatment was not good when judged by our standards, but when compared with Camp conditions it was excellent.

Signature of deponent.

A Justice of the Peace.

A. S. Hunt  
J. O'Connell



The housing standard of the camp was liveable.

RED CROSS PARCELS were received three occasions by me, during my period of confinement in the camp. I knew, though I could not prove it that the parcels were being appropriated by the JAPANESE. Sgt. INO and the interpreter were the main conspirators in the misappropriation of the parcels in the camp.

WORKING CONDITIONS in the factory were not good by any means. We were always under strict supervision by the factory guards, and the nervous tension was high. We worked ten hours a day. We were three-quarters of an hour for lunch, ten minutes of which were taken up with parades.

I, along with about 80, others arrived at the camp without any clothes or personal gear whatever. I was issued with 1 working suit, 1 Winter suit, 2prs. under pants, 2 singlets a cap and rubber boots. About Feb. 1945, when the weather was extremely cold the camp was inspected by a Major. That day Sgt. INO forced us to go to work in only our working suits, leaving our great coats on the shelves in order to create a good impression during the inspection. It was most likely his idea to create the impression that we were in the oposession of ample clothing.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent)  
at COFF'S HARBOUR  
on this THIRTIETH day of OCTOBER  
One Thousand nine hundred and  
fortysix.

A. S. Hunt.  
Signature of Deponent.

BEFORE ME,

J. Tracy  
A Justice of the Peace.

45

On this First day of April One Thousand nine hundred and forty-six ARTHUR SHELTON HUNT of SAWTELL in the State of New South Wales, Labourer, makes oath and says as follows:-

I left Singapore on 6-9-44 in a convoy of approximately six ships. The convoy consisted of three merchantmen and one cruiser and two destroyers. I was on board the RAKYO MARU. There were 739 Australian P.O.W's. on board the RAKYO MARU.

Off MANILLA five more ships joined the convoy - two merchantmen and three escort ships.

At approximately 0500 hours on 12-9-44 the RAKYO MARU was torpedoed. She remained afloat for twelve hours. I escaped in a lifeboat together with seven other Australian P.O.W's. and twenty Japanese sailors. We were adrift for two and a half days and were then picked up by a Japanese destroyer. On information received from Japanese Lieutenant YAMADA only EIGHTY of the Australian P.O.W's. on board the RAKYO MARU were rescued.

All P.O.W's. and Japanese were either in life boats or on rafts before the Rakyo Ma ru finally sank. No P.O.W's. were killed by the torpedo.

Approximately fourteen hours after the torpedo struck a heavy storm blew up. This separated the eleven life boats and rafts from the RAKYO MARU. The storm lasted over night. The following morning 13-9-44 only FIVE life boats were in sight.

The life boats came together and decided to head for the CHINA COAST. At approximately 1200 hours on 14-9-44 the five boatloads were picked up by a Japanese destroyer.

The location of the torpedoing was, as far as I have been able to estimate since, 18 degrees South Latitude, 115 degrees East Latitude.

Details of my former military status are:-


NX46875 Private ARTHUR SHELTON HUNT

2/3 Reserve Motor Transport.

I was captured on 9-3-42 and released on 6-9-45.

ARTHUR SHELTON HUNT

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent  
at G OFFS HARBOUR  
on the FIRST day of APRIL  
One Thousand nine hundred and  
forty-six.

  
Signature of deponent.

BEFORE ME:

  
Justice of the Peace.

*[Handwritten signature]*

On this Seventeenth day of January One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty Seven Arthur Shelton HUNT of SAWTELL via COFFS HARBOUR in the state of NEW SOUTH WALES Carpenter's Labourer makes oath and says as follows:-

I was NX 46875 Pte HUNT a.s. of the 2/3 Res/MT Coy, and was taken prisoner in JAVA on 9 March 1942. I was held prisoner in POW camp River Valley Road, SINGAPORE, prior to embarkation on "RAKYO MARU" on 4 September 44.

The embarkation was made from launches onto "RAKYO MARU", and we remained in the harbour until sailing date of convoy 6 September 44. The convoy consisted of Three Merchant men, one Cruiser and Two Destroyers. I was on board the "RAKYO MARU", together with Seven Hundred and Thirty Nine (739) Australian PW's. The PW officer in charge of draft was Brigadier VARLEY, and the only medical officer, whose name I recall was Captain R. RICHARDS.

The accommodation of PW was mostly confined to forward hold. Additional cargo carried to that of PW's was rubber and tin. On the 10 September 44 five additional ships joined the convoy off MANILLA, consisting of two Merchantmen and three escort ships. At approximately 0550 hrs on the 12 September 44 the "RAKYO MARU" was torpedoed. From the time the ship was struck it was a matter of every man for himself and the Japanese did <sup>NOT</sup> offer any hinderance. The Japanese lowered the lifeboats for the ship, consisting of four boats ordinary and one motor boat, whilst Australian PW's threw overboard all existing rafts and commenced to disembark to the best of their ability. I consider that the majority of Australian PW's were overboard when I descended a rope ladder and jumped into a lifeboat containing twenty Japanese sailors and seven other Australians, the Japanese did <sup>NOT</sup> offer to prevent my entry into the lifeboat, which pulled out about four hundred yards and picked up four Japanese survivors off a raft to which we were transferred. Judging from the number of rafts I could see it was apparent that all the PW's from the ship were accommodated.

Signature of deponent

*[Handwritten signature]*

A Justice of the Peace

*[Handwritten signature]*

The "HAKYO MARU" remained afloat for approximately twelve hours, four hours after the torpedoing a Japanese corvette arrived and took aboard all Japanese survivors. On asking the Japanese Captain if he would take the PW's aboard he replied "There is no room, I will be back in two days," during the next few hours we transferred all PW's from the rafts to lifeboats. Shortly after the transfer to the lifeboats a heavy storm blew up and separated the lifeboats. Next morning there remained only five lifeboats in sight. We decided to all sail for the China coast having a good supply of biscuits and water on board. Two days later we were picked up by the Japanese Corvette which had previously picked up the Japanese, only eighty one of us were taken on board, and we taken to "HAINAN", JAPAN.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent  
at COSPO HAINAN  
on this SEVENTEENTH day of  
JANUARY ONE thousand nine  
hundred and forty seven

ARTHUR SHELTON HUNT

*A. S. Hunt*  
Signature of deponent.

BEFORE ME

*V. A. Hancock*  
Justice of the Peace.



This is the photograph  
marked "S350" produced  
and shown to Bruce  
Atlee HUNT at the time  
of his swearing his  
affidavit at ~~PERTH~~, WA

on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of  
August 1946, before  
me.

*A. Keall*

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





This is the photograph  
marked "S105" produced  
and shown to Bruce  
Atlee HUNT at the time  
of his swearing his  
affidavit at PERTH, WA,  
on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of  
August 1946,  
before me.

*G. Heall*

A Commissioner for tak-  
ing affidavits in the  
Supreme Court of  
Western Australia.

*C. Hunt*

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

and

IN THE MATTER of treatment received by Australian and British Prisoners of War at SHIMO SONKURAI and BAMPONG in Thailand, by Lieutenant FUKUDA and Private TOYOYAMA.

United Nations War Crimes Commission  
Reference.....

I, Bruce Atlee HUNT of Shell House, St. George's Terrace, PERTH, in the State of Western Australia, formerly WX11177 Major Bruce Atlee HUNT of 15 Aust General Hospital, make oath and say as follows:-

1. I became a Prisoner of War at Singapore on the 15 February 1942. I was in the Changi area until 21 April 1943 and then I went with 'P' Force to Thailand. Lt-Col HUSTON, RAMC, was the senior Medical Officer of 'P' Force. Major STEVENS, AAMC, was the senior Medical Officer of the Australian component of 'P' Force. I was the medical specialist of the whole of 'P' Force.

2. I went in train No. 4 to BAMPONG, arriving in BAMPONG on the 25 April 1943. On the 18 May 1943 I arrived at SHIMO SONKURAI and I took part in the march from BAMPONG to SHIMO SONKURAI. I remained chiefly in the SHIMO SONKURAI Camp until the 30 July 1943, except that I made two trips to NIEKI and SHIMO NIEKI and one trip to SONKURAI and KAMI SONKURAI

3. Produced and shown to me at the time of my making this, my affidavit, is a photograph marked "S105". This is a photograph of a Japanese known to me as Lieutenant FUKUDA.

This Lieutenant FUKUDA was a Japanese Officer of the Singapore PW Administration Department and commanded the Prisoner of War Camp at SHIMO SONKURAI from its foundation in May 1943 until August 1943. During that period I was Senior Medical Officer of this camp.

I consider the said Lieutenant FUKUDA was largely responsible for the deaths of 150 PW during the period he commanded SHIMO SONKURAI and was also responsible for the death of another 400 men who died subsequently but the cause of whose deaths was, in my opinion, through being starved and

*Bruce Hunt*

underfed by the said Lieutenant FUKUDA and through the brutal treatment they received while under his command. Also through their being denied proper medical supplies and treatment by FUKUDA and through his failure to provide proper accommodation and hygiene facilities.

About 900 PW arrived at SHIMO SONKURAI on 15 May 1943. About 900 arrived on 17 May 1943 and about another 160 arrived on 23 May 1943, which made a total camp strength of 2,010. That was the strength within 4 or 5 either way. The total deaths at that Camp from May 43 to August 43 were approximately 150. Over 100 of those deaths took place in the first month <sup>by the</sup> ~~middle~~ <sup>end</sup> of June. The total strength of the Camp was from 2,000 down to 1850. At the end of May 43 we had 850 men in hospital. In July 43 we had 1,479 men out of 1850 in hospital. They were suffering from malaria, bacillary and amoebic dysentery - beri-beri, tropical ulcers, cholera, pellagra and typhus and very many skin infections. These were the main diseases the men were suffering from.

4. The prisoners of war arrived at SHIMO SONKURAI in May, after having marched a distance of approximately 200 miles. They were in an extremely weakened condition owing to the hardships of the march. On arrival at SHIMO SONKURAI it was found that the accommodation for the PW had no adequate roofing. The accommodation consisted of two parallel series of huts only a few feet from each other. These huts were skirting the road and built on steeply sloping ground which was covered with building debris. The huts were separated into bays 10 feet by 12 feet and there would be 10 men allotted to each bay, each man having only a space of 6 feet by 2 feet to lay down on. These bamboo huts should have been roofed with attap but when we arrived there was no roofing on the huts at all. It was raining almost incessantly during our stay at the camp. In the first few days enough tenting material to spread over about one-fifth of the camp huts was supplied. The roofing was finished by the PWs themselves

Bruce A

about two and a half weeks after their arrival. The men were thus exposed to the weather in spite of the weakened condition of many of them. On their arrival the PW were badly in need of a rest but the said Lieutenant FUKUDA sent them out in working parties to perform arduous manual labour within 24 hours after their arrival. If the men had been given a week in which to rest, get the camp built and get the hygiene arrangements intelligently done, and if we had been given tools with which to do the work, the camp position would have been much better. That position was made clear by me and others to FUKUDA on the day of my arrival. The action of FUKUDA in sending the men out on working parties before they were rested exacerbated disease and caused deaths in many cases.

5. The said Lieutenant FUKUDA prevented the PW from carrying out urgently needed construction work, such as latrine, kitchen and hospital construction. He would <sup>not</sup> make <sup>any</sup> ~~so~~ men <sup>84</sup> available ~~or~~ allow men to stay back from working parties to do this construction work. The latrines consisted of two banks in one place above the camp on a sloping hillside. Men debilitated from marching, cholera, malaria and dysentery were frequently unable to reach the latrines, resulting in gross contamination of the ground and resulting in the contaminating material being swept back by the rain through the huts immediately below. I had personally approached FUKUDA and told him of the urgent necessity for having proper latrines constructed but only after a fortnight were we able to construct them and then only by the terrific and painstaking efforts of all concerned. The men were able to construct these latrines in most cases only after completing their day's task in the Japanese working parties. This prevention of construction work by FUKUDA was responsible for the rapid spread of cholera in the camp. This disease, which broke out on 17 May 1943, caused an immediate mortality of 105 men and contributed largely to the deaths of 80 more.

Bruce Hunt

6. While at the Camp, PW were ordered to join working parties and were made to work for 12 or 14 hours daily. This was a grossly excessive time to demand of the men and the health of the PW deteriorated rapidly from this cause. At no time did FUKUDA endeavour to prevent or protest against these excessive working hours which were demanded from the PW by the Japanese Engineers engaged on constructing the road and railway.
7. On the 29 May 43 Lt-Col BANNO, the immediate superior of Lieutenant FUKUDA, in answer to protests and complaints from the Australian officers in charge of the PW, promised that all camps would cease work for three days, to permit of adequate camp construction and repairs being carried out. Lieutenant FUKUDA failed to carry out these promises and took no adequate steps to permit to be carried out any camp construction or repairs. FUKUDA allowed us only one day off and then told us that we had to resume work on the working parties. I protested and he allowed me 300 men on the second day. On the third day he made no labour available at all.
8. Lieutenant FUKUDA on many occasions unwarrantably delegated authority to a Korean, Private TOYOYAMA, who behaved with extreme and brutal cruelty to PW. TOYOYAMA appeared to have an undue and pernicious influence over FUKUDA and FUKUDA made no attempt to prevent TOYOYAMA being cruel and brutal to the PW.
9. Lieutenant FUKUDA deliberately restricted rations of sick men, thereby causing much debilitation and many deaths. The Japanese instructions were that the diet was to be 600 grammes of rice for working men working for the Japanese; 400 grammes for men working on camp duties, and 200 grammes for sick men. It was stated by FUKUDA and by his superior, Lt-Col BANNO, that the purpose of this was to encourage men to get better quickly. In actual fact this deliberate restriction of the diet of sick men was directly responsible for many deaths.

Bruce Hunt

10. Reasonable supplies of food were available at nearby villages to supplement the scanty rations of sick men and efforts were made by the Australia PW to obtain extra supplies of food. FUKUDA deliberately prevented the purchasing from camp funds of these extra supplies of food from nearby villages. All the time FUKUDA was in the camp he refused repeated requests by the Australian PW and officers for them to be allowed to purchase extra food. The fact that food could have been readily secured was shown by the fact that when KOMEYASU took over command of the Camp at the end of July and held the command for a month, he immediately gave permission and extra food was purchased within a few days.

