

1832

SYNOPSIS - NEW GUINEA

I now propose to offer documentary evidence relating to treatment of prisoners of war, civilians and natives in New Guinea.

(a) Prosecution Document No. 5379 is affidavit of Major Charles Henry BICKS of the Australian Imperial Forces. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

I will read paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this exhibit.

.....

(b) Prosecution Document No. 5378 is affidavit of former Captain Charles Walter KENDALL of 18 Australian Infantry Brigade. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

I will read paragraphs 2 to 8 of this document.

.....

(c) Prosecution Document No. 5388 is the affidavit of former Captain Alan Sladen Palmer of 1 Australian Independent Company. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

(d) Prosecution Document No. 405B consists of excerpts from Evidentiary Document No. 405. It contains records of the interrogation of two Japanese prisoners and excerpts from 6 Japanese diaries. I tender the document in evidence.

.....

From these excerpts it appears that 7 to 9 Australians of whom 3 or 4 were women and one a child were captured by the Japanese near Buna towards the middle of August and executed on the following day.

.....

(e) Prosecution Document No. 405A contains further excerpts from Evidentiary Document No. 405. It contains an excerpt from a captured diary and the record of a statement made by a Japanese prisoner. I tender this document in evidence.

.....

I will read the diary excerpt from "Blood Carnival" down to the words "instruct to the A.T.C. at Moresby."

(f) Prosecution Document No. 5390 is a statement made by Sepoy Bachan SINGH of 1/13 F.F.R. I tender the document for identification and the excerpts marked therein in evidence.

.....

I propose to read the marked excerpts other than the translator's certificate.

.....

(g)

Prosecution Document No. 5384 is a Statutory Declaration made by Jemadar Abdul LATIF of 4/9 Jat Regiment. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

I will read paragraph 3 of this Declaration.

(h) Prosecution Document No. 5391 is a Statutory Declaration made by L/Cpl Dina MATH of 3/17 Dogra Regiment. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The declarant as an Indian prisoner of war, was a member of 18 Indian Working Party. In May, 1944, the main body of this party went to RABANG leaving behind at BUT 100 sick Indians. About a month later Jap L/CPL TAKASHI who had remained with these sick prisoners said they had been killed by machine guns and hand grenades as a reprisal because some Gurkhas had signalled to allied aircraft.

(i) Prosecution Document No. 5382 is a Statutory Declaration by Pte Chain SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The declarant states that in August, 1944, two Indian prisoners of war, Sergeant Varian SINGH and L/Cpl ILAZAR SINGH were beaten by the Japanese with a shovel and sticks and were then taken away. He never saw them again.

.....

(j) Prosecution Document No. 5383 is a statement of Japanese L/Pte YASUSAKI, Masaji of 19 Special Water Duty Coy. I tender this document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

YASUSAKI admits that he and another Japanese shot and killed the two Indian prisoners of war, Sergeant Varian Singh and L/Cpl Hazara Singh referred to in previous exhibit.

.....

(k) Prosecution Document No. 5380 is a statement by Japanese L/Pte YASUSAKI. I tender this document for identification and marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

He states that at Ranimboa in September, 1944, an Indian officer, Rashid MOHD and an Indian N.C.O. complained to the Japanese that another Japanese soldier had taken tobacco and shoes from them. Yasusaka and another Japanese then tied the Indians hands, took them into the bush and shot them.

.....

(1) Evidentiary Document No. 5381 is a Statutory Declaration by the LAKHU RAM. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

This document refers to the same happening as previous exhibit.

.....

(m) Prosecution Document No. 5386 is Statutory Declaration of JILADAR CHINT SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The declarant tells of an Indian Prisoner of War being beaten into unconsciousness by a Japanese in February, 1945, at MURRINGI. Three weeks later he died from the effects of this beating.

.....

(n) Prosecution Document No. 5387 is a Statutory Declaration made by Sergeant Hamir SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The declarant tells of the shooting and killing of four sick Indian officers, who were prisoners of war, by the Japanese at YALU, New Guinea in February, 1945.

.....

(o) Prosecution Document No. 5229 is a record of the interrogation of Japanese Captain ONO, Satoru of 53 Field Anti-Aircraft Artillery Bn., 36 Div. 2nd. Army. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

ONO, Satoru states that he applied to Yoshino unit commander for an American prisoner of war to kill. He was given two. He had then bayoneted and then beheaded. One was finally beheaded with a shovel. This was in 1944. He did it because he had a strong hostile feeling on account of Americans bombing his battery.

.....

(p) Prosecution Document No. 5385 is sworn record of interrogation of Captain MATO, SHINJIRO of Fujimura Unit. I tender the document for identification and marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

The deponent stated that on orders of Chief of Staff Divisional Headquarters he executed an Australian soldier who had been captured at OTAKWA about 12th November, 1944.

.....

(q) Prosecution Document No. 5314 is a Netherlands Forces Intelligence Service Report, with two photographs attached. I tender the document for identification and the marked excerpts including photographs in evidence.

.....

The report contains a statement by a Japanese prisoner of war admitting that he took part in the execution of an Australian Sergeant and two Ambon natives at Aitapee on 24th October, 1943.

.....

(r) Prosecution Document No. 5389 is a Netherlands Forces Intelligence Service Report. I tender it for identification and the marked excerpts in evidence.

.....

This report contains a statement by Fusilier Nawi bin Gimam that in July, 1944, on Noenfoor Island he and other Indonesians were tied up and bayoneted by the Japanese. He and one other feigned death and ultimately escaped. At least 14 of the remainder were killed.

.....

