

## JAPANESE KILLED AND ATE US AIRMAN

# Indians' Grim Stories Of Cannibalism By Enemy

**RABAUL.**—Evidence of cannibalism by the Japs, including the killing and eating of a young US airman, has been unearthed as the inquiries into Japanese atrocities in New Britain proceed.

Indians have told of the heading and eating of a young American fighter pilot, and the exhumation and eating of Indians killed by injections.

The American made a forced landing at Totabil on November 12, 1944, about 100 yards from where Japanese were working near General Imamura's headquarters. Half an hour later, the Japs beheaded the airman.

Hiding behind a tree, an Indian saw the Japs cut flesh from the arms, chest, and thighs of the dead pilot, which was about 19.

Soon afterwards, a Jap major-general addressed 150 Japs. At the end of his speech the Japs ate the human flesh, which had been cooked in the meantime.

Equally nauseating is the murder of two Indian prisoners who reported sick on April 5, 1944.

Jap doctors had syringes filled with a colourless liquid when the Indians arrived. The first soldier died instantly after being given the injection, but the other lived for half an hour. They were buried, but early that afternoon Jap doctors and others had the bodies dug up. An eyewitness watched in horror as a Jap removed the livers and cut off fleshy parts. They took these back to their quarters, cooked and ate them. An Indian who refused to cook the flesh was brutally battered.

All members of a Japanese execution party which slaughtered nine Indonesians and one Indian prisoner of war alongside an open grave near Rabaul on February 19, 1944, were identified by an eyewitness of the atrocity at a parade recently.

This witness was the driver of the death truck in which the victims were taken to a jungle plantation to be mown down by fire from rifles and a machine-gun.

He said that the prisoners, who had been recaptured after an escape, were led out to the truck blindfolded, and lifted up and thrown on to it. When the vehicle reached the plantation they were flung out and marched 60 yards into the jungle, and ordered to sit alongside a freshly-dug trench.

Riflemen opened fire, and a machine-gun was then let loose. Those who fell into the grave were not fired on again, but those who collapsed on the edge were the target until they were swept into the trench by a sheer velocity of lead.

When all 10 bodies were in the grave, the Japs bayoneted them and filled in the earth.

He said that the prisoners, who had been recaptured after an escape, were