11. During June 43 FUKUDA deliberately deprived all men in the camp, including sick men, of food for 24 hours. One of the working parties failed to return a pick to store out of the many hundreds of tools out. A search was made for the pick and it could not be found. FUKUDA at mid-night ordered that the whole camp would be starved for food until the pick was found and this order was carried out, including depriving the sick PW of food. The pick was found after 30 hours search. It had been inadvertently left by a worker under a hut and had been covered by something else. This action caused gross damage to the health of sick men.

12. On about the 17 June 43 FUKUDA gave orders that officers of the PW were to do certain manual labour as members of the ordinary working gangs on road and railway. The officers performed manual labour in the camp but as a matter of principle objected to being sent out on road and railway gangs. Capt. E.R. HOWELLS, Acting Camp Commandant, made a protest to FUKUDA against officers being compelled to perform labour on the road and railway and informed FUKUDA that it was in direct contravention of the terms of the Geneva Convention. In the course of his reply to the protest FUKUDA stated that "International Law and the Geneva Convention do not apply when they conflict with the interests of the

*Bruce Hunt*

Japanese Army." After the protest was made to FUKUDA he, on the 17th June 43, deliberately deprived all officers, including sick officers in the camp, of food for 24 hours. FUKUDA stated that this deprivation of food was done as a punishment for the protests made by Capt. HOWELLS.

13. During the month of July 1943 FUKUDA on many occasions forced sick men from the hospital to join working parties to labour on roadwork and on the railway. The sick men so ordered were obviously unable to do any work and should not have been allowed to leave the hospital. As Senior Medical Officer in the camp I protested to FUKUDA about these sick men being made to work. On one occasion during July 1943 FUKUDA replied to me "You have in the past spoken somewhat boastfully of the Geneva Convention and of humanity. You must remember that you are our PW. You are in our power and under present circumstances these things do not apply", or words to that effect.

14. During July 1943 Lieutenant FUKUDA endeavoured to force men convalescent from and gravely debilitated by cholera to perform manual labour. It was only after repeated and earnest objections by myself that he allowed these men to remain in camp and not go out on working parties.

15. It often occurred that while out on working parties weakened men would become too sick to work and permission was sought from FUKUDA to allow these men to be sent home to camp during the day. FUKUDA invariably refused to allow such sick men to be sent home to camp and this greatly impeded their recovery. The main work of those on the working parties was making excavations, building embankments, building bridges and carrying stone.

16. During the month of July 1943 I frequently requested FUKUDA to secure or attempt to secure cholera vaccine. Prior to this there had already been an outbreak of cholera. FUKUDA failed to secure or attempt to secure any cholera vaccine and as a result a second outbreak of cholera occurred in August

*Bruce Hunt*

and September 1943 in camps to which men from SHIMO SONKURAI were transported. The second outbreak of cholera caused over 20 deaths and in my opinion this outbreak would have been prevented if the cholera vaccine had been made available.

17. During the months of June and July 43 there were many hundreds of sick men in the camp who required nursing. There were insufficient men available for the task of nursing and looking after these sick men and as Senior Medical Officer of the camp I approached FUKUDA and requested him to make some men available for the task of nursing and looking after the sick men. Lieutenant FUKUDA refused to provide more men for this task. As a result it was impossible for the sick men to be properly nursed or looked after. Ulcers could not be dressed. The patients could not be washed and patients who should have been strictly confined to bed had to get up and attend to their own physical requirements.

18. FUKUDA at all times while he was commanding the PW Camp at SHIMO SONKURAI, gave immoderately larger proportions to Japanese troops than to the PW in the distribution of rations. I saw no under-nourished Japanese soldier at any time while I was in Thailand.

19. Camp rations for 2000 had to be transported a distance of 5 miles through muddy jungles from SON KURAI to SHIMO SONKURAI. These rations had to be transported on foot by PW and this task grossly weakened such men who were fit and lowered their <sup>resistance by</sup> response to disease. At this time there were always five or six empty trucks from SON KURAI passing SHIMO SONKURAI daily. There was no reason at all why these trucks could not have been used for transporting the camp rations and thus avoiding their being transported by hand. FUKUDA made no attempt to secure the use of these empty trucks for such purposes and made no attempt to alleviate the very arduous task of transporting by hand the camp rations from SON KURAI to SHIMO SONKURAI.

20. The hygiene facilities in the camp were very inadequate

Bruce Hunt



and there was an urgent need for the construction of new latrines. In spite of repeated requests by myself and others to FUKUDA for the supply of tools and materials to construct new latrines, Lieutenant FUKUDA failed to make any effort to obtain adequate supplies of tools or materials, thereby increasing the spread of disease in the camp. There was a Japanese Engineers Camp close by which had available supplies of tools and materials which could have been used for the purpose of constructing new latrines. During the month of July 1943 FUKUDA confiscated for five days all the scanty tools that had been made available for Camp maintenance. This action was taken by him as a result of some trivial breakage. As a result of this confiscation urgent latrine construction and camp repairs were prevented and the health of the men suffered accordingly.

21. Sick men from Camps under the command of Lieutenant FUKUDA were sometimes sent to TANBAYA hospital camp in Burma. These would be men who were obviously so sick that they could be of no further use to the Japanese in working parties and were therefore only useless mouths to feed. They were desperately sick and in many cases died. They were sent to TANBAYA because this was closer to the source of food supplies. FUKUDA failed to take any steps to secure adequate accommodation food or transport for the carrying of such sick men to the hospital camp. From SHIMO SONKURAI to TANBAYA was 45 miles and the transport was by truck or railway and by marching. There was no hut accommodation provided for them anywhere on the way. They slept in the open. At the railway head the Japanese refused to allow these men to shelter from the monsoonal rain in the store huts because they said that the men who were suffering from dysentery would contaminate the huts. Sometimes the men were 12 or 15 hours at such sidings during which time it rained continuously. <sup>of</sup> Men were dying and in some cases died on the trip. There was practically no food made available for the journey. As far as transport

*Bone Hunt*

*Life*  
*trials by*

arrangements were concerned, the ~~men~~ were criminally overloaded. The men were hustled to get them to move along and often pieces of stone would be used on them. Men with ulcers and dysentery would be exposed for many hours to the rain.

The failure of Lieutenant FUKUDA to secure adequate accommodation, food and transport for such sick men, resulted in high mortality among such men. Over 60 men died on this journey during the months of August and September 1943.

22. Lieutenant FUKUDA was in charge of KAMI SONKURAI PW Camp from August 1943 until November 1943.

23. In or about the month of November 1943 a number of sick men totalling approximately 1300 were evacuated from KAMI SONKURAI to KANBURI. These men were very grossly overloaded on to railway trucks. In some instances up to 70 men, many desperately ill, were forced into a truck measuring 21'3" by 7'6". Not less than 20 men died as a direct result of this gross overloading. Lieutenant FUKUDA was responsible for this gross overloading of trucks for sick men from KAMI SONKURAI to KANBURI.

24. Produced and shown to me at the time of making this my affidavit and marked "S360" is a photograph of a Japanese known to me as TOYOYAMA. This TOYOYAMA was a Korean guard who was at BAMPONG in late April 1943 and was subsequently at SHIMO SONKURAI from May 43 until August 43. He is one and the same person as the TOYOYAMA previously referred to in this my affidavit.

25. In late April 43 at BAMPONG, TOYOYAMA wantonly and violently assaulted several PW with a golf club, apparently for no reason whatever. This assault by TOYOYAMA caused severe bodily harm to many of the men he assaulted. The PW were struck on the arms, legs and bodies and sustained bruises, lacerations and sprains. The men assaulted were all about to set out on a most arduous 200 mile march and as a result of such assault men were considerably weakened for such march.

*Bruce Hunt*

26. TOYOYAMA acted as Deputy Camp Commander at SHIMO SONKURAI. I have seen him on numerous occasions strike and severely thrash many POW officers and men. I have seen him administer severe thrashings for the most trivial offences.
27. TOYOYAMA was often in charge of roll calls and when taking roll calls he invariably insisted on sick men standing up or sitting up in their places in the hospital, despite the frequent protestations of the Senior Medical Officer. This greatly contributed to the suffering of the sick men concerned, as in many instances they were too ill to stand up or even sit up without a great struggle.
28. During the month of July 1943 on many occasions I saw TOYOYAMA force sick and convalescent men from their beds out on to the work on the road and railway. These men were much too ill to leave their beds. A number of these men who were so forced to work died shortly afterwards. The action of TOYOYAMA in forcing such sick men to go out and work on the road and railway contributed heavily to their deaths.

SWORN by the said Bruce Atlee  
HUNT at Perth in the State of  
Western Australian, this 12<sup>th</sup>  
day of August 1946.

Bruce Hunt

Before me: G. Keall

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR CRIMES

BOARD OF INQUIRY

BRUCE ATLEE HUNT, sworn and examined:

I am WX11177 Major Bruce Atlee Hunt, 13 A.G.H. I saw no war crimes or atrocities during the action prior to the surrender of Singapore. I became a prisoner of war at Singapore on 15 February 1942.

I was in the Changi area until 21 April 1943 and then I went with F Force to Thailand. Lt-Col Huston, R.A.M.C., was the senior medical officer of F Force. Major Stevens, A.A.M.C., was the senior medical officer of the Australian component of F Force. I was the medical specialist of the whole of F Force.

I went in train No. 4 Bampong, arriving in Bampong on 25 April. On 18 May I arrived at Shimo Sonkurai and I took part in the march from Bampong to Sonkuria. I remained chiefly in the Shimo Sonkurai and Kami Nieki and Shimo Nieki and one trip to Burma from 24 to 28 July.

On 30 July 1943 I went to Tanbaya, where I took command of the hospital in that camp. Lt-Col Hutchison, R.A., was the administrative commander of Tanbaya hospital camp. The bulk of the troops in the camp were hospital patients.

On 24 November 1943 I left by train with the bulk of the hospital patients for Kanburi. There were movements of patients over four or five days. I was in the last train. I arrived at Kanburi on 30 November. I was then very sick and went to hospital myself after arrival in Kanburi.

I remained there until 23 April 1944, when I returned by train to Singapore. At Singapore I was in the Changi hospital for one month and then I went to Kranji hospital about the end of May 1944 and was in Kranji until 18 August. Thereafter I was at Changi gaol camp.

BY LT-COL STEVENS: Can you give the Commission the names of Japanese camp commandants and members of staffs in those various camps through which you went?-- The Japanese officer in command of F Force was Lt-Col Banno. The Japanese officer in command of Shimo Sonkurai camp from its foundation in May until its dissolution in August 1943 was Lieut Fukuda. That officer was subsequently in charge of Kami Sonkurai camp from August until November. The officers in charge of Tanaya were: in the beginning Lieut Saito from 1 August, when it was founded until roughly 20 September; from about 20 September until about 10 or 12 October, Capt Eraiwa and from that time until I left the camp in November, Lieut Takeuchi. The Japanese camp commander of Kanburi when I came down there was Lieut Wakabayashi, one of the very few civilised Japanese I met. The medical officer of F Force was Lieut Tanio.

You would recognise all those men if you saw them again?-- Yes. I would deliberately not include Wakabayashi in any indictment I made. I would not include Tanio, because he tried. I would include Banno and Saito. It was not the fault of Eraiwa, who was only there a short time.

What about Lieut Takeuchi?-- I would not have him shot, but I think a term in goal would do him good. I would include Cpl Motal, who was the quartermaster at Tanbaya in August and September 1943. I should imagine that many people would give you Toyama's name. There is no occasion for me to add his name.

You submitted a report on the working camps at Shimo Sonkurai shortly after you had left them for Tanbaya?-- Yes. It also covered the conditions of the march from Bampong to the working camps. I produce a copy of that report.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I tender that report.

Ex. 7

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 7")

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Are the statements in this report true and correct?-- Yes. On the march from Bampong to Shimo Sonkuria I personally suffered two beatings from the Japanese guards. They are dealt with at pages 2 and 3 of my report.

BY HIS HONOUR: Do you know the names of the Japanese?-- No.

Would you be able to identify them?-- It is doubtful. Major Wild may be able to identify him. I was a bit tired at the time.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: I understand that you do not place very much stress on the railway journey from Singapore to Bampong?-- No, because those conditions of transport were the normal conditions of transport in the Japanese Army. I do, however, stress the conditions on the march as contributing to the subsequent death rate.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I refer Your Honour to page 5 of the report in respect of the medical problems facing the staff on 18 May at Shimo Sonkurai camp.

I refer Your Honour to page 6 of the report, which deals with hospital accommodation.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Did you get all the tools you wanted?-- No. At no time did any camp in F Force get adequate tools. Why, I do not know. The tools were there, but they would not give them to us.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I refer Your Honour to pages 6 and 7 of the report dealing with a cholera epidemic.

WITNESS: Work commenced on 19 May. I regard this as a factor of the greatest importance: if the men had been given a week in which to rest, get the camp built, straighten up and get the hygiene arrangements intelligently done, and if we had been given tools with which to do the work, the camp position would have been much better. That

position was made clear by me to Fukuda on the day of my arrival.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I refer Your Honour to pages 8 and 9 of the report, with reference to the use by the Japanese of sick personnel to work and their neglect to allow fit men to remain in the camp to do essential camp work.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: On page 9 of your report you refer to a protest of 27 May. Is that the same protest of which is Appendix 1 to Lt-Col Kappe's report, Exhibit 5?— (Shown to witness) Yes. The only thing wrong with that is the date.

Your report states that the protest was made on 27 May and the protest as attached to Lt-Col Kappe's report is dated 30 May, but it is the same protest?— Yes.

Do you know if Lt-Col Banno received that protest?— I do not know of my own knowledge, but I was informed that he had. Lt-Col Fukuda said it had gone to him and Colonel Banno visited the camp and saw the conditions for himself on 1 June.