(s) Prosecution Document No. 409A contains extracts from Evidentiary Document No. 409. Paper 573 contains an order made by the Tribunal on 25th November, 1946, authorizing service of excerpts from Evidentiary Document No. 409 on accused instead of copies of Evidentiary Document No. 409. I tender Prosecution Document No. 409A in evidence.

.....

I will read sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) from first page of document.

.....

That completes the evidence on the New Guinea Section of this phase.

1833A

Evidentiary Document No. 5379.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL OF THE FAR EAST

NO. 1.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHERS

- against -

ABRAKI, Sadao and OTHERS

I, Charles Henry BICKS, of "Standford", Amy Street, Hawthorne, at present attached to Northern Command Discharge Depot, Redbank, QX 47482, make oath and say as follows:-

1. I am at present a Major in the Australian Military Forces.
2. In August, 1942, I was a Captain attached to the 61st. Australian Infantry Battalion, and I was OC of "B" Coy.
3. I was at Milne Bay on Tuesday, 25th August, 1942, when the Japanese landed in that area, and I took part in the fighting which occurred in that area between the Japanese and Australian Forces from the 25th August, 1942 until the 31st. August, 1942.
4. On the morning of the 30th August, 1942, I took a patrol consisting of myself and four others into Japanese occupied territory. At a place called MOTE0, where our forces had engaged the Japanese on the night of the 26th, I saw a native lying on his face in the middle of the road. His hands were tied behind him with signal wire (Don-3 Cable). He had been shot three or four times through the body, and he had also been bayoneted through the stomach about three times. I did not know/who this native was, but he appeared to me to have been a native of that district. From my observations, I would say definitely that he had been bayoneted and shot after having been tied up.
5. Further on in the jungle, near the same village, I found the body of a native woman. She had been tied down with signal wire by the wrists and legs to stakes. She was lying on her back and was naked. She had been killed by a knife or a bayonet slash from the stomach upwards.
6. Further on near KOEBELE, where fighting had taken place on the night of the 27th, between the 2/10th and the Japanese, I found the bodies of six Australians lying near the track. Their hands had been tied behind their backs with signal wire, and they had been bayoneted through the stomach. Two of them had had their arms smashed with rifle bullets fired at close range. These men were lying with their knees up. I looked for the Identity Discs, but these had all been removed.
7. On the beach near the KOEBELE JETTY I saw the bodies of two

Artillery officers. They were naked, and had apparently been killed by ~~machine gun fire~~, and the flesh seemed to be burnt. As these bodies were lying near the corner of a hut which had been burnt, I consider that the hut had caught fire and they had been burnt in this fire.

SWORN BEFORE ME AT)
BRISBANE ON THE 23rd.)
DAY OF AUGUST, 1946.) /s/ C. H. Bicks, Major.

/s/ A. J. Mansfield
Judge of Supreme Court of Queensland.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL OF THE FAR EAST

No. 1.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHERS

- against -

ABAKI, Sadac AND OTHERS

I, Charles Walter KENDALL, of 747 Sandgate Road, Clayfield, Brisbane, in the State of Queensland, civil servant, make oath and say as follows:-

1. In the months of August and September, 1942, I was a Captain in the Australian Military Forces being QX 6134. I was attached to the 18th Infantry Brigade Headquarters, and took part in the fighting at Milne Bay during those months.
2. About 1st. or 2nd. September, 1942, at Waga Waga in Milne Bay we captured the Headquarters of a Japanese Marine Regiment. In clearing the jungle around these Headquarters for our own defensive position, I saw the bodies of two Australian soldiers who had been members of the 61st. Militia Battalion.
- VB { 3. One of these bodies was lying on the ground with his hands tied together in front of him, and his trousers pulled down around his knees and tied down to his boots by his belt. He had the tops of his ears cut off, and about twenty knife or bayonet wound in the body. His hands were tied in front of his chest and his fore-arms were cut as though he had been trying to protect himself. His buttocks and genitals had been frightfully mutilat
4. About six feet away from his body the other body was tied to a tree, with his hands behind his back. He had about six small wounds on the upper arm. The ground around the base of the tree was very disturbed as though he had been tied there for some days.
5. Both these bodies were not more than fifty yards from the Japanese Headquarters which had been captured.
6. On the track leading from Waga Waga to Lillihi, I saw the body of another Australian soldier, with his hands tied behind his back, lying face downwards. He was tied with string. He had a wound on his leg, with a service field dressing on it, and he had the top of his head cut right off. The top portion of the skull was lying forward as if it had been cut right through with a heavy knife or sword, and had been chopped from the rear. He also had lacertaions criss-crossing his back and shoulders. They appeared to be knife or sword wounds, and had cut right throuh the shirt in the flesh.
7. Between the villages of Waga Waga and Goroni, near a Japanese Wireless Station, I saw the body of a native woman pegged out on the ground. She was tied with twine from her wrists and

ankles to pegs driven in the ground. Both of her breasts had been cut off and one was placed on her face and the other one on her stomach. The body appeared to be that of a young native woman about 20 years old. She was naked, and did not appear to have been dead for very long. In my opinion, her breasts had been severed with a knife as they were very raggedly cut.

8. Within a couple of days a Japanese soldier was captured at Ahiona. He spoke English, and I showed him the bodies of the two Australian soldiers whom I have previously mentioned. He told me that he was attached to the landing party, and that the ill-treatment and torturing of Australian troops was done by the orders of their officers so that the Japanese soldiers would fight and not surrender, because the same things would be done to them now that these atrocities had been committed on the Australians.

/s/ C. W. Kendall.

SWORN BEFORE ME AT)
BRISBANE ON THE)
23RD DAY OF AUGUST,)
1946.)

/s/ A. J. Mansfield
Judge of Supreme Court of Queensland.

