

ENEMY CANNIBALISM

Fate Of Indian P.O.W.

BRISBANE, Aug 24.—Japanese troops in New Guinea ate their Indian prisoners, Indian Army officers rescued at Wewak by the Sixth Division said at Grovely today. The officers, Capt R. U. Pirzai, Dr Dubadar Gurcharan Singh and Jemadar Qasin, were captured at Singapore.

Capt Pirzai said that of 300 men who went to Wewak with him, only 50 got out. Nineteen were eaten. The Japanese had no meat and stores were scarce. The Indians were in a pitiable state from disease.

A Japanese doctor, Lt Tumiasa, formed a party of three or four men and would send an Indian outside the camp for something. The Japanese would immediately kill him and eat the flesh from his body. The liver, muscles from the buttocks,

thighs, legs and arms would be cut off and cooked. Nineteen men were consumed in this disgusting and nauseating manner in four months.

Dr Singh said one sergeant in his party told him he had seen six men's brains cut out by Japanese and eaten raw. Of 552 men who left Singapore, only two officers and 32 other ranks survived.

"On the day before the Aitape landing," Dr Singh said, "the Japanese drove us towards Aitape, lashing all who were too weak to move. On April 4 Lt Suzuki ordered his men to shoot us in the head. Several of us got away and joined some natives but they brought the Japanese. One stabbed me three times with his bayonet. I eventually made contact with the Sixth Division."