What was the strength of the camp at Shimo Sonkurai in May?— About 900 arrived on 15 May. About 900 or thereabouts arrived on 17 May and about another 160 arrived on 23 May, which made a total camp strength of 2,010. That was the strength within four or five either way. The total deaths in that camp were approximately 150. Over 100 of those deaths took place in the first month by the middle of June. The total strength of the camp was from 2,000 down to 1,850. At the end of May we had 859 men in hospital. In July, quoting from my report at page 16, we had 1,479 men out of 1,850 men in hospital.

BY HIS HONOUR: What were they suffering from?— Malaria, dysentery of the two types - bacillary and amoebic - beri beri, tropical ulcer and cholera, pelagra and typhus and very many skin infections. There were some miscellaneous diseases - half a dozen cases of hepatitis with icterus-like catarrhal jaundice, and renal colic. Pages 11 to 15 of the report contain a summary of the diseases and the numbers of men suffering from them.

What was the type of malaria?— Both types - B.T. and M.T. There was a relatively high incidence of M.T.

You did not have any scrub typhus?— Yes, a certain amount - five cases only in that camp. Scrub typhus is relatively rare up there. There is quite a lot of it in Malaya.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Have you anything to say about cholera and the supply of anti-cholera vaccine, from the point of view of availability of supplies?— The organisation of the movement of troops from Singapore was so badly arranged in the early stages that most of the A.I.F. did not have two cholera injections before they left Singapore. Later, when they got up there, cholera vaccine was reasonably available in May. Protection from cholera vaccine would, to my knowledge, last about 3 months, so that about 2 months after that first cholera epidemic I started agitating for some vaccine. It was another two months before we got it, so that there was a second wave of cholera, largely due to the failure of the Japanese to provide vaccine at that time. We had no

cholera in Tanbaya. If the men had been inoculated before they left Singapore, the incidence and death rate would have been lower. I would say much lower, although I am not quite certain about the vaccine they gave in Singapore, because some of the British troops got it and they had a relatively high incidence of cholera, that is, one particular batch. It may have been faulty.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I refer Your Honour to pages 13 and 14 of the report, on the subject of beri beri.

WITNESS: If adequate beans or rice polishings had been supplied, the situation in respect of beri beri would have been met.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Did you have any emetine to control amoebic dysentery?-- Altogether in the whole of my stay in Thailand I got enough emetine to treat only 6 cases of amoebic dysentery. I probably had well over 1,000 cases under my observation.

Was emetine available in Singapore?-- I cannot say with certainty, but I think it was, although it was not given to prisoners of war. The Japanese captured a great deal in the medical stores in Singapore.

Did the Japanese commander on one occasion suggest that there was difficulty with communications between Burma and Bampong?-- Communications were very difficult from Burma. They were close by road from Thailand. The river, however, was open. I do not know how much river transport there was available, but the river was open as far as Nicks and urgent medical supplies could have been brought up the river. The point to remember about all these camps is that they knew they were going to send this force up there. The weather conditions in Thailand do not vary from year to year. It is known that in Thailand communications become practically impossible for about 4 months and always at the same time of the year. While the weather is dry the roads are open and communications are easy. They could have stocked up these camps, but they did nothing about it and they waited for the rain, when it was impossible.

Can you compare the health of the Japanese guards and soldiers with the Australian prisoners of war?-- There was a very striking contrast. The Japanese were at all times well fed and received medical treatment.

BY HIS HONOUR: Did you see what they were getting in the way of food and medical supplies?-- Yes.

You are able to speak from what you saw?-- Yes.

Was there any difference in the food?-- A very great difference.

And the variety?-- In the quantity, but also to a certain extent in the variety,

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Did you ever see any Japanese suffering from beri beri?-- Never.

Or Ulcers?-- No, no tropical ulcers.

If any of them had been suffering from those diseases, would you have known about it?-- I think so, in the camps I was in.

BY HIS HONOUR: Are you speaking now of the engineers, as well as the soldiers and guards?-- I am not speaking so much about the engineers. I would seldom be called to attend <sup>to</sup> engineers. I was frequently called to doctor the Japanese guards. The engineers lived in an adjacent camp and we had no direct contact with them. I have seen them.

Did they look all right?-- They looked very well-- very fit indeed.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: You never saw any Japanese suffering from lack of food?-- I did not.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I refer your Honour to page 15 of the report, in regard to the question of diet.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: What would 300 grammes be?-- About 10 ounces.

You mention 20 men you paraded before Lieut Fukuda. Can you describe the condition of these men?-- It would not be possible to see people with less flesh on their bodies.

Did you protest from time to time to Lieut Fukuda about the conditions?-- Yes, on an average of about five or six times a week. We met daily.

BY HIS HONOUR: I suppose these "human scarecrows", as you call them, would have nothing on but loin-cloths?-- That is so.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Have you made a note of some of Lieut Fukuda's remarks to you when you approached him in regard to the situation?-- Yes.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I tender note of statements made by Lieut Fukuda to Major Hunt.

Ex. 8

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 8")

LT-COL STEPHENS: I think that that report covers as completely as it can be covered from Major Hunt's own observations the conditions of those working camps.

BY HIS HONOUR: Will the chaplains have any stories?-- Yes. Chaplain G. Polain, an Anglican Chaplain, and, I think, a Queenslander, will be able to give some information. He was attached to 2/26 Battalion. Chaplain Walsh, an R.C. padre is another. I do not know his unit, but I think he was attached to 27 Brigade Headquarters. I would not be sure of that. Several chaplains died up there.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Have you a copy of a report made by Lt-Col Hutchison to his superior, Lt-Col Harris?-- Yes, to Lt-Col Harris, the commander of F Force. I produce a copy of the report.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I tender that.

EX. 9

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 9")

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: You have read the report and you subscribe to everything that is in it?-- Yes.

LT-COL STEPHENS: On the question of accommodation, I refer Your Honour to pages 3, 4 and 5 of that report.



BY HIS HONOUR: How many were in that camp?-- The total was 1944. We never had that number, of course, because deaths were taking place rapidly. I suppose our maximum was 1759 at any one time.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Is it right to say that this camp was established solely for hospitalisation?-- Yes, to take the very sick out of the working camps - men who were not likely to be of any further value. It was not established in an altruistic sense to help F Force. It was simply established to save the burden on the transport of supplies.

How long did the coolies remain in the camp area?-- From memory, I think about three weeks.

You mention shortages of tools and cooking utensils. What was the position in respect of lamps?-- They provided no lamps at all. We used bamboo flares. You would just take a bit of bamboo and light it. When that burned out, you would get another piece.

Lt-COL STEPHENS: On the matter of food, canteens and recreation, I refer Your Honour to pages 6 and 7 of the report. Lt-Col Hutchinson deals with the state in which patients arrived at the hospital. In that regard I refer Your Honour to pages 7 and 8 of the report.

WITNESS: The transport from the working camps to Tanbaya was absolutely shocking. When the men got to staging camps, irrespective of the weather, they were put out in the open, even when shelter was available.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Can you give the names of some officers who were on that journey?-- Capt G.W. Gwynne, 2/4 Machine Gun Battalion. He is a West Australian with legal qualifications. He conducted drafts from the working camps to me.

BY HIS HONOUR: Over what distance would those 8 men have died?-- The journey from the working camps in actual miles was about 50 miles, but it was a two day journey - 2 to 2½ days. From Tanbaya to Kanburi the total journey was, I think, 220 miles and it took us 6 days in the train to do that. Capt B. Berry, 2/10 Field Regiment, a Brisbane man, is another who could give information of that. Lieut I.A. Perry, 2/1 Heavy Battery, a Queenslander, and Capt Stahl, 8 Division Signals, a Victorian, are others who can give information on the conditions on the journey from the working camps.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Complaints were made to the Japanese authorities in regard to conditions. Did you yourself make a written complaint dated 20 September 1943 to the I.J.A. officer?-- Yes.

Appendix "C" to Lt-Col Hutchinson's report is a true copy of the written complaint you made to the Japanese?-- Yes.

Who was the Japanese Officer there at that time?-- I would not be sure. There was a change-over about 20 September. It was Eraiwa or Takeuchi. I handed that personally to the Japanese commandant. I think it was Eraiwa. The complaint was dated 20 September.

On 25 September did a senior Japanese medical officer call at the camp?— Yes, a full colonel. He came to inspect the camp on a tour of inspection of the district. I do not know his name. He was obviously a very important person. He spoke good English and I took him round and showed him everything we had and made him come into all the wards. He took a keen interest from the point of view of a doctor and he made various promises to me, but did nothing. I gave him a memorandum, which is part of Appx. "E" to Lt-Col Hutchinson's report.

What did he promise you?— Sulphur, vitamin-containing foods, potassium permanganate and dressings, none of which came.

BY HIS HONOUR: Do you know that colonel's name?— No.

Do you know anybody who would be likely to know his name? Did he come around with any Australian?— No. It was an official Japanese tour of inspection of all units in the area.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Did he come from Burma or from Thailand?— I do not know.

Do you think he may have been attached to Brigadier Varley's Headquarters?— I think it doubtful. I think he would be above that sort of thing. A full medical colonel in the Japanese Army would probably control the eastern end of Burma. A medical colonel is a very superior man in the Japanese Army.

Did you make another complaint in writing on 14 October 1943?— Yes. That was made to Takeuchi. A true copy of that is attached as part of Appx "E" in Lt-Col Hutchinson's report. The whole position was made clear to the camp commandant.

Was that delivered personally by you?— Yes. It did not go over very well. The effect of that was that the Japanese Commander refused to see me. He said I was an idealist and was talking nonsense. That was Lieut Takeuchi. He then inquired from the adjutant of the camp who was the next senior medical officer and announced that Major Phillips, R.A.M.C., would take command of the hospital and he declined to see me any further. I told Phillips that he would represent me and tell me what the Japanese had to say, but I had not the faintest intention of giving over command of the hospital. From that time until the time I left I had no further dealings with Takeuchi. He did not like the letter very much. He took the last paragraph in the spirit in which it was meant.

Colonel Hutchinson on pages 12 and 13 of his report says this, "The I.J.A. Administration after the arrival of Lieut Iraiwa, I.J.A., about 22 Aug was in the main sympathetic and helpful within the limits of its power." What did he mean by that?— What he meant by that was that he believed and Takeuchi were well-meaning people who were doing what they could. I think they were both lazy. That fact is well illustrated by Takeuchi's action in getting us those extra beans as soon as it was pointed out to him that the other camp was getting them. He could have got those earlier. Neither Iraiwa nor Takeuchi were in any sense sadistic.

BY HIS HONOUR: Indifferent?-- Yes, very largely.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Did you yourself make a report on the medical side of Tanbaya hospital to Lt-Col Harris, the Commander of F Force?-- Yes. I produce a true copy of that report.

LT-COL STEPHENS: Itender that report.

Ex. 10

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 10")

WITNESS: That report was made by me at the end of my tour of duty there to Lt-Col Harris, the Commander of F Force.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Burma is a rice producing country?-- Yes, rice producing and rice exporting.

Do you say that, if those three camp commandants had taken the trouble to get some rice polishings as was requested by you, the 100 lives would have been saved?-- I would say so. I do not know whether they could have got it. I imagine that, if the Japanese had put their mind to it, to find those things, they could have been obtained quite easily. Whether it was within the power of the camp commandants, I would not be able to say. The organisation as a whole could have got that stuff very easily and those men could have been saved.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I refer Your Honour to pages 4 and 5 of the report.

BY HIS HONOUR: The ulcers were mostly legs, were they?-- Yes, for the reason that the leg is most exposed to accident. The men would get the injury and the infection would get in.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: What were the conditions of surgery there? Did you have proper instruments?-- The only waw with which the amputations were done was a Japanese carpenter's saw, which we were allowed to borrow for half an hour daily.

BY HIS HONOUR: That was a hack saw?-- Yes, an ordinary hacksaw.

Colonel Coats said he used the proper instruments?-- Yes. They were better equipped than we were.

He would not believe that a hacksaw was used?-- It was. The carpenter was building a hut and we used to borrow it from him for half an hour a day.

Did you have anaesthetic?-- Yes.

Your own?-- We carried it. I do not believe that amputations were carried out without anaesthetics.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Have you prepared a table of the deaths and the causes of death in F Force?-- Yes I produce this table. It was copied by me; I did not prepare it. It is copied from the official report made by Lt-Col Huston. He with one or two of his deputies compiled this table from the records of the force and I took a copy of it. That gives the deaths in the force by diseases, by camps and by months.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I tender that.

Ex. 11

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 11")

WITNESS: I have the exact food figures of all the F Force camps and the table includes Changi figures. This covered the camp diet in Changi in 1942 and in 1943 up to the time I went away. Then we have the F Force camp diet. That splits the food into its chemical and vitamin constituents and also gives the weights. The Changi part is copied from official AIF figures and the F Force part is taken from Colonel Huston's compilation. The point I make is that the diseases from which the force suffered are all disease which are intimately known to the Japanese. They are diseases of their part of the world. Beri beri is a disease from which Japan suffered very greatly in the past. Much of the best research has come from the Japanese. They know the disease and all about it. Yet they allowed us to get beri beri.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I tender statement and analysis of diet at Changi camp and in F Force camps.

Ex. 12

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 12")

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Exhibit 11 shows that out of a force of 6,998 men 3,087 died?-- Yes.

Have you a summary of Colonel Huston's views on the factors which contributed to that death rate?-- Yes.

Do you subscribe to his views?-- Entirely.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I tender that summary of Lt-Col Huston's views on the factors contributing to the very high sickness and death rate.

Ex. 13

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 13")

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: Would you say that that high death rate was or was not under the circumstances preventable?-- I would say that the high death rate was most certainly preventable. Having in mind the state of the war, the nature of the country, the diseases of the country, the Japanese supply position, I still say a very high percentage - it is impossible to give figures, but not less than three-quarters of those deaths - could have been easily avoided if they had taken reasonable care.

Who would you hold responsible for that lack of reasonable care?-- The senior P.O.W. administration of Malaya and Thailand.