1835A

IN THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
FOR THE FAR EAST.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHERS

V

ARAKI, SADA O AND OTHERS

A F F I D A V I T

I, Alan Staden Palmer, of 48 Rainbow Avenue, South Broken Hill, in the State of New South Wales, formerly SX6543 Captain A.S. Palmer, of 1 Australian Independent Company, make oath and say:

1. In August, 1942, I was on patrol duty in the vicinity of Milne Bay in New Guinea, and was passing through a small native village about half a mile inland from Kabi mission. On the outskirts of the village I saw eight native men and women lying dead. They had been dead from two to five days, and all were shot or bayoneted.

2. I went on into the village and saw an Australian soldier tied to a coconut palm by D5 telephone cable. His arms had been tied around the tree and the wire had cut deeply into his wrists, and this led me to believe that he was alive when tied to the tree. He was practically naked, wearing only a pair of tattered shorts. He had a number of bullet wounds in his body. He was dead. I also saw quite a number of natives lying about dead, including two native women and one native man who were tied to trees. They had been killed by either sword or bayonet thrusts.

SWORN AT BROKEN HILL IN THE

STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

THIS THE 4TH DAY OF OCTOBER 1946

(sgd) A. S. PALMER.

BEFORE ME

(sgd) J. MANDERSON J.P.

1836A

(being excerpts from pages 18 to 24 of Evidentiary Document 405.)

(E) The following references establish the fact and circumstance of the execution of 7-9 Australians in the vicinity of BUNA Government Station about 12 - 14 Aug 42.

(1) The summary report of interrogation of PW JA 100037 yields the following account. Examining Officers were Lieutenant-Commander L.C.S. SHEPPARD, R.N. and G.W. COLTON, USNR.

"No. 4 Section of No. 3 Platoon, No. 2 Company of TSUKIOKA Force was on duty at HAKOZAKI LARU Landing Place, about 2½ miles West of BUNA and identified by PW as SANANANDA Point, from 11 Aug until it rejoined the main unit at BUNA on 22 Aug 42. PW did not, therefore, witness the incident, but heard about it for the first time about 15 Aug. Two men from No. 4 Section ITTOSUIHEI (1st. Class Seaman) INOUE, Fukuichi, and SANTOSUIHEI (3rd. Class Seaman) IWAMATSU, Takeshi, had left the Landing Place that morning for BUNA, and on their return the same evening they told the story to the rest of No. 4 Section. PW had also talked with other members of the Force who were at BUNA at the time, but claim that he did not hear much about the incident.

PW heard that the party consisted of 7 Australians. Two were men aged about 30, one fat and one not so fat. One was a child aged about 7, which PW thought was a boy. He thought the other four were women, one being the mother of the child and aged about 25. He could give no further description of them, and did not know if they were traders or missionaries. He did not think that the men were soldiers. They had 2 rifles, but he did not think they had any other gear, such as pistols, W/T set, or provisions. He did not know whether the Battalion Commander had any previous knowledge of their former residences. He had not heard of MAHIKOFU Village.

PW heard that the party was brought in by about 20 natives about 12 Aug. but he did not know at what time. He did not know whence the natives came, as those around BUNA had fled some time before. They were, however, natives of NEW GUINEA and did not come from KAPPAUL. He did not know who was the "headman". He did not think that Australians were brought in by force, as they carried 2 rifles, but they may have been deceived by the natives. He thought the latter were acting on their own accord, not under Japanese instructions. He thought that the natives left BUNA after they had been interviewed by an interpreter, and did not witness the execution.

PW did not know what happened when the party reached the Japanese sentry lines. They were, however, captured near a road at the edge of coconut plantation. After capture, they were put in a building in the clearing near the Point.

/He had not heard of any reward being given to them

PW believed that the building was formerly used as a garage. It was completely open at one end, about 10 metres long, 5 metres wide, and 7 - 8 metres high, and had no doors or windows. The roof and walls were made of corrugated iron, tarred or painted black. The floor was made of earth. A dirt road ran in front of the open end.

The prisoners were kept together in this building for the night of the 12/13 Aug. Sentries from No. 3 Platoon were posted; they were outside the building and not inside. One of them was a man from No. 1 Section of No. 3 Platoon, OKUMURA, Masao, with whom PW had spoken subsequently. He did not know the names of the other guards. He did not think that they were bound or stripped, or in any way mistreated. He did not think that the women were raped then, or at any later time, but did not enquire about it; the Japanese would not do a thing like that. Even if they were, PW would not be told about it. Naturally they would be given military rations, and would be allowed to go to a latrine. ✓G

While in the building, the prisoners were visited by the interpreter, a man called TASHIRO, personal name unknown. He was a GUNZOKU (Civilian in Naval employment) and came from RABAU. PW did not know if he lived in RABAU before the war. He spoke to natives in pidgin English. He was last seen alive and well by PW on GOODENOUGH Island Sept. or Oct. 42. The interpreter asked the prisoners their names, ages, occupations, etc. PW did not hear the results of the questioning. He did not know whether they were brought before the Battalion Commander, Commander TSUKIOKA, I. J. N., who was the Senior Naval Officer and in BUNA at the time. PW did not know whether any form of trial or court-martial was held. He did not know why they were treated in such a way, but presumed that the execution was the idea of the Battalion Commander (BUTAICHO NO OMOE).

The prisoners were executed the following day, 13 Aug. PW did know at what time, but thought it was afternoon. Before they were killed, a grave was dug. PW did not know whether it was dug by prisoners themselves. He did not know the place where execution took place, but did not think it was in immediate vicinity of camp. It was not in the hills. PW did not know if prisoners were bound before, or during, the execution, and did not think they were stripped. He did not think they were ill treated or teased in any way.