BY HIS HONOUR: They are not supposed to send men to climates like that, especially those who are not fit. They wanted 30 per cent unfit?-- The reason for that was that they knew they could not get 7,000 fit men, because there was not that number of fit men left. They wanted to get the men. They thought that, if a man went sick, he went sick to impede the Japanese war effort. They reasoned that as soon as they got these fellows in their hands they would soon stop being unfit.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: You prepared a statement of war crimes for Lt-Col Kappe, the commander of F Force?-- Yes. I produce the statement.

LT-COL STEPHENS: I tender that statement.

Ex. 14

(Admitted and marked "Exhibit 14")

WITNESS: I spent a great deal of time on that. That was done after the Japanese surrender. I got all the accessible officers who served with me. I had put down my own headings, and I got them to add to them. That comprises everything that I can bring up against the Japanese.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: You have on page 5 a particular item naming Lt-Col Banne for misinformation and lying promises concerning Tanbaya. Did he make promises to you personally? -- Yes.

Promises of what?-- Better food and better conditions and drugs.

BY HIS HONOUR: That statement is of extreme value, because there you have concentrated of question of responsibility for everything?-- Yes. That is what I endeavoured to do. I imagined something of this sort might happen.

BY LT-COL STEPHENS: You mention on page 8 of that statement, giving Lieut I.A.H. Perry as the witness, a charge against Lieut Tanio of "brutal neglect and subsequent death of Gnr Wehl, 2/10 Field Regt. RAA during transport from Nompadok to Kanburi"?-- That is not a matter within my own knowledge. That is Perry's story.

Your own view of Tanio was what?-- I personally found Tanio helpful and I would not have indicted him on anything I knew. That was a separate indictment by Lieut Perry, in whom I have great confidence, but it is not my experience of Tanio.

On page 7, with yourself as a witness, you mention the "forcing by I.J.A. guard corporal of very sick men to march from Tarsao to Karyu, despite orders of I.J.A M.O., with resultant death of several men including an Australian chaplain."?-- Yes, Chaplain Ross Dean.

You would put his death down to the fact that he was compelled to march?-- I would.

You subsequently went to Kanburi hospital and were there for some months?-- Yes.

Have you any remarks or views to give on Kanburi on your treatment there?-- In general the running of the camp was reasonably good. It was done by Wakabayashi, who was reasonably good. The food supplied by the Japanese was surprisingly poor, because that part of Thailand is very rich in food. The Bangkok Plain is very rich. In spite of that we were poorly fed so far as issue food was concerned, but we were able to buy a good deal of food relatively cheaply, such as eggs, so that the general health of the people at Kanburi was satisfactory. There was one episode on the question of rice polishings. We had a good deal of beri beri. We were able to treat it later with peanuts and eggs, but we asked for rice polishings and were told we could not have them because they were being used to feed the Japanese Army horses.

Would you explain what rice polishings are?— Rice grows in a thick husk. You have the skin of the individual grain and then you have the husk. Once you husk the rice, it will not keep in its ordinary skin. It will only last about 3 weeks and after that it gets mildew. If the rice grain is milled so that the outer skin of the rice grain is removed, leaving the white grain, that will keep. That process is called polishing. The greater part of the vitamin content of the rice is in the skin. Rice polishings is very much like what you and I call pollard. If you add that to food at the rate of an ounce a day, you will not get beri beri. There was a law in the Straits Settlement which requires a certain amount of rice polishings to be added to bread.

Was that answer given to you personally?— No, to Capt Barnett who was the Administrative Commander of the camp at the time.

Is there anybody at Kanburi who you would seek to punish for war crimes?— Not personally. There was a beating up by Japanese secret police member of Capt Roberts, which is mentioned in my statement. I do not know if Capt Roberts could identify that man. Roberts is a Queenslander from Toowoomba.

Have you any remarks to make in respect of Changi hospital and Kranji hospital?— Yes. I have no remarks covering the period from April 1944 when I got back to March 1945, but from March 1945 until the time of the Japanese surrender the diet meant slow starvation. The drop in weight was tremendous. I had a ward of under-nourished patients - not the most emaciated in the hospital, but they were all there by reason of under-nourishment and on 1 August the average weight of those men was 100 lbs. There were 180 men. Twenty of those men were under 80 lbs. We only had two deaths in the three months, but we worked very hard on them. They needed a lot of attention.

Did supplies eventually come to hand from stores?— The stores were on the island. There is no doubt about that fact; that stores were on the island in large quantities, so much so that in that ward long before any stuff started to come in from outside the average gain was 10 lbs in three weeks.

That gain in weight was due to additional supplies obtained from the Japanese after capitulation from stocks on Singapore Island?— Yes.

BY HIS HONOUR: It looks as if they were out to get the maximum amount of work out of those men with the least expenditure of food?— Yes, and they were anticipating a long siege on the island. We did not know how many Japanese troops were on Singapore island, which is only a small place, but when the final count took place there were 82,000 Japanese there.

At that time when you had a ward full of emaciated and under-nourished men, were the Japanese guards and troops that you saw showing any signs of under-nourishment?— No, none at all. I would say the average loss of weight in the camp right through from March to August was at least 2 stone. I lost about 2½ stone.

Did you yourself personally have any interviews with any Japanese official or officer on Singapore Island No, that was left to the senior authorities.

Rb.  
7/5/46

On this *twelfth* day of April, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Gordon Percy Hirst of "Gordonvale", Epping Road, North Ryde, in the State of New South Wales, university student, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As 402088 WO HIRST G.P. of 84 Sqn RAAF, Empire Training Scheme, I was taken PW at TJITITJAP. I was one of a party of approximately 30 members of 84 Sqn, of whom six were Australians, who were captured whilst endeavouring to escape.
2. Our party of 30 were on the island of NUNSA COMPANYHIA, an island approximately five miles due south of Tjititjap. After Wing-Commander JEDOWIN, RAAF, C/O 84 Sqn, had left us the day before in an attempt to reach Australia and effect our rescue, two parties of approximately six men left the island early on the morning of 9 Mar 42 to make a general reconnaissance of Tjititjap, and the surrounding area. One party returned that night minus two men and the other party two days later, also minus two men, and suffering from severe exposure. Two men who returned in the second party were Sjt CAMERON, RAAF, an observer who came from Queensland, and F/Sjt HARRIS, who was a member of the permanent Air Force stationed at Singapore.
3. The first party was commanded by F/O MILLER, a New Zealander serving in the RAAF, an observer, and the second party was commanded by F/Sjt HARRIS. F/O MILLER intended to reconnoitre the town of Tjititjap. Soon after leaving the base he came across a native prison camp in charge of the Dutch on the island. Communication was made with the Dutch Harbour Master who put at F/O MILLER's disposal a launch. The Harbour Master was suspected of collaborating with the Japanese and as a result F/O MILLER altered his destination and quit the vessel post-haste on arriving at the docks at Tjititjap.
4. Shortly after entering the town a car was sighted in one of the streets. It was approached by two men of the party, the others were hidden so that they could observe the two men's actions. The Japanese of some rank got out of the car when the men approached and these two men were seen to raise their hands and were made enter the car by the Japs and were driven off.
5. F/O MILLER's party, after completing their reconnaissance returned to the island. An eye-witness to this incident was WO ROSS, who was a Wireless Air Gunner in 84 Sqn RAAF. He lives in Sydney.
6. The second party, who were supposed to only reconnoitre the island had entered the town unknown to the first party, two

Gordon  
L.H. Hirst

men of the party having returned to the camp prior to the party setting off for the town. They crossed the water to the town by means of a native canoe. On entering the town in the dock area this party commenced an inspection of the warehouses. They came upon a Jap sentry who thought they had come to surrender. This was indicated by him saluting the party.

7. Sgt CAMERON, however, instinctively drew his .45 revolver and shot the Jap guard. Sgt CAMERON and P/Sgt HARRIS quickly dashed away but the other two members of the party who were Englishman, one whose nickname was "Taffy", were so confused at the sudden action taken by Sgt Cameron that they were shot by the guards who came from the guard-house nearby after hearing the shot fired by Sgt CAMERON.

8. When the remainder of our party on the island eventually surrendered to the Japs they were placed in a prison camp in Tjititjap. In the prison, we learnt from the Dutch and natives that an execution had taken place on the docks. Some of the Dutch who had been in a working party said that they had seen two airmen at Jap HQ. As no trace of these two men who were captured from P/O MILLER's party could be found from any PW Camp in that area we were assured that the two men executed on the docks had been the two airmen from P/O MILLER's recce party. It is assumed that they were executed for the death of the Jap guard.

9. The Officer in charge of our party when we surrendered was P/Lt KEEBLE-WHITE 84 Sqn RAAF. He was a pilot.

10. The Japanese troops we surrendered to on the docks at Tjititjap were from memory fighting troops and not occupational troops. Their attitude when we surrendered seemed to be that they were determined to break our spirit. Immediately on surrendering we were bashed in turn before being transferred to Jap HQ. When the Japs came to bash P/Lt KEEBLE-WHITE he demanded the rights of an Officer in accordance with the Geneva Convention, whereupon he was set upon by the Japs and purposely humiliated with incidents such as kicking his cap down the street. When we arrived at the Jap HQ we were interrogated by the Japs through a Dutch interpreter.

11. After P/Lt KEEBLE-WHITE had been interrogated the Japs told him they did not believe his story and told him that they would show him what was going to happen to him. One of the Japanese S/Majors present drew his sword and the Jap Officers also at the interrogation formed a semi-circle around Keeble-White and commenced a rapid interrogation. They then told him to get down on his knees and went through the actions as though they were going to execute him. At the stage when the S/Major, who drew the sword, appeared to be going to execute him Keeble-White broke down. The Japs then stopped the proceedings and seemed quite satisfied that they had broken his spirit and had achieved their object. There were no physical injuries to Keeble-White. The other members of 84 Sqn were transferred to HINTOCK Camp in Siam during Feb 43. We were under command of Col DUNLOP.

12. It was at Hintock Camp that I witnessed the bashing of Sgt H. WILEY, RAAF, who was a Spitfire pilot.

13. The bashing was given by a Jap whom we knew as "Bill the Basher". He was a Jap of very dark complexion and appeared to have native blood in him. His height was about 6', he was a well-developed powerful type with a very deep voice and was

*J. H. H. H.*  
*L. H. H. H.*



a private soldier belonging to the engineer company working on No. 5 cutting at the Hintock section of the railway line. Sgt WILEY was suffering from "trench-feet" and was only able to get about with great difficulty under the existing conditions.

14. He happened to arrive late at work one day and was accused by "Bill the Basher" of malingering. "Bill the Basher" then commenced to bash Sgt Wiley with his fists until he had knocked him down. Beatings such as this were quite frequent whilst we were at this camp.

15. On another occasion whilst at Hintock Camp I witnessed the torturing and beating of 12 prisoners of war by Japs from the engineer company. This party of 12, which included two men taken from hospital, were tortured as a result of PsW failing to report for work. The incident took place in the compound of the engineers' barracks and a large fire had been built in the compound. One of the Japs had placed branding irons in the fire.

16. The 12 men were then placed very close to the fire and the Japs commenced to bash them with sticks, slippers, pieces of bamboo and whatever they could lay their hands on. They did not, however, use the branding irons on the 12 men.

17. The bashing lasted from 1800 hrs to 2300 hrs and after the bashing most of the men were in a condition of collapse and had sustained injuries of some kind to the face and body.

18. One of the men brought out of hospital for the bashing was suffering from malaria and on his return to hospital after the bashing, he died the following morning. I understand Col Dunlop wrote on this PW's Death Certificate that he died at the hands of the Japanese.

19. I could not describe any of the Japs who administered the bashing but they included "Bill the Basher" and other Japs from his engineer company.

20. I was evacuated to TAMARKAN Base Hospital during Jan 45. Whilst in this hospital I was informed by several of the PsW in this camp that Japs had imprisoned PsW in "Dog Houses." This treatment was given as a punishment to PsW who were caught by the Japs bartering with natives or for offences of a similar nature. These dog houses were about 5' high by 3' wide and 4' deep. They had a hole at the rear of the dog house for sanitary purposes.

21. PsW were kept in this "dog house" for periods up to a week and on occasions were permitted to leave the "dog house" to do duties around the guard-house. The "dog house" was constructed in such a fashion that the PsW were not able to lie down but would have to stand in a stopping position or squat whilst they were confined in them. They were given a diet of only rice, water and salt.

22. I was not at this hospital a great length of time and consequently did not get to know the names of any Jap prisoners in this camp.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent, )  
Gordon Percy Hirst, at Sydney, )  
this *twelfth* day of April, One )  
thousand nine hundred and forty- )  
six )

*L. Sh. free* *JP*

BEFORE ME

A Justice of the Peace

*G. Hirst*

*Wife of  
Gordon Hirst  
Bill the Basher  
1/27/45*

"E"

170



"E"

This is the photograph  
marked "E" produced  
and shown to Walter  
Wilbur Hutchinson on  
the swearing of his  
affidavit this 18th  
day of October 1948  
before me

W. B. Moloney

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

"H"

171



"H"

This is the photograph  
marked "H" produced  
and shown to Walter  
Wilbur Hutchinson on  
the swearing of his  
affidavit this 18<sup>th</sup>  
day of October 1948  
before me

W. Bondelone

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

"I"

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"I"

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day of October 1948  
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H. B. M. Wilson

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

" F "

172





"F"

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H. Bonholaray

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

"G"

172A



"G"

This is the photograph  
marked "G" produced  
and shown to Walter  
Wilbur Hutchinson on  
the swearing of his  
affidavit this 18<sup>th</sup>  
day of October 1948  
before me

H. B. B. B. B.

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

"A"

173



"A"

This is the photograph  
marked "A" produced and  
shown to Walter Wilbur  
Hutchinson on the swearing  
of his affidavit this 18<sup>th</sup>  
day of October 1948  
before me

*W. B. Wilbur*

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

"B"

1739



"B"

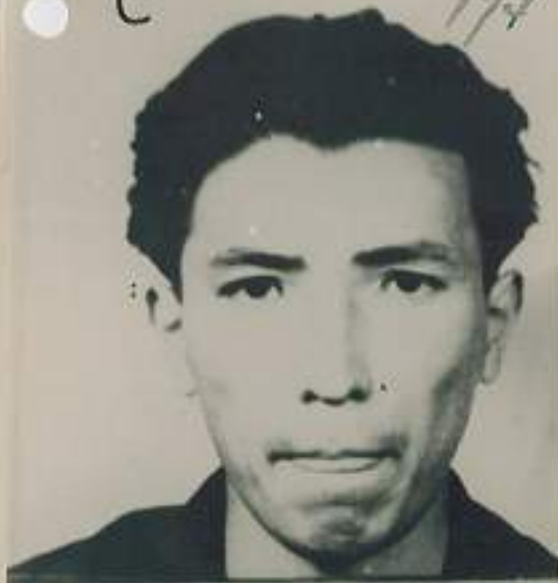
This is the photograph  
marked "B" produced and  
shown to Walter Wilbur  
Hutchinson on the swearing  
of his affidavit this  
18<sup>th</sup> day of October  
1948 before me

W. B. ...

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

"C"

174





"c"

This is the photograph  
marked "c" produced  
and shown to Walter  
Wilbur Hutchinson on  
the swearing of his  
affidavit this 18th  
day of October 1948  
before me

W. B. Stirling

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

"D"

174A



"D"

This is the photographs  
marked 'D' produced  
and shown to Walter  
Willmet Hutchinson on  
the swearing of his  
affidavit this 10th  
day of October 1948  
before me

*W. B. M. O'Connell*

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

"J"

175



"J"

This is the photograph  
marked "J" produced  
and shown to Walter  
Willbur Hutchinson on  
the swearing of his  
affidavit this 18th  
day of October 1948  
before me

W. B. B. B. B.

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

"K"

175A



"K"

This is the photograph  
marked "K" produced  
and shown to Walter  
Wilbur Hutchinson on  
the swearing of his  
affidavit this 18th  
day of October 1948  
before me

W. B. B. B. B.

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

8306

CS/18

On this Sixth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and forty six CLIVE STANLEY HUSSEY. C/- Bank of New South Wales in the State of New South Wales BANK CLERK makes oath and states as follows:-

I Ex. NX 33288 L/Sgt Hussey C.S. was a P.O.W. at 131 Kilos Camp Burma during the period September 1943 until October 1943.

In April 1946 I made a statement regarding certain atrocities by the Japanese Camp Commandant Sgt./Major SHIMOJO.

On the 6th June 1946 I was shown a photo of a Japanese No. 1147 and I identified this man as being the same as referred to in my previous affidavit of 24th April 1946 para (4)

Sworn by the abovenamed deponent CLIVE STANLEY HUSSEY at YASS.  
on the SIXTH day of JUNE one thousand nine hundred and forty six.

Before me,

*Howard Lee*  
Justice of the Peace

*C. Stanley*  
Signature of Deponent



R/6  
29/5/46

On this twentyfourth day of April one thousand nine hundred and forty six CLIVE STANLEY HUSSEY of Hill Street Cooma in the State of New South Wales, Bank Officer makes oath and says as follows:-

1. I, NX 33268 L/Sgt. HUSSEY CLIVE STANLEY of Hill Street Cooma whilst a Prisoner of War in Burma and being in Prison Camp at Tavoy about June 42 witness the departure of a truck carrying 8 prisoners of war; they were transported about 500 yards from Tavoy Camp later rifle shots were heard and the Officers. Brig. VARLEY, COL ANDERSON and CAPT. DROWER, returned to camp, and reported that prisoners had been shot. The Japanese Camp Commandant Leuit CHEENA (not sure of correct letters in name) was in charge of camp at the time.
2. About December 1942 prison Camp 18 KILOS from THANBYUZAYAT Burma, Sgt. O'DONNELL was shot whilst out on a working party, he had entered the jungle with a Japanese guard; the rest of party returned, to Camp. The guard and Sgt. O'DONNELL had not rejoined party at knock off time. Guard later returned to Camp, and reported to guard of Camp that Sgt. O'DONNELL attempted to escape and he shot him- Japanese Camp Commandant was at the

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

time Sgt. TENAKA (not sure of correct spelling).

Lt. Col. ANDERSON was A.I.P. Camp Commander and CAPT. DROWER Interpreter, and they later informed prisoners that Sgt. O'DONNELL was shot.

3. About July 1943 I was in Prisoner of War Hos' Camp 30 Kilos from Thanbyuzayat in Burma, sometime prior to midnight a shot was heard by me- next morning it was found SGT. COOMERS had been shot (not fatally) by the Japanese Camp Commandant LIEUT. NITO. This Officer had been drinking heavily and when he saw SGT. COOMERS at latrine he accused him of attempting to escape, and fired at him, he was shot in the stomach (not fatally).

A.I.P. Commandant was Col. BLACK and SENR. Medical Officer MAJOR FISHER.

4. About September 1943 whilst in a Prison Camp 131 Kilos from Thanbyuzayat in Burma continually saw very sick prisoners of war suffering from tropical ulcers, malaria and dysentery beaten and kicked by Japanese guards, because they were too ill to stand up and salute the guards- Japanese Camp Commandant was SGT. MAJOR SIMOJO (not sure of spelling). A.I.P. Camp Commandant LT. COL ANDERSON Interpreter CAPT. DROWER witnessed these brutalities.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent  
CLIVE STANLEY HUSSEY at Cooma on  
the twentyfourth day of April  
one thousand nine hundred and  
forty six.

*C. Murray*

Before me

*[Signature]*

A Justice of the Peace.

CHEUNG, LT WCA-15

SIMOJO, S/M WCA 108 Probably SHIMOTO (same given name as SHIMOTO) T 1117

NITO, LT WCA 87 - should be NAITO

wrote for  
photo ident

*C. 2/5*

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

- and -

IN THE MATTER of KAWASAKI-KOBE  
HOUSE (OSAKA AREA)

War Crimes Commission No.

Reference No.

I WALTER WILBUR HUTCHINSON formerly WX 7332 Corporal of 2nd/4th Machine Gun Unit Australian Imperial Forces but now of 7 Growden Street Merredin in the State of Western Australia being duly sworn make oath and say as follows:

1. I was captured by the Japanese at Singapore in February 1942 and was later transferred as a Prisoner-of-war to the Japanese prison camp at Kobe House, Kobe, Japan arriving there about the month of May 1943, where I remained for about two years before being transferred to the prison camp at Kawasaki.

2. The photographs marked "A" and "B" produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit are photographs full face and profile respectively of a Japanese known to me as "Horseface" and hereinafter referred to by me as "Horseface."

3. The photographs marked "C" and "D" produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit are photographs full face and profile respectively of a Japanese known to me as "the Paymaster" (and also known to me as "Billy Cook") and hereinafter referred to by me as "the Pay-Sergeant."

4. The photograph marked "E" produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit is a photograph full face of a Japanese known to me as "Betty Boop" and hereinafter referred to by me as "Betty Boop."

5. The photographs marked "F" and "G" produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit are

*W. W. Hutchinson*

*W. W. Hutchinson*

photographs full face and profile respectively of a Japanese known to me as "Smiler" and hereinafter referred to by me as "Smiler."

6. The photographs marked "H" and "I" produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit are photographs full face and profile respectively of a Japanese known to me as "George Formby" and hereinafter referred to by me as "George Formby."

7. The photographs marked "J" and "K" produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my Affidavit are photographs full face and profile respectively of a Japanese known to me as "Gentleman Jim" and hereinafter referred to by me as "Gentleman Jim."

8. The six Japanese before referred to by me all, with the exception of the "Pay Sergeant", carried out guard duties and at various times acted as guards in charge of working parties comprised of prisoners of war. The "Pay-Sergeant" appeared to me to have a great deal of authority, and at times carried out the duties of Orderly Officer.

9. I first saw "Horseface" at Kobe House shortly after my arrival there.

10. Whilst at Kobe House "Horseface" was often in charge of working parties comprising prisoners of war, and I remember on one occasion towards the latter end of the year 1944 I was a member of a working party that had been detailed for duty at a place that I knew as Koshen, but the correct spelling of which I am not certain of. We had to walk a distance of about one mile to the Kobe Rail Siding, then travel by train a distance of about twenty miles, and then walk a further distance of about 3 miles to where we had to work. "Horseface" was the guard in charge of our party on this particular occasion. Included in the working party were some prisoners who were in ill-health, and they were allowed to knock off earlier than the others as it would take them longer to walk back the distance of about 3 miles

*W. H. Smith*

*W. H. Smith*

to the siding (the name of which was pronounced "Show-yen") to catch the train taking us back to Kobe. Amongst the sick men who started back early was a Corporal who came from New South Wales, but whose name I cannot now remember. When we were ready to leave "Horseface" wanted to know where the Corporal was; he was told that he had gone on ahead with the sick men, but he would not believe this, and kept us waiting about an hour whilst a search was made. On arrival at the "Show-yen" siding the Corporal was with the other sick men, but "Horseface" called him out, and bashed him unmercifully with his fists. I saw the Corporal being given the bashing, and I say it was entirely without justification.

11. Owing to bombing by the Allies, we were transferred to Kawasaki Prison camp about June 1945 and the six Japanese before referred to moved with us.

12. Shortly after our arrival at Kawasaki Camp two Australian prisoners (one named Sergeant Stringer and the other a Private whose name I cannot now remember) went to what we knew as the Quarter-Master's store and each got a rice-bowl to eat their food from. They were accused of breaking into the store, and about mid-day that same day the whole camp was lined up to see the two men being punished for their alleged offence. A number of Japanese carried out the punishment and included amongst some were the Japanese "Horseface" "Betty Boop" "the Pay-Sergeant" "Smiler" "George Formby" and "Gentleman Jim" referred to in this my Affidavit. The said six Japanese all took an active part in the inhuman bashing and punishment inflicted on the two prisoners, who were cruelly beaten with rifle butts, sticks, fists and whilst on the ground were brutally kicked by the Japanese. I saw the "Pay-Sergeant" with a hammer in his hand, and I saw him hit one of the prisoners on the side of the face with the hammer, drawing blood by the force of the hit. I

*W. H. H.*

*AB 3/10*

say definitely that each of the six Japanese before referred personally take part in this outrage, and the bashing was carried out in the presence of about six hundred (600) prisoners, some of whom were so affected by the brutality displayed that they fainted. After the Japanese had finished bashing the two men they tied them up to trees so that their toes just touched the ground. The two men were left in this position for about an hour, when they were released by some of their fellow-prisoners and placed in our Camp Hospital. I say without any doubt that the punishment inflicted on the two prisoners was the most savage treatment I have ever seen meted out to prisoners of war.

13. About two days after the happening referred to in the previous paragraph of this my Affidavit I saw "Gentleman Jim" and "George Formby" call out a prisoner whom I knew as Sergeant Major "Punch" Barron (a member of the Royal Scots Regiment) and subject him to a most severe bashing with rifle butts sticks and fists. After the two Japanese had finished beating him they tied him up to a tree, although he was in a bad way following the heavy punishment he had received.

14. Of the six Japanese herein referred to by me I have no hesitation in saying that the "Pay-Sergeant" was the most cruel and vindictive of the lot, and seemed to delight in ill-treating prisoners of war.

SWORN at Merredin in the State of )  
 Western Australia this 18<sup>th</sup> )  
 day of October 1948 before me )

*D. W. Hutchinson*

*A. B. Bullock*

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

*John*

*John*

IN THE MATTER of War Crimes

- and -

IN THE MATTER of KAWASAKI-KOBE  
HOUSE (OSAKA AREA)

War Crimes Commission No.

Reference No.

---

AFFIDAVIT OF WALTER W. HUTCHINSON.

---

H. B. Moloney,  
Solicitor,  
MERREDIN.

On this                      day of October, one thousand nine hundred and fortysix, Edward Forster HUTCHINSON of 166 Hopetoun Road, Vaucluse, in the State of New South Wales, Salesman, makes oath and says as follows :-

1. As VX46415 Pte E.F. Hutchinson of No. 1 Petrol Coy AASC 8 Div I was taken PW at Singapore on 15 Feb 42. I subsequently arrived at OSAKA No. 22B Tahifu in approx April 1945.
2. We were quartered in a wooden hut, 200 in a space approx 100' x 25'. We slept on wooden boards. General hygiene arrangements were reasonably good.
3. Rations consisted of 11 ozs of rice per day and potato tops in very small quantities. This ration was never supplemented.
4. Medical supplies were non-existent other than Red Cross supplies which we took to the camp ourselves. They consisted only of general bandages and disinfectants and a few drugs such as sulphenilamide. The PW doctor was Surgeon Lt. Comdr S.E.L. Stenning. He did what he could but was hampered by acute shortages. There was a Jap medical orderly who decided as to the fitness or otherwise of PsW. Such men were regularly sent out to work.
5. My clothing consisted of 1 Jap Shirt, 1 Red Cross Shirt and 2 Jap trousers. I had no boots. No replacements were made in this camp. I saw the Camp Q Store full of supplies.
6. The camp quarters were situated in a carbon factory. We worked on the furnaces and mixing carbons. We worked from 8 in the morning till 6 at night with one hour's break for lunch. We were stood over at work. A civilian overseer known as "BLUESHIRT" was the foreman of the carbon section of the factory. His general attitude towards the PsW was one of extreme hostility. There was no let up at work, he adopted a standover attitude. On one occasion Dvr Samuel SOPHA was singled out and "BLUESHIRT" made him kneel with a bamboo on the calves of his legs just behind the knees and made to balance a four gallon tin of water between his legs. This lasted all afternoon, as a consequence the victim

*F. Clark* *E. Hutchinson*

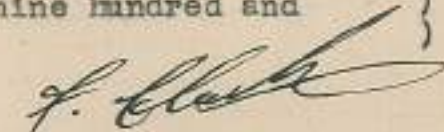


suffered temporary paralysis. "BLUESHIRT" was rather big for a Jap, rather solidly built - I could recognise him from a photograph.

7. I am now unable to recollect details of beatings.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,  
Edward Forster HUTCHINSON, at  
Sydney, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October,  
one thousand nine hundred and  
forty-six

BEFORE ME



A Justice of the Peace





大正十一年三月廿九日  
大正十一年三月廿九日

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

No 56

This is the exhibit referred to in the annexed affidavit of Colin Walter HUTTON and marked No 56 produced and shown to him at the time of his swearing his affidavit dated the thirteenth day of January 1947.