No order was given that all members of the BUTAI were to witness the execution, and attendance was voluntary. Some men remained in their billets, including No. 1 Section Leader of No. 3 Platoon, FUKUHARA, Katsuichi. PW could not give names of others who stayed away, but thought they included Nos. 2 and 3 Section Leaders of No. 3 Platoon. He stated that a man would not be asked whether he attended or not. No. 1 Platoon of No. 2 Company was not present, as it was at a place about 5 RI (12 miles) from BUNA, and did not return until after 24 Aug. The 14th Pioneer

Regiment was also in the BUNA Area, but did not know about the execution, and did not witness it.

PW did not know whether the Battalion Commander was present at the execution, nor the names of officers who attended. He thought that men from the Battalion Headquarters Platoon, No. 2 Platoon, No. 3 Platoon less No. 4 Section, and Company MG Platoon were present. Spectators were fallen in to witness the execution, PW did not hear of any speeches being made beforehand.

PW did not know how many men carried out the execution, but thought there was one man to each prisoner. He did not know if they were volunteers or not. He did not know the names of the executioners and stated most emphatically that this was the truth and that he was not lying. He was not certain from which Platoons they came, but thought they were from No. 2 Platoon and the MG Platoon.

The Prisoners were made to kneel down by the grave and were killed one by one, and not all together. He did not know the order in which they were killed except that the mother and child were killed towards the last. The mother was holding the child, who was crying, in her arms when she was shot with a pistol. The child was then shot with a pistol. He did not know how many shots were fired. PW thought that the man who shot them was a rating and not an officer. The other prisoners were all stabbed with bayonets, but PW did not know how many times. He had not heard, but did not think that their heads were cut off afterwards. He had not heard of a girl aged 16 trying to escape and having her head cut off. He did not know how long the execution took to complete.

PW did not know if all the bodies were buried together in the one grave. They were not cremated, nor were their bodies thrown into the sea. He did not know if the grave was marked in any way, and had never seen it himself. He could not guide anyone to it.

PW stated that he and his friends were ashamed of the incident. He thought that such treatment was not proper and was very brutal. The child, in particular, was pitiful. He thought it "a little cruel" on the part of the Battalion Commander.

PW denied any knowledge of the capture in the BUNA Area, Jul and Aug. 42, of a further group of prisoners or of an American Air Corps Pilot, or of an Australian 2nd. Lieutenant. He had not heard of the execution of any natives. While on GOODENOUGH Island Aug - Oct. 42, natives had mentioned a white man with radio equipment. A search was made for him, but the search party returned without finding him. PW did not think a further search was made, nor any prisoners captured on the island.

PW emphatically stated that he had not told any lies, and even if there were any mistakes in his story, it was the truth as he knew it. He reiterated that he did not know the names of the executioners, as he had never heard who they were."

ATIS Special Interrogation Report of PW JA 100037).

Comment: TSUKIOKA Force is identical with SASEBO
5 SNLP.

(2) ATIS Document No. 243 (Original is reproduced as Appendix "A", Part II, p A2) a diary belonging to SHIN, Shunji, 1st. Class Seaman, 2 Company, SASEBO 5 SNLP, contains the following entries:

"13 Aug - Natives brought in British prisoners - 5 men, 3 women, 1 child. They were lodged in one room.

14 Aug - Beginning at about 8 o'clock, the nine prisoners were beheaded and shot to death (T.N. i.e., some of them were beheaded, and some shot)." (ATIS Current Translations No. 6, p.8)

(3) ATIS DOCUMENT NO. 1051, (Original is reproduced as Appendix "A", Part III, p A3) a diary dated 17 June 42 - 17 Aug 42 belonging to unknown member of SASEBO 5 SNLP, 2 Company, 1 Platoon, 1 Section, contains the following entries:

"12 Aug - In the afternoon natives brought in nine British people, male and female.

13 Aug - Yesterday's nine British people were shot to death to-day."
(ATIS Current Translations No. 32, pp 32, 33).

(4) ATIS Document No. 1268, (Original is reproduced as Appendix "A", Part IV, p A4) a diary dated 10 Jun 42 - 14 Aug 42, owner and unit unknown, contains the following entries:

"6 white people and 3 Australians - 5 men, 3 women and 1 child - taken prisoner (13th). (T.N. from section headed "August" by writer).

"14th - Disposal of prisoners 0830. (T.N. The word used in the original is "SHOBUN" i.e. "disposal", in the sense of "to dispose of" or "to deal with")."
(ATIS Current Translations No. 49, p.41)

(5) ATIS Document No. 1274, (Original is reproduced as Appendix "A", Part V p A5) a diary dated 10 Jun 42 - 13 Dec. 42 belonging to TATEMACHI, Sei of 14 Pioneer Regiment, contains the following entry:

"14 Aug - It is said that some Americans, 3 men 3 women and 1 child, were shot to death in the morning."
(ATIS Current Translations No. 19, p 17)

(9). PW JA 100037, interrogated by Lieutenant-Commander L.C.S. SHEPPARD, R.N. and Lieutenant G. W. COLTON, USNR, definitely established the location of the building in which the 7 Australians were imprisoned. PW drew a sketch of the area which, together with a tracing of an aerial photograph, is reproduced as Appendix "C" (pp C1). He stated that:

"Area where PsW were kept on night of 12 - 13 Aug 42 was the BUNA Government Station.

He believed building had been used as a garage. It was about 10 metres long, 5 metres wide and 7 - 8 metres high. Building was completely open at one end and had no doors or windows. Roof was made of corrugated iron. Walls were of corrugated iron, nailed to upright posts, and tarred or painted black. Floor was made of earth. A dirt road ran in front of the open end.¹¹
(ATIS Special Interrogation Report of 19 Aug 43 on PW JA 100037).