A. J. H. J.  
Justice of the Peace in and for  
the State of South Australia.

AUSTRALIAN WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

I COLIN WALTER HUTTON of EDEN HILLS in the State of South Australia make oath and say as follows:

1. That I was formerly SX11010 Pte. C.W. HUTTON of 27 Bde Wksp 8th Australian Division and previously made affidavit on the 19th day of March 1946 regarding my experiences as a prisoner of war of the JAPANESE.
2. That the photograph annexed hereto and marked on the back "56" is a photograph of Japanese Guards taken at KOBE House Japan whilst I was there.
3. That I recognize in the said photo the Japanese who are marked in the said photo with the several numbers set out in the first column hereunder and their respective names or the names by which they were commonly known to the Prisoners of War are set out in the second column hereunder opposite the numbers set out in the first column:

2	S/M MURITA
3	Medical Sergeant
4	TAKANAKA CHUI (Camp Comdt)
5	"Mad Doctor"
6	Interpreter.
8	"Gentleman Jim"
12	"Chinless Wonder"
15	"Smiler"
16	"Betty Boop"
17	"Horseface"
21	"Darkie"

4. That the Japanese guard marked 12 and known to me as "Chinless Wonder" died at KOBE HOUSE some time after the photograph was taken.

5. That I know the facts deposed to herein of my own knowledge except where otherwise appears.

*Colin W. Hutton*

Signed before me at ADELAIDE

this *thirteenth* day of

January 1947.

*Justice of the Peace*  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IN  
AND FOR THE STATE OF  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

I Colin Walter HUTTON of Eden Hills in the State of South Australia - ,  
formerly SX11010 Pte C.W.Hutton of 8 Aust Div MAKE OATH AND SAY as follows:

1. I was taken prisoner of war on 15 Feb 42 at Singapore.
2. I served in prison camps at the following places:
  - (a) Singapore from capture until ~~XXXXXX~~ May 43.
  - (b) Osaka, Kobe, and other places in Japan until I was released in Aug 45.
3. The incidents related in the following paragraphs occurred in Kobe, Japan, between Jun 43 and Aug 45.
4. While at Kobe House one guard named by us "Darkie" was liked by the Aust prisoners for his assistance to us: he was medium build, darker than the others, sometimes wearing spectacles, he had a squint, and wore a decoration that I understood to be a high award - a ribbon like the VC.
5. The NCO in charge of Kobe House as acting camp commandant was ~~SX~~Sgt Murita: he was well built, but I would not say he was bigger than average - developed as by physical training: he was good looking and very clear skin: he was not of appearance that is easy to describe as different from average Japanese: I do not think he had seen operational service, and showed fear during air raids.
6. The pay NCO was a sgt major: he was a small chap, but in good condition: he was only at Kobe House during the last nine months of my stay: he was the only pay sgt known to us as a "bash artist": I cannot describe him in more detail, but I would recognise him or a photograph of him, as I would for Murita.
7. Kobe House was a large building opposite the Seamen's Mission: there were no grounds: there were 200 Australians there in one block, and British and American prisoners in a nother block. There were about 600 to 800 in all, and all in the one building. We were very crowded. While we were there we were used as wharf labour a few hundred yards away, and at times we worked at Osaka, travelling to and from there by train: we worked in factories there.
8. At Kobe House there were frequent beating of PW by nearly all the guards.
9. Sgt Murita was responsible to an officer Morimoto who was in charge of the Kobe area which included other PW camps as well. I do not know of that officer being cruel to prisoners.
10. One particular beating occurred in connection with a concert. It was on a rest day. We had an item of burlesque of the Japanese, which we had put on before, and at which our guards including Murita had laughed and clapped. On this occasion Murita was not present, but the Paysergeant above referred to was present with a Japanese from another camp. We put on the burlesque, and in the middle of the item the pay sergeant stopped the show. and took to the guard house the five men taking part in that item. They went to a distant part of the building: while they were away I heard noises of striking and of men crying out. When the five men returned, three were being carried, and two walking. The three were taken to the RAP and the other two to their quarters. I did not see the beating up of these men. One was the RAP orderly, and Englishman: I do not remember the names of any of them, but the officer who organised the concert was Lt Fuller, a New South Welshman, a son of Mr. Fuller of the motion picture business in Sydney. Fuller himself was the victim of other beatings.
11. Another guard who was cruel was known to us as "Charlie Chaplin": he was in the quartermaster store, about the same height as Murita: always wore glasses: his facial expression was always a foolish grin, and he used to shuffle because of a bad leg.
12. The Japanese medical officer at Kobe House was known to us as the "Mad doctor": he was ~~sixxxxxxxx~~an officer: he was big and fat and bloated, and addicted to alcohol: he was taller than average, but particularly fat. He used to beat up many PW either on minor irregularities or on mere pretexts.--, particularly on inspections in the quarters.
13. I now recall that Lt Pringle, of the 2/3 Motor Amb Coy, of the Eastern State s, was MC of the concert I have referred to.

*Colin Walter Hutton*  
*19/3/46*


14. The beatings were so frequent that I am now unable to recall in detail any particular occasion which I can now describe in detail.

15. I can recall the following prisoners who were with me in Kobe House:

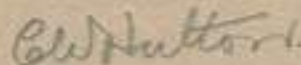
(a) "Ollie" Olsen, a South Australian. He was an engineer.

(b) "Bill" Adlam, of the 4th Reg MT Coy, a South Australian.

SWORN at Eden Hills in the State of  
South Australia this 19th day of  
March 1946 before me:



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





This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **FO** referred to in para *three*  
of the affidavit of *Kevin John Hyde*  
made on the *twenty third* day of *October*  
1948 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said  
*Kevin John Hyde* at the time  
of making the said affidavit.

*H. J. Hyde*.....  
Deponent

*W. J. ...*  
A Justice of the Peace





This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **E0** referred to in para *two*  
of the affidavit of *Kevin John Hyde*  
made on the *twentieth* day of *October*  
1946 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said  
*Kevin John Hyde* at the time  
of making the said affidavit.

*H. J. Hyde*  
.....  
Deponent

*Maunak J.*  
.....  
A Justice of the Peace



This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **HO** referred to in para three  
of the affidavit of *Devin John Hyde*  
made on the *twenty third* day of *October*  
1946 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said  
*Devin John Hyde* at the time of  
making the said affidavit.

*... J. Hyde ...*

Deponent

*... J. ...*

A Justice of the Peace



This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **60** referred to <sup>in</sup> para *two* of  
the affidavit of *John Hyde*  
made on the *twenty third* day of *October* 1948  
which said photostatic copy of a photograph was  
produced and shown to the said  
*John Hyde* at the time of  
making the said affidavit.

... *H. J. Hyde* ...  
Deponent

... *B. Hancock, Jr.* ...  
A Justice of the Peace



This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **KO** referred to in para *three*<sup>4</sup>  
of the affidavit of *Kevin John Hyde*  
made on the *twenty third* day of *October*  
1946 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said

*Kevin John Hyde* at the time of  
making the said affidavit.

..... *H. J. Hyde* .....

Deponent

..... *A. Hancock* .....

A Justice of the Peace





This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **50** referred to in para **two**  
of the affidavit of *Kevin John Hyde*  
made on the *twenty third* day of *October*  
1946 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said  
*Kevin John Hyde* at the time  
of making the said affidavit.

*H. J. Hyde*  
.....  
Deponent

*A. B. B. B. B.*  
.....  
A Justice of the Peace



This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **30** referred to in para **two**  
of the affidavit of **Kevin John Hyde**  
made on the **twenty third** day of **October**  
1948 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said

**Kevin John Hyde** at the time of  
making the said affidavit

..... **H. J. Hyde** ..... **A. J. [Signature]** .....  
Deponent: A Justice of the Peace



This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked **30** referred to in para *three*  
of the affidavit of *Kevin John Hyde*  
made on the *twenty third* day of *October*  
1946 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said  
*Kevin John Hyde* at the time of  
making the said affidavit.

*H. J. Hyde*.....  
Deponent

*K. Hancock*.....  
A Justice of the Peace



This is the photostatic copy of a photograph  
marked *CO* referred to in para *two*  
of the affidavit of *Kevin John Hyde*  
made on the *twenty third* day of *October*  
1946 which said photostatic copy of a photograph  
was produced and shown to the said

*Kevin John Hyde* at the time of  
making the said affidavit.

.. *H. J. Hyde* ..... *Abanock J.* .....  
Deponent                      A Justice of the Peace





This is the photostatic copy of a  
photograph marked **80** referred to  
in paragraph of the affidavit of  
*Kevin John Hyde*  
made on the ~~twelfth~~ *third* day of *October* 1946,  
which said photostatic copy of a  
photograph was produced and shown to  
the said *Kevin John Hyde* at the  
time of making the said affidavit.

*H. J. Hyde..*  
Deponent

*M. B. Anovich*  
.....  
A Justice of the  
Peace. *J.S.*



This is the photostatic copy of a photograph marked **AO** referred to in para **two** of the affidavit of *Heinrich John Hyde* made on the *fourth* day of *October* 1946, which said photostatic copy of a photograph was produced and shown to the said *Heinrich John Hyde* at the time of making the said affidavit.

*H. J. Hyde*.....  
Deponent

*Abner J. ...*  
.....  
A Justice of the  
Peace.

I Edwin John HYDE of 2 Bancroft  
Street Kelvin Grove BRISBANE in  
the State of Queensland formerly

QX10205 Pte HYDE E.J. of 2/28 Inf Bn now discharged being duly sworn  
make oath and state as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit sworn by me on the  
sixteenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and forty-six wherein  
in paragraphs thirteen, twenty-two and twenty-three of my said affidavit  
I submitted evidence concerning a Japanese civilian guard named EMIO  
commonly known as "LITTLE RUBBERNECK".

2. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and  
shown to me and marked "10" is and contains a true and correct likeness  
of the person referred to in my said affidavit as a Japanese civilian  
guard named EMIO commonly known as "LITTLE RUBBERNECK."

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 *twenty-third* day of *October* }  
1946 }

*H. J. Hyde*.....

Before me  
A Justice of the Peace

*B. B. ...*  
.....

I Kevin John HYDE of 2 Bancroft  
Street Kelvin Grove BRISBANE in  
the State of Queensland formerly

QX10206 Pte HYDE K.J. of 2/26 Inf Bn now discharged being duly sworn  
make oath and state as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit sworn by me on the sixteenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and forty-six wherein in paragraphs fourteen, seventeen, twenty-six, thirty-one and thirty-two I submitted evidence concerning a Japanese Sjt named IHO.

2. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "80" is and contains a true and correct likeness of the person referred to in my said affidavit as a Japanese Sjt named IHO.

3. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "90" also is and contains a true and correct likeness of the said Sjt IHO.

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 *twenty third* day of *October* }  
1946

*H. J. Hyde*.....

Before me  
A Justice of the Peace

*Bancroft*.....

I Kevin John HYDE of 2 Besteroff  
Street Kelvin Grove BRISBANE in  
the State of Queensland formerly

QX10295 Pte HYDE E.J. of 2/26 Inf Bn now discharged being duly sworn  
make oath and state as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit sworn by me on the  
sixteenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and forty-six wherein  
in paragraphs thirteen, eighteen, twenty and twenty-two of my said aff-  
idavit I submitted evidence concerning a Japanese civilian guard named  
ONODERA also known as "RUBBERNECK"

2. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown  
to me and marked "60" is and contains a true and correct likeness of the  
person referred to by me as a Japanese civilian guard named ONODERA also  
known as "RUBBERNECK."

3. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown  
to me and marked "61" also is and contains a true and correct likeness  
of the said ONODERA also known as "RUBBERNECK."

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 with-  
inamed Deponent at Brisbane }  
on the *16th* day of *October* }  
1946 }

*Kevin J. Hyde*

Before me  
A Justice of the Peace

*[Signature]*

I Nevin John HYDE of 2 Bancroft  
Street Eslyn Grove BRISBANE in  
the State of Queensland formerly

QX10205 Pte HYDE E.J. of 2/26 Inf Bn now discharged being duly sworn  
make oath and state as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit sworn by me on the  
sixteenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and forty-six wherein  
in paragraphs thirteen, twenty-two and twenty-five of my said affidavit  
I submitted evidence concerning a Japanese civilian guard named  
WATANABE.

2. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown  
to me and marked "JC" is and contains a true and correct likeness of  
the person referred to in my said affidavit as a Japanese civilian  
guard named WATANABE.

3. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and  
shown to me and marked "KB" also is and contains a true and correct  
likeness of the said WATANABE.

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 with-  
inamed Deponent at *Brisbane*  
on the *twentieth* day of *October*  
1946

*H. J. Hyde*

Before me  
A Justice of the Peace

*[Signature]*



I Kevin John HYDE of 2 Bancroft  
Street Kelvin Grove BRISBANE in  
the State of Queensland formerly

QX10205 Pte HYDE E.J. of 2/26 Inf An now discharged being duly sworn make  
oath and state as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit sworn by me on the sixteenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and forty-six wherein in paragraphs fourteen, sixteen and seventeen of my said affidavit I submitted evidence concerning a Japanese Lieutenant named UHAROH.
2. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "CO" is and contains a true and correct likeness of the person referred to by me in my said affidavit as a Japanese Lieutenant named UHAROH.
3. The photostatic copy of ~~the~~ photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "ID" also is and contains a true and correct likeness of the said Lieutenant UHAROH.

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 with-  
injured Exponent at *Brisbane*  
on the *twenty third* day of *October*  
1946

Before me  
A Justice of the Peace

*R. J. Hyde*

*B. Hancock*  
*J.P.*

I Kevin John HYDE of 2 Baneroff  
Street Kelvin Grove BRISBANE in  
the State of Queensland formerly

QX10205 Pte HYDE E.J. of 2/26 Inf Bn now discharged being duly sworn make  
oath and state as follows:

1. I crave leave to refer to my affidavit sworn by me on the sixteenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and forty-six wherein in paragraphs seventeen, twentysix, twenty-eight and thirty of my said affidavit I submitted evidence concerning a Japanese Lieutenant named TANAKA.
2. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "A0" is and contains a true and correct likeness of a person referred to in my said affidavit as a Japanese Officer named TANAKA.
3. The photostatic copy of a photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "B0" also is and contains a true and correct likeness of the said Lieutenant TANAKA.