(1) Available evidence bearing upon possible participants in this execution is set forth below:

(A) PW interrogations have established that the following units of SASEBO 5 SNLP were stationed in BUNA Area at time of the incident:

Battalion Headquarters Platoon
No. 2 Company
No. 1. Platoon
No. 2 Platoon
No. 3 Platoon
Machine Gun Platoon
Anti-Aircraft Machine Gun Platoon
Anti-Tank Gun Platoon
Sea Transport Unit
Medical Unit
Accountant Unit

The remaining units of SASEBO 5 SNLP were stationed at LAE or RABAUL, and did not take part in the incident.

1836B
P. 1
(Being excerpts from pages 4 to 7 of Evidentiary Document No. 405).

(1) SWPA:

(a) The following references established the fact and circumstances of the execution of a Flight Lieutenant near SALAMAUA on 29 Mar 43.

(1) ATIS Document No. 4959, (Original reproduced as Appendix "A", Part 1, page A1), extracts from diary, owner and unit unknown, contains the following passage:

"BLOOD CARNIVAL"

"29 Mar 43. All four of us (Technician KUROKAWA, NISHIGUCHI, YAWATA and myself) assembled in front of the Headquarters at 1500 hours. One of the two members of the crew of the Douglas which was shot down by A/A on the 18th, and who had been under cross-examination by the 7th Base Force for some days, had been returned to the SALAMAUA Garrison, and it had been decided to kill him. Unit Commander KOMAI, when he came to the observation station to-day, told us personally that, in accordance with the compassionate sentiments of Japanese BUSHIDO, he was going to kill the prisoner himself with his favourite sword. So we gathered to observe this. After we had waited a little more than ten minutes, the truck came along.

"The prisoner, who is at the side of the guard house, is given his last drink of water, etc. The Chief Medical Officer, Unit Commander KOMAI and the Headquarters Platoon Commander came out of the officers' mess, wearing their military swords. The time has come, so the prisoner, with his arms bound and his long hair now cropped very close, totters forward. He probably suspects what is afoot; but he is put on the truck and we set out for our destination. I have a seat next to the Chief Medical Officer, but ten guards ride with us. To the pleasant rumble of the engine we run swiftly along the road in the growing twilight. The glowing sun has set behind the western hills, gigantic clouds rise before us, and the dusk is falling all around. It will not be long now. As I picture the scene we are about to witness, my heart beats faster.

VB { I glance at the prisoner; he has probably resigned himself to his fate. As though saying farewell to the world, as he sits in the truck he looks about, at the hills, at the sea, and seems deep in thought. I feel a surge of pity and turn my eyes away.

As we passed by the place where last year our lamented squad leader was cremated, Technician NISHIGUCHI must have been thinking about him too, for he remarked "It's a long time since we were here last". It certainly is a long time. We could see the place every day from the observation post, but never got a chance to come.

It is nearly a year since the squad leader was cremated. I was moved in spite of myself, and as I passed the place I closed my eyes and prayed for the repose of SHIMIZU's soul.

The truck runs along the sea shore. We have left the Navy guard sector behind us and now come into the Army guard sector. Here and there we see sentries in the grassy fields, and I thank them in my heart for their toil as we drive on. They must have got it in the bombing the night before last - there are great holes by the side of the road, full of water from the rain. In a little over twenty minutes, we arrive at our destination, and all get off.

Unit Commander KOMAI stands up and says to the prisoner, "We are not going to kill you". When he tells the prisoner that in accordance with Japanese BUSHIDO he would be killed with a Japanese sword, and that he would have two or three minutes' grace, he listens with bowed head. The Flight-Lieutenant (T.N. in Japanese, "TAII" - this refers to the prisoner) says a few words in a low voice. Apparently he wants to be killed with one stroke of the sword. I hear him say the word "One" (T.N. in English). The Unit Commander becomes tense and his face stiffens as he replies, "Yes" (T.N. in English).

Now the time has come, and the prisoner is made to kneel on the bank of a bomb crater filled with water. He is apparently resigned; the precaution is taken of surrounding him with guards with fixed bayonets, but he remains calm. He even stretches out his neck, and is very brave. When I put myself in the prisoner's place, and think that in one more minute it will be good-bye to this world, although the daily bombings have filled me with hate, ordinary human feelings make me pity him.

The Unit Commander has drawn his favourite sword. It is the famous OSAKI E sword which he showed us at the observation post. It glitters in the light and sends a cold shiver down my spine. He taps the prisoner's neck lightly with the back of the blade, then raises it above his head with both arms, and brings it down with a sweep.

I had been standing with my muscles tensed, but in that moment I closed my eyes.

SSH!.....It must be the sound of blood spurting from the arteries. With a sound as though something watery had been cut, the body falls forward. It is amazing - he had killed him with one stroke. The onlookers crowd forward. The head, detached from the trunk, rolls in front of it. SSH! SSH!....The dark blood gushes out.

All is over. The head is dead white, like a doll. The savageness

Keto

which I felt only a little while ago is gone, and now I feel nothing but the true compassion of Japanese BUSHIDO. A Senior corporal laughs loudly "Well, he will enter Nirvana now!" Then, a superior seaman of the medical unit takes the Chief Medical Officer's Japanese sword and, intent on paying off old scores, turns the headless body over on its back, and cuts the abdomen ~~body~~ open with one clean stroke. "They are thick-skinned, these KETO (T.N. "Hairy foreigner" - common term of opprobrium for a white man) - even the skin of their bellies is thick." Not a drop of blood comes out of the body. It is pushed over into the crater at once and buried.

Now the wind blows mournfully and I see the scene again in my mind's eye. We get on to the truck again and start back. It is dark now. We get off in front of the Headquarters. I say good-bye to Unit Commander KOMAI, and climb up the hill with Technician KUROKAWA. This will be something to remember all my life. If ever I get back alive it will make a good story to tell, so I have written it down.

AT SALAMUA Observation Post, 30 Mar 43, 0110 hrs, to the sound of the midnight waves.

Note: The prisoner killed to-day was an Air Force Flight-Lieutenant (T.N. "TAII") from MOHESBY. He was a young man, 23 this year, said to have been an instructor to the A.T.C. at MOHESBY."

(ATIS Spot Report No. 153, pp 1, 2)

1. a. (1) (a) (2) FWJA 145598 stated that:

"He had heard of an officer named KOMAI. He volunteered information that he had heard of KOMAI's executing someone, but could give no further information."

(ATIS Interrogation Report, Serial No. 292, p 8).

(3) ATIS Document No. 5496, file of reference notes and intelligence reports belonging to Lt. KAWADE of 20 Division Headquarters Staff, contains records of various American and Australian POW captured in NEW GUINEA. One such interrogation report appears from internal evidence to be that of the victim in the abovenoted "Blood Carnival". It is reproduced as Appendix "B" (pp B1)
ATIS Document No. 5496, pp 71 - 78.

CONFIDENTIAL

Translation of statement by 19678 Sep. BACHAN SINGH 1/13 F.F.R.

On 5 May, 1943, I left SINGAPORE for NEW GUINEA as a prisoner of war in a Japanese ship. There were about 595 men in the party. I cannot describe the hardships we suffered during the voyage. For bathing and washing we had to use sea water. Food was very little and there was a space only 10 feet by 10 feet for all of us in which to sleep. I could neither sleep nor sit down. These hardships lasted for 10 days.

On 16 May 1943, I disembarked at WEWAK, NEW GUINEA. For two days following our arrival we were given no shelter, clothing or food of any kind. We were tormented by mosquitos and several men fell ill. When our officers reported about the lack of food the Japanese beat them saying, 'That's our affair. Whatever we do is right'. Two days later we were taken to a place 3 miles away. There an order was given that every man will build his own hut out of jungle plants. Nobody could make smoke etc. by day nor light a fire at night because they were afraid of American aircraft. If anyone did anything to the contrary he was punished with death. After about a week, our men began dying of fever, dysentery, beri-beri and several other diseases. Our party was sent from WEWAK to another place. From there 350 men were sent to BUT. The remainder (those who were in WEWAK) were sick. For them there was no arrangement for rations or medicine. I went with the 350 men to BUT. For the next 3 months fit PWs got rations but no food was given to the sick. We used to share our rations with them. We were worked so hard that we got no rest during the day or night. For about 8 days we were made to work continuously without any relief. The result was that 5 or 6 men died every day. Nothing could be done to dispose of their bodies by cremation or burial. Those who became ill were only relieved of fatigues when they could not walk. They would relieve a man one or two days before he died. If our officers complained they would be brutally beaten. No heed was given to any report or grievance.

On 14 Dec 43, at about 1 a.m. American aircraft began to bomb the locality and afterwards they came regularly. Then our officers told the Jap officer i/c of the party that a flag should be put over our camp to indicate prisoners of war. There was a Jap. Lt. Col. TAKANO present to whom this was reported by the Jap. officer. He replied "No permission from our Government to place flags over P.W. camps has been received".

While air raids were going on he put us to work on the airfield. Our officers complained that their men should not have to remain on the airfield during an air raid but this complaint was rejected. On aircraft approaching, all the Japs of our party used to run into the jungle, but our orders were that none was to move a step. If any I.O.R. or officers fled for cover they were severely beaten. Due to this they could not sleep for several nights.

On 15 Dec. 43 at BUT when we were working on the airfield there was a very heavy air attack in which 5 of our men were killed and 10 wounded. The latter were given no treatment or food. They were taken to a Jap hospital where several of them were killed by some injection of poison. I worked at BUT for about 10 months during which I got 4 biscuits and 5 (ounces?) of boiled rice per day. From BUT we returned to WEWAK. At BUT 160 men died out of 350. Only 190 men reached WEWAK. When I got there I learnt that all the sick, whom we had left there, had died. After 2 days at WEWAK we were sent to BOIKEN - about half way between BUT AND WEWAK.

On 25 Apr 44 after we had been working there for 3 months the Japs ordered all of us who could walk to get ready to accompany them to RANJA (AITAPE?) carrying Jap stores and a month's rations as RANJI was about 300 miles from BOIKEN. We were told that we would go on foot and would have to make our own ration arrangements. If anyone fell out through illness during the march he would get no attention except to be shot. We were given each about 12 lbs rice and $\frac{1}{2}$ lb salt as a month's ration and told that that would be our food for the journey from BOIKEN to RANJA.

The Jap officer commanding our party (No.17) was named Lt. YAMAHOKO. His 2 i/c was Lt. NAKODA and junior to them were YAMAMOTO and YAMASHITA. The first three beat a great number of our men and left several of them to die on the march. YAMASHITA was a very good officer. He never beat anybody himself. When we had set out from BOIKEN and reached BUT we were stopped there by the Japs who ordered us to return to our original camps from which we had come. I heard that the Americans had landed at HOLLANDIA and for that reason we would be sent back. We were brought back to BOIKEN. I became very happy when I heard that the Allied Armies had landed at HOLLANDIA. We came back to BOIKEN and stayed there for 18 days and rejoined the original party of sick men which had been left there.