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 with-  
imaged Deponent at *Brisbane*  
on the *twentieth* day of *October*  
1946

*K. J. Hyde*  
Deponent

Before me  
A Justice of the Peace

*Baneroff J.P.*

I, Edwin John HYDE, of 234 Gray Street, SOUTH BRISBANE, in the State of QUEENSLAND, and formerly QX10205 Pte. K.J. HYDE of 2/25 Inf. Bn., now discharged,

being duly sworn make oath and state as follows:-

1. On the fourth day of September One thousand nine hundred and fortyfour I was a Prisoner of War at the River Valley Road Prisoner of War Transit Camp, Singapore. On the same day a Draft of one thousand three hundred and thirty English and Australian Prisoners of War, including myself, were moved to Keppell Harbour Wharf, SINGAPORE. We arrived at the Wharf at approximately 1115 hours and at approximately 1330 hours we were ordered to embark onto a medium sized cargo ship which was berthed alongside the Wharf.

2. We were grouped in Kumi, approximately one hundred and fifty Prisoners of War strong; each Kumi was controlled by a Prisoner of War Officer; each Kumi moved on to the ship separately but, doing so, each Prisoner of War was issued with a rolled block of latex which we presumed was meant for life saving equipment. No attempt was made to keep us below decks on that day. As soon as all troops were aboard the ship weighed anchor and moved out into the harbour. Nothing much happened until just before daybreak on the Sixth day of September One thousand nine hundred and fortyfour when the ship sailed from the Harbour, accompanied by eleven other ships, including an escort of approximately five corvettes.

3. From this moment on the Japanese and Korean guards made every effort to force the entire complement of one thousand three hundred and thirty Prisoners of War to remain below decks. They tried to accomplish this by beating those nearest the Hatchway with the butt end of their rifles and kicking others in the region of the groin. Most of the Prisoners of War were forced below. Soon only approximately one hundred sick were permitted to remain on deck. The remainder were jammed into the hold. The hold was divided by means of a false floor leaving a clearance space of approximately 4 feet. We were unable to stand upright and unable to lie full length on the floor. When we did sleep we slept on

H. J. Hyde

Edwin J. Hyde

top of each other. The stench from the sweating bodies and fouled air was terrific. The only means of ventilation came from the Hatchway and, since there was no inlet for air draft, this was not a ventilator.

4. At all times the majority of the Prisoners of War were fed below. The buckets of rice and water were lowered down through the hatch, although a percentage of Prisoners of War from each Kumi were permitted to eat on deck. The food was bad and in short supply; only two meals were allowed for most of the trip; each Prisoner of War received only half one pint of inferior rice per meal, occasionally supplemented with some watery fish, soup and occasionally a pannicam of hot water or weak tea. The shortage of water proved to be the greatest hardship. The terrific humidity caused men to perspire excessively day and night. We were only allowed to refill our army issue water bottles once every two days on an average.

5. Latrine accommodation was scandalously inadequate. There were three "Boxes" suspended over the side of the ship and only a few men were allowed to move up on to the deck at any one time. Diarrhoea became rampant and, in spite of the fact that the Prisoner of War Medical Staff were able to bring a number of the severe diarrhoea cases up onto the deck, a big percentage of these cases had to remain below and, since they were unable to move quickly up to the deck, the air was further fouled by these unfortunate cases.

6. I, like the majority of Prisoners of War did not have a bath, shave or wash until the ship was sunk yet, when I was able to move up onto the deck, I saw Japanese or Korean guards using fresh water to bath in. I was informed by other Prisoners of War that this was a daily occurrence.

7. It was almost impossible to obtain any exercise. It was agreed that the sick should be left on the deck and the medical officers were informed by the Japanese in charge of the draft (a Lieutenant whose name, I believe, was YAMATA) that he would only permit a small number of Prisoners of War on deck at any given time and, should an excess of the number allowed be discovered, he would force everyone, including all the seriously ill, below deck. Which meant, of course, that we had no option but to remain below and, incidentally, prevented us from becoming familiar with the appearance and names of the guards in charge. These guards were definitely brutal to an extreme on several occasions, but especially when one of the ships in our convoy was hit by a torpedo at

H. G. Hyde

Shimura 20

approximately 0230 hours on the morning of the twelfth day of September One thousand nine hundred and fortyfour. Although it was dark, there was sufficient light from the twin-funnelled Cruiser hit to see the Korean and Japanese guards scampering around the deck and, naturally, a number of Prisoners of War attempted to climb on deck to see what was going on and to be ready in case our ship was struck. The guards prevented them from doing this by smashing blows at them as they attempted to leave the hatch-ways. They used both their boots and rifle butts, and also threatened to shoot.

8. Approximately three hours later the Allied submarine attack continued and two Tankers were hit on our port side. Within a matter of a few minutes we were hit amidships and a few seconds later we were hit in the bows; this torpedo went completely through the bows. By this time the Japanese were in a complete panic and, apart from firing the two small guns, one located fore and the other located aft, at nothing in particular, they made no attempt to do anything but save their own skins. Even the Captain had no thought of saving anything; he was one of the first to leave the ship. The Japanese took possession of all the life-boats that could be removed and, apart from one or two Prisoners of War that they took with them to row the boats, they would not allow anyone else but Japanese to board them. Apart from the few Prisoners that stayed aboard the ship and were successful later in removing the two life-boats that the Japanese were unable to lower, no attempt was made to provide us with any means of life preservation.

9. I finished up on an improvised raft made from two rafts and a ladder and some timbers from the hatchways. Altogether there were seven Englishmen, another Australian and myself on the raft which was always in danger of breaking up and only prevented us from sinking. I was up to my neck in water, as were the others, from 0500 hours until approximately 1900 hours, when we were picked up by a life-boat which had been discarded by the Japanese who had been picked up by one of their own Corvettes some three hours previously.

10. As we were picked up and placed aboard the Corvette, each man was struck across the buttocks with a belaying-pin, shaped similarly to a Baseball bat or a pick handle. The treatment we received on this Corvette was, I suppose, as reasonable as the circumstances permitted.

*H.S.H. 24de*

*James H.*

We were provided with one dry biscuit each which most of us could not eat, and given half one cup of cold water, with a promise of a little more if it could be spared but, apart from this, we were forced to lie on the steel deck without further cover or attention.

11. We implored the officers of the crew to head north-west where, the night before, we had seen seven life-boats filled with English and Australian Prisoners of War. They refused to do this but kept going until we came to a burning patch of oil, where it was presumed a tanker had been struck. The oil was burning fiercely, showing a bright clear light. The Corvette then, strangely, circled around the burning oil so that she was silhouetted against the light. We presumed that this was done to attract the attention of any allied submarine, with the hope of using their depth-charges. Altogether I would say there were one hundred and thirty-two survivors picked up by the Corvette, and of this number eighty were Australians.

12. On the following morning we arrived at some desolate river-mouth which was presumed to be Hanan Island. There were a number of ships there and quite a number of bombers left this Island during our stay. We were transferred immediately to a Japanese Tanker which was prepared to move troops on that day. Latrines were constructed and during this day we were treated reasonably. We were given as much water as we could drink, which was surprisingly little, and fed with chilies, seaweed and rice, and were allowed to clean ourselves.

13. On the following day we were transferred to a Japanese Whaler. In addition to our one hundred and thirty-two troops there were approximately two hundred Englishmen who were already aboard the Whaler. We learnt later that these men were survivors from the other Prisoner of War troop carrying ship, which had been sunk on the same night of the day that we were sunk. This ship, I believe, was named "President Harrison" and, as far as I knew, had aboard approximately two thousand Prisoners of War. This was, I believe, the only other troop carrying ship in the convoy, prior to the allied submarine attack.

14. The Whaler was known as the "Atama Maru" and was apparently a factory ship and we were herded into the area at the fore of the ship. Although accomodation was sufficient as far as space was concerned and we were

*Handwritten note:*  
N 9 14/10

*Handwritten signature:*  
H. W. ...

even able to move about, the air was foul and humidity was high. Only six men were allowed on deck at any one time. No sick were allowed on deck; the sick were segregated towards the bow of the ship. Although the amount of food issued was very meagre the quality was quite reasonable. We received no particular interference from the Japanese during the remainder of the trip. Although two Prisoner of War doctors were present (Captain Richards and an English medical officer) several Englishmen died on the trip. Most of these were thrown unceremoniously overboard. However, there were a few carried ashore dead when we eventually arrived at Moji.

15. We sailed on the seventeenth day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-four in convoy of about sixteen ships but on the nineteenth day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-four the convoy was attacked and three ships were sunk. The remainder of the convoy sailed into Formosa. We stayed at Formosa all day and sailed on the night of the twentieth day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-four, but did not go far when we were again attacked and this time five ships sunk. We returned to Formosa and stayed there four days, sailing again on the twenty-fifth day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-four. At 0300 hours on the twenty-seventh day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-four the convoy was again attacked. This time a corvette was torpedoed so close to our ship that a shower of glass hit the deck and we travelled at a list some time, which gave us the impression that we had been hit. We were at this time within sight of the shore and eventually arrived at the port of Moji on the twenty-eighth day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-four.

16. During the whole of this time, that is from the seventeenth day of September until the twenty-eighth day of September One thousand nine hundred and forty-four we were kept herded below decks, only being allowed to move up to the open deck for the purpose of visiting the latrine. Only six men were allowed on the deck at one time for this purpose; consequently, there was a continual waiting to go "up deck". We thought and spoke freely of escape but realized that we had no chance in this area of escaping. The conditions were so foul and our likelihood of reaching a destination seemed to be so remote that we were almost driven in desperation to attempt an

*Henry D.*

*H. G. M. J.*

escape. Fortunately for those who survived, we did not.

17. When we arrived at Moji we were lowered into barges and ferry-boats and taken to a quarantine area and those that were in possession of clothing were stripped, after first being sprayed with some disinfectant. We were then moved across to what appeared to me to be a sheep dip; we were plunged into hot, disinfected water and were pushed under the water with sticks. We were then taken and bathed in another bath in the same manner, just like cattle, and those fortunate enough to have clothes were allowed to dress. The others, less fortunate, had to submit to the indignity of being paraded in front of the population of civilian women and men in that area. Later we were marched through the streets (no attempt was made to provide covering for the naked men) and we were herded into some horse stalls in what appeared to be an old remount depot. Still later, after darkness, we were marched to a drill hall where we received our first food since disembarkation. The food was handed to us in a Binto box and consisted of a small portion of rice, mixed with seaweed, chillies and some horse radish.

18. On the twenty-ninth day of September one thousand nine hundred and forty-four we were taken by ferry across to the train on the mainland where we were subsequently entrained for Tokio and I eventually arrived at a camp known as 14D, Kawasaki. The name of the ship on which we originally set out for Japan and which was subsequently sunk by a torpedo on the twelfth day of September one thousand nine hundred and forty four was the "Rokuyo Maru".

19. A description of the Japanese officer in charge of the guard of this ship (Lieutenant YAMATA or YAMADA) is as follows :- Age, approximately thirty five to forty years; height, approximately five feet, three inches; heavy, stocky build, dark swarthy complexion, lantern jawed, quietly spoken. I knew this officer prior to embarkation at Kippell Harbour Wharf at the Saigon Camp during the period approximately from the fourth day of April to the fourth day of July one thousand nine hundred and forty-four. I saw him again after we disembarked at Moji prior to entraining for Kawasaki. While I am reasonably certain that YAMATA did not personally assault any Prisoners of War he did both allow and condone the brutal atrocities committed by the guard on the "Rokuyo Maru" between the period sixth day of September and the twelfth day of September one thousand nine hundred and forty-four. He did nothing to relieve the intense suffering caused by the inhumane herding of

H J Hyde

Gurray, J.A.



troops below decks through this period.

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 this 7<sup>th</sup> )  
day of April 1948. )

H. G. Hyde

Before me

[Signature]  
A Justice of the Peace.

I Kevin John HYDE of 2  
 Bancroft Street Kelvin Grove  
 BRISBANE in the State of

Queensland formerly QAL0205 Pte HYDE R.J. of 2/26 Inf Bn AIF now discharged being duly sworn make oath and state as follows:

1. From approximately the thirteenth day of May one thousand nine hundred and forty-three until approximately the thirty-first day of December one thousand nine hundred and forty-three I was a Prisoner of War at 106 Kilo Camp BURMA.
2. During this period several elements of the various "Forces" were staged at this camp including elements of "GREEN FORCE" "BANSAY FORCE" and "BLACK FORCE". All were employed on the construction of the Burma/Thailand Railway.
3. <sup>CH</sup>Generally, conditions at this camp were shocking food medical supplies and clothing were desperately inadequate. This shortage of bare necessity caused serious dietary deficiency diseases.
4. The Japanese and Korean Staff were particularly brutal and had no regard for the PW welfare or life.
5. I remember a Korean known as "THE BULL" who was in charge of the Japanese cook-house. I was detailed to assist this Korean on four occasions. My duties included peeling potatoes and garlic and carrying water to the kitchen. On each occasion, I noticed that "THE BULL" was more concerned in trying to find an excuse to "punish" PW than cooking. He continually conducted search parades (there were five or six PW assistants) and when he found a PW with a potato or a piece of garlic in his possession, immediately punished the offender generally with a heavy piece of timber aiming blows at the head and face. This man was alleged to have been responsible for the death of an Australian PW named ISLES.
6. I did not witness ISLES being beaten by "THE BULL" but from information received from various authorities at this camp I am certain that the person known to me as "THE BULL" is identical with the person who it is alleged beat ISLES so severely that he was unable to recover.
7. The photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "X" is and contains a true and correct likeness of a person referred to by me in this my affidavit as a Korean guard known as "THE BULL."

*H J Hyde*

*A. D. G. G. G.*

*H J Hyde  
 (CH)*

8. The photograph now produced and shown to me and marked "ES" also is and contains a true and correct likeness of the said "THE BULL".

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 *23<sup>rd</sup>* day of *January*  
1947

Before me  
& Justice of the Peace

*H. J. Hyde*  
.....  
*W. R. Chitt*  
.....



This is the photograph marked "UW"  
and referred to in para 14 of the  
affidavit of *Archibald Hynd*  
made on the *fourth* day of *July* 19*14*  
which said photograph was produced  
and shown to the said *Archibald Hynd*  
at the time of making the said  
affidavit.

*A. Hynd*  
.....  
Deponent

*Thorn*  
.....  
A Justice of Peace

"UW"  
PHOTO-  
No 24A



This is the photograph marked "TW"  
and referred to in para 13 of the

affidavit of Archibald HYNND

made on the *thirtieth* day of *July* 1947,

which said photograph was produced

and shown to the said *Archibald HYNND*

at the time of making the said  
affidavit

*A. Hynd*

Deponent

*Turkhan*

A Justice of the Peace.

"TW"  
PHOTO No 94

I, Archibald HYND of 32 St. Pauls  
Terrace, Brisbane, in the State of  
QUEENSLAND, and formerly QX21087

Pte HYND of 2/26 Inf Bn, now discharged being duly sworn make oath and  
state as follows:-

1. From approximately May one thousand nine hundred and forty three until August one thousand nine hundred and forty five I was a Prisoner of War at FUKUOKA Camp No. 15, also known as No. 9 and No. 6 BORIO, in which camp were approximately six hundred officer and other rank Prisoner of War of English, American, Australian and Dutch Nationalities.
2. We were employed as labourers in the ORIO coal mine.
3. The Camp Commander (Japanese) was known to Prisoners of War as "The Old MAN". He was a fairly inoffensive type and if all Japanese in the camp had behaved as he did our life would have been comparatively "easy". However, he was responsible for the running of the camp and in this role failed miserably whether intentionally or otherwise I am not prepared to cast opinion. I do say however that as a commander he allowed his subordinates to practice vile and brutal tortures against Prisoners of War hour upon hour, day after day, for the whole period of our internment. This treatment was responsible for the death of many Prisoners of War and was responsible for many permanent scars and incurable maladies.
4. During the early days of our internment the second in command of the camp was a huge Japanese known to Prisoners of War as "THE BULL" this man was easily the most powerful Nippon I have ever seen. He was happy when he was flooring some Prisoner of War with one of his really powerful punches. On one occasion he boasted that he had slain with his sword an escaped Prisoner of War, one George Arthur Irwin, demonstrating how he had done so.
5. The next senior and I am sure the most evil of all the guards at this camp was known to Prisoners of War as Cpl "DEGAS". I became aware of this man approximately two days after we had arrived in camp. It was dark and I was lying on the floor on the second storey of our quarters when I heard a commotion, peering over the small window bay I saw "DEGAS" rushing about holding a naked sword in his hand. He was calling loudly "HUMBER,

A. Hynd  
J.P.



where is HUMBER?", and something else which I could NOT understand. Apparently he had become incensed by the English Officer Lieut HUMBER'S behaviour and appeared to be quite earnest about his threat.

6. Later I saw him beat several Dutchmen near a large fish pond just outside the Japanese administration office, an inspiration seemed to strike him for he threw them into the pond one by one. This idea seemed to please him for he was continually "on the prowl" for offenders whom he would first beat then throw into the pool.

7. During most of the time spent in this camp I worked in the mine, consequently I did NOT see as much of this man as did other Prisoners of War from my unit who were often in the camp area on light duty work.

8. I was particularly fortunate in that the civilian ganger or "BUNTI JOE" for whom I worked for most of the time was a small good humoured and comparatively pleasant to work with. So much so that I cannot recall ever having been beaten by him.

9. This however was NOT commonplace in the mine. Other "BUNTI JOES" were NOT as tolerant and I have heard of much barbarism and have seen Prisoners of War with bad marks and scars, visible proof of these sadistic assaults.

10. I remember one assault well on QX18070 Pte SMITH A., 2/26 Inf Bn. We had finished the shift and were preparing to leave the mine per medium of the "train". SMITH unconsciously stepped into the "carriage" in front of a "BUNTI JOE" whose name I cannot recall. The "BUNTI JOE" took up his miners pick and struck SMITH across the forehead raising a large lump. SMITH "seeing red" struck the "BUNTI JOE". SMITH was then pulled from the truck and we were moved on from the scene. Later I saw SMITH. The wound on his forehead was slightly cut and much swollen, he showed visible signs of having been badly beaten.

11. Another Australian Prisoner of War NX229876 Gnr Roy DONKIN, 2/15 Fld. Regt. was attacked by a "BUNTI JOE" known as "THE PIG". DONKIN retaliated and immediately was struck down by two other "BUNTI JOES", one of whom struck DONKIN over the head with a safety lamp. Later DONKIN was charged and was sentenced to seven days solitary confinement with a "cut" ration of two rice balls per day.

A. Hynd  
Holmes J.P.

12. The only really bad beating I received during my internment at this camp was at the hands of "DEGASS". I was standing with my hands in my pocket. "DEGASS" ordered me to stand to attention. He then beat me with his fist for approximately three minutes. I felt sick after this assault but was ordered to move with the remainder of the Prisoners of War to the mine.

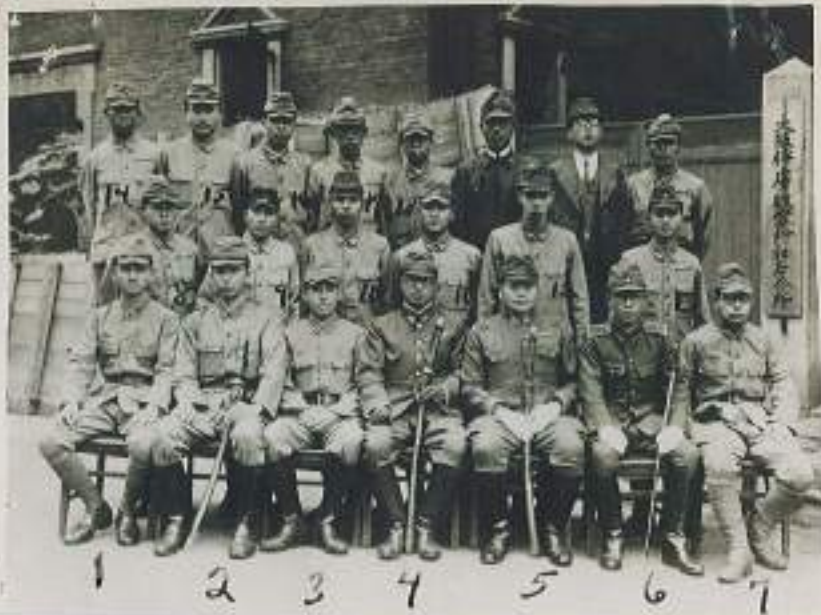
13. The photograph now produced and shown to me and marked with the letters "TW" is and contains a true and correct likeness of the person referred to in this my affidavit as Cpl "DEGASS".

14. The photograph now produced and shown to me and marked with the letters "IW" also is and contains a true and correct likeness of the said Cpl "DEGASS".

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 *Burlone* )  
on the *thirtieth* day of *July* )  
1947 )  
Before me *Wilson* )  
A Justice of the Peace

*A. Hynd*  
.....  
.....



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No 56

"This is the photograph marked '56'  
produced and shown to Marcus Joseph  
HYNDES at the time of swearing his  
affidavit this Twentieth day of  
January 1947.

BEFORE ME

*M. M. Hyndes J.P.*

A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

" On this twentieth day of JANUARY One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty Seven, MARCUS JOSEPH HYNDES of 35 Bridge Street, MUSWELLBROOK in the State of NEW SOUTH WALES, Grazier, makes oath and says as follows:-

(1) My service number was; KX. 48018. Rank, Signaller, Unit, 8th Divisional Signals.  
Date of Capture, 15 February 1942.  
Place of capture, SINGAPORE.  
Date of arrival at KOBE, KAWASAKI Camp, 10 December 1942.  
Duration of stay at KOBE, KAWASAKI Camp, 2 years 5 months, (to 13 May 1945)

(2) "In the photograph now produced and shown to me and marked 'NO 56' I identify the JAPANESE;-

(A) Numbered 17 as the JAPANESE soldier known to me as "HORSEFACE"

1. This Japanese soldier "HORSEFACE" was relieving for a short period at KAWASAKI and during this period I personally witnessed "HORSEFACE" ill-treating a dutchman P.W., whose name I do NOT know.
2. This Dutchman was knocked down several times and kicked whilst down a number of times by the JAPANESE "HORSEFACE" I cannot remember when this took place, but the incident was witnessed by most of the inmates of KAWASAKI Camp KOBE (OSAKA ADMINISTRATION) including our Camp Commander Captain PATTERSON, 8 Divisional Signals, of VICTORIA.
3. I was never at KOBE HOUSE, when my camp was broken up in May 1945, I was sent to FUKUOKA camp KYUSHU Island. Some of the members of KAWASAKI including STRINGER and SHERIFF were sent to KOBE HOUSE.
4. After the destruction of KOBE HOUSE its inmates were taken to KAWASAKI, our former camp.

SWORN BY THE ABOVENAMED DEPONENT  
MARCUS JOSEPH HYNDES AT  
MUSWELLBROOK ON THE TWENTIETH  
DAY OF JANUARY ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND FORTY SEVEN.

*M. J. Hyndes*  
Signature of deponent.

BEFORE ME

*M. J. Hyndes J.P.*

A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

On this thirtieth day of OCTOBER one thousand nine hundred and forty six Marcus Joseph HYNDES of 35 Bridge Street MUSWELLBROOK in the State of New South Wales Grazier makes oath and says as follows.

My service Number was. HX.48018 Signaller, 8 Divisional Signals.  
Date of capture, 15 February 1942.  
Place of capture, SINGAPORE.  
Date of arrival at KOBE, KAWASAKI CAMP. 10 December 1942.  
Duration of stay at KOBE, KAWASAKI CAMP. 2 years 5 months, to 13 May 1945.

*M. M. H.*

I refer to my previous affidavit of the ~~thirtieth day of April~~ twenty fourth day of April one thousand nine hundred and forty six (this date is approximate only)

I identify the JAPANESE in photograph in folder marked "A" and numbered thirty six (36) as SLEEPY This was the nickname this Japanese was known to all the prisoners of war.  
This Japanese SLEEPY was medical orderly his rank was of Private soldier.

Sworn at MUSWELLBROOK by the  
abovenamed deponent Marcus Joseph  
HYNDES this thirtieth day of  
OCTOBER One Thousand Nine  
Hundred and Forty Six.

*M. J. Hynes*  
.....  
(Signature of deponent)

Before me. *M. M. Hynes*  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

On this Twenty ninth day of April One thousand nine hundred and forty-six Marcus Joseph HYNDES of Bridge Street, MUSWELLBROOK in the state of NEW SOUTH WALES, Grazier makes oath and says as follows:

My army number whilst I was serving in the A.I.F. WAS  
KX.48018, rank Sigm, Unit; 8 Div Sigs.

The dates I was held in captivity were as follows: CHANGI, SINGAPORE. 15/2/42 to 14/4/42, ADAM PARK, SINGAPORE. 14/4/42 to 28/11/42, KAWASAKI SUB CAMP, OSAKA. 10/12/42 to 15/5/45. OSAKA P.W. HOSPITAL 15/3/43 to 11/5/43, FUKUOKA NO. 26 from 12/5/45 to 19/8/45.

At KAWASAKI sub-camp KOBE a reign of terror existed for a period from about December 1942 to April 1943 during which beating of a cruel nature were common punishment for minor offences at a time on occasion when men were very weak from starvation by reason of short rations. The camp was in charge of Cpl MARITA at this time and he sometimes himself administered the cruel beatings, I am sure he know about in and feel now he could have prevented it. NX.71578 Sig LYNCH W.F. 8 Div Sigs A.M.F. known to me as "Don", and whose photograph I have seen and recognize was cruelly beaten. I cannot remember exactly when but it was in the warm weather period of 1943 or 1944, subsquently and as a result of the beating he became subject to mental lapses. Some months later LYNCH either fell or jumped from the top tier of bunks to the floor and died as a result of his injuriesthen or some days later. It was generally believed and I beleive that he was in one of these mental lapses when the accident happened and I am therefore of the opinion that his death was caused indirectly by the beating.

Of the medical orderlies at KAWASAKI camp "Sleepy" and "Dopey" were indirectly responsible for many deaths by ordering men to proceed to work when too ill to work, sometimes with temperture as high as 104°.

At OSAKA PW Hospital patients were housed in draughty cold conditions, during heavy rain, rain water flowed over the place, food and medical supplies were short, the place was heavily lice infested, contagious discases spread rapidly particularly scabies and as a result many patients who might otherwise have recovered died.

*M. J. Hynes*

*Eric J. Dwyer*

At KAWAJAKI shipyards about 400 PW were employed in the day time building aircraft carriers, sloop submarines, and oil tankers.

I travelled on the "KAWAKURA MARU" from SINGAPORE to JAPAN Via FORMOSA from 28 Nov to 8 Dec 42, about 1500 PWs were aboard (mixed Nationalities). The ship mounted at least one gun which I saw, and I heard from other aboard that she carried airoplanes and airoplane parts though I did not actually see them myself.

Red Cross inspections by European representatives were carried out at KAWASAKI camp on only two occasion, the Japanese despatched some of the sick PWs to work outside the camp so that they would not be seen, and caused display of foodstuffs in the camp such as meat, fruit and bread to give the impression we were well fed, when such was not the case and had same removed immediately after the inspection. They set up a canteen with price tags displayed on the foodstuffs which also was removed after the inspection. On one of these inspections about 50 PWs BRITISH survivors of the LISBON MARU which was torpedoed, were concealed in a hut under armed guard and were told not to make any noise while the inspection was in progress. Red Cross officials were told this hut was empty.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent  
Marcus Joseph HYNDES at *Gladesville*  
GLADESVILLE on the twenty-ninth  
day of April one thousand nine  
hundred and forty-six

*M. J. Hynes*

BEFORE ME

*Eric J. D. Gregg*

A Justice of the Peace