Patients
Killed On 5 May 44 the Japs ordered all fit men to go with them into the jungle. The sick were to stay at the hospital where a Jap Doctor would remain to attend to them. The fit men with the Japanese set out for the jungle. The sick men including myself were left in hospital about 4 miles from BOIKEN. As I remained with the sick I know nothing about the fit men who went with the Japs. Then the Jap Doctor, whose name I do not know but whom I could identify, gave an order that 30 patients from those who were the most seriously ill were to be sent to the big Jap hospital. It was 1700 hours when he gave this order. The big hospital was about 1 mile distant. I did not go with the 30 men as I remained with the others. I do not know where those 30 were taken but that night 2 seriously wounded men crawled back into our camp where I was lying ill. They told us that the Japs had killed the other 28 and that they were the only survivors. *Killed Patients*

All had been killed by bayonetting and shooting. They had escaped only by good luck but had been badly wounded. Our officers asked the Jap officers why the 28 men had been killed. They replied that the 2 men were lying, that all were alive and that after 3 days they would be taken there to see them.

VB [On 10 May 44 the Jap Doctor ordered 35 men from the worst cases to be sent to the big hospital. They too went and were destroyed. At 10 o'clock that night one man returned. He had bayonet wounds in the chest and was covered with earth but had not died. When he had regained consciousness (he said) he got up and fled back to our camp. He told us that the remaining 34 men had been bayoneted and buried in a trench. "I was with them too", he said "My life was spared but with this wound there is no hope for me. Look after your own lives if possible because the Japs will kill you all one by one".

Then we considered that it would be better to escape from there than to be killed. At midnight all of us ran away in different directions and became separated. I and 20 others went to a place in the jungle and began to live there. Nothing was ever heard about the rest of the party. I lived as a fugitive under terrible hardships, living on plants in the jungle for 1 year 9 days - from 10 May 44 to 22 May 45. Then the Australian Army rescued me from the claws of the Japs. I don't know what became of the Japs in our camp because we had run away from them that night. Out of the 20 men who were with me in the jungle 5 were recovered and reached Australia. The Japs searched for the others and killed them.

I CERTIFY that the above is a translation of the statement written in URDU by 19678 Sep. BACHAN SINGH, 1/13 F.F.R, and to the best of my knowledge I have accurately transcribed its meaning.

(sgd) H. G. COOMBE Maj
'A' Sect. C.S.D.I.C. (I)

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY.

(sgd) T. MORNANE Lt.Col.

1838A

Evidentiary Document No. 5384.

WAR CHIEFS

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF:
PTE FATEH KHAN of 1 B.P. INF.
DECLARATION OF JEMADAR ABDUL LATIF.

I, JEMADAR ABDUL LATIF of 4/9 Jat Regt. do solemnly and sincerely declare that :

1. I am Jemadar Abdul Latif of 4/9 Jat. Regt.
2. While in New Guinea as an Indian PW I was a member of 26 Indian Working Party.
3. In April, 1944, I was with 26 Indian Working Party during a march from Wewak towards Hollandia. Pte FATEH KHAN was with me on that march. In the vicinity of BOIKEN he complained to Lt. KASHIMOTO that he was too weak to carry his load and asked that it be lightened. Lt. KASHIMOTO was in charge of the party. He ordered Cpl YAMADA (now deceased) and other Japanese soldiers to bind Pte Fateh Khan's hands and feet and put him in the sea. He was thereupon tied up by four soldiers carried out into 4 feet of water and left there. He drowned, while Lt KASHIMOTO and the other Japanese looked on. I and other Indians now deceased witnessed the incident.
4. I was present at a parade of Japanese soldiers at WEWAK on 9 Nov. 45 the Japanese known to me as Lt. (now Capt) KASHIMOTO and whom I there pointed out to Lt. T. H. LIPSCOMBE of ATIS att. 6 Div. is a member of the Japanese unit which guarded 26 Indian PW Party and is identical with the individual so named in this declaration and with the individual whose photograph is exhibited hereto and numbered 103.
5. I there pointed out to Lt. LIPSCOMBE a Japanese soldier who bound Pte FATEH KHAN's hands and helped to put him in the sea. I now know him to be Sgt. KOBAYASHI who is identical with the individual whose photograph is exhibited hereto and numbered 105.

AND I MAKE THIS solemn declaration by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1911-1922 conscientiously believing the statements contained therein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED in the Field this)
11th day of November, 1945) Abdul Latif Jem

(sgd) JOHN COWAN LOWRY Major
Officer of ANF

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

(sgd) T. Mornane
Lt. Col.
24/9/46.

1839A

WAR CRIMES

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF:
ABOUT 100 INDIANS of 18 INDIAN WORKING PARTY.
DECLARATION OF L/CPL DINA NATH

I, DINA NATH of 3/17 Dogra Regt. do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am DINA NATH L/Cpl in 3/17 Dogra Regt.

2. While in New Guinea as an Indian PW I was a member of 18 Indian Working Party.

3. In the month of May, 1944, the main body of 18 Indian Working party left BUT and proceeded to RABANG about 7 miles south of BUT. About 100 Indians were too sick to move and were left behind at BUT. Jemadar ADHIN CHAND of 3/17 Dogra Regt. remained with them

4. Approximately onemonth later L/Cpl TAKASHI a member of the Japanese guard of 18 Working Party rejoined us at RABANG. He had been left behind at BUT with the 100 sick INDIANS. Four or five Indians including CPL PHUMAN SINGH and myself were sitting together. Cpl PHUMAN SINGH could speak Japanese and he asked L/Cpl TAKASHI how the sick Indians were getting on at BUT. L/Cpl TAKASHI replied that all the Indians at BUT had been machine gunned and killed by the Japanese as a reprisal for the action of some Gurkhas in signalling Allied Aircraft. When the Japanese began to machine gun the Indians L/Cpl TAKASHI stated that some of them took refuge in nearby trenches. When the machine gunning was over the Japanese threw grenades into these trenches. He also stated that allied aircraft continued to circle the area and dropped a small boat into the sea. Some Gurkhas made an unsuccessful attempt to reach it.

5. About three days later Jemadar ADHIN GHAND arrived and told the other Indians and myself the story we had already heard from L/Cpl TAKASHI through Cpl PHUMAN SINGH. The latter escaped with Capt. PATEL's party in August and I do not know what happened to him.

AND I MAKE this solemn declaration by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1911-1922 conscientiously believing the statements contained therein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED in the field this)
11th day of November, 1945)

(Signed) DINA NATH

(Signed) J. C. LOWRY Major
(JOHN COWAN LOWRY)
OFFICER OF A.M.F.

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF:

SGT WARIAM SINGH and L/CPL HAZARA SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force.
DECLARATION OF PTE CHAIN SINGH

I, PTE CHAIN SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am Pte CHAIN SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force.
2. While in New Guinea as an Indian PW I was a member of 19 Indian Working Party.
3. In August 1944 19 Indian Working Party had its main camp at RANIMBOA with a detachment of about 100 Indians nearby at PAHOM. Sgt. WARIAM SINGH, L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH and I were with the detachment at PAHOM.
4. One day while we were making sac sac Sgt. WARIAM SINGH and L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH quarrelled with one Cpl RAJINDAR SINGH and began beating him. Subedar GANDA SINGH and Subedar SUKHDARSHAN SINGH separated them. A few minutes later I saw Cpl RAJINDAR SINGH go up to Cpl TAKEI and say something. About ten minutes later Cpl TAKEI L/Cpl HATA Pte ISHIYAMA and Pte YASUSAKA approached with a shovel and two sticks. Cpl TAKEI and the two Privates beat Sgt. WARIAM SINGH and L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH with the shovel and sticks until they fell to the ground senseless. Lt. MITSUBA and L/Cpl HATA looked on.
5. Half an hour later they were still lying on the ground. Cpl TAKEI, L/Cpl HATA and Ptes ISHIYAMA and YASUSAKA bound their hands behind their backs with turbans and led them away. Pte ISHIYAMA was carrying a shovel and Pte YASUSAKA a rifle. As they passed the guard hut they were joined by Cpl SHIMIZU who was also carrying a rifle. Lt. MITSUBA followed them. Shortly afterwards I heard three rifle shots.
6. I did not see either of these Indians again. The next day I overheard Subedar GANDA SINGH asking Lt. MITSUBA what had happened to Sgt. WARIAM SINGH and L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH and heard Lt. MITSUBA reply saying that they had been handed over to the Military Police.
7. I was present at a parade of Japanese soldiers at WEWAK on 9 Nov. 45. I there pointed out to Lt. T. H. LIPSCOMBE OF ATI att 6 Div the undermentioned Japanese soldiers who are referred to by name in paras 4, 5 and 6 hereof. They are Cpl. (now Sgt/Maj) TAKEI, L/Cpl (now Sgt) HATA, Pte (now Cpl) ISHIYAMA, Pte (L/Cpl) YASUSAKA, Lt. MITSUBA and Cpl (now Sgt/Maj) SHIMIZU and are the individuals whose photographs are exhibited hereto

[and numbered 83,87,90, 100, 70 and 84 respectively.

AND I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1911-1922 conscientiously believing the statements contained therein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED in the field this)
11th day of November, 1945.) (sgd) CHAIN SINGH

(sgd) J. C. LOWRY
 (JOHN COWAN LOWRY)
 OFFICER OF AMF

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

(Sgd) T. MORNANE Ltd. Col.
 24/9/46.

1841A

L/Pte YASUSAKA, Masaji, of 19 Special Water Duty Coy.
Ref. death of Sgt. Wariam SINGH and L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH

Q. Do you remember being at PAKOM in Aug 44?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know that two Indians were killed there?

A. Yes, but I do not know their names.

Q. Why were they killed?

A. These two Indians were quarreling with a third Indian and had beaten him. This Indian was unable to take revenge, so he reported to TAKEI that they had told him that when the Americans came all the Japanese would be killed, TAKEI then reported the matter to MITSUBA.

Q. Who killed them?

A. MITSUBA ordered SHIMIZU and me to shoot them. We took them away from the party and shot them with rifles.

Q. Was anyone else present?

A. There were three or four, but I only remember the names of two, TAKEI AND Pte SEINO (Now dead).

Q. Were they beaten before being killed?

A. They were beaten with a shovel while working sac sac by TAKEI.

Signatures of Officers.
taking evidence.

/s/ Bruce Capt.
(indecipherable) Lt.
/s/ (indecipherable) Lt.

Signature of Interpreter
at Cape WOM

26 Oct. 45

/s/ (indecipherable)

Certified true copy.

/s/ T. Mornane Lt. Col.
24/9/46.

INTERROGATION OF

L/Pte YASUSAKA, Masaji, of 19 Special Water Duty Coy.
Ref. death of RISALDAR RASHID MOHD.

Q. Do you remember being at RANIMBOA in Sep 44?
A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember an Indian officer by the name of RASHID MOHD?
A. Yes, and one other Indian NCO also.

Q. Where did you actually see them?
A. I saw them sitting outside a hut with their hands tied.

Q. What happened to them?
A. Pte. ISHIYAMA took these two Indians into the bush.
Ishiyama always wanted a watch, so he took the watch from
RISHID MOHD, then shot both the Indians.

Q. What part did you play in this?
A. I stood and watched.

At this stage YASUSAKA wished to tell the whole story, which is as follows:-

During the morning HIBINO took tobacco and shoes from these two Indians. The Indians then complained to all the other Japanese soldiers, but no one took any notice of them. Pte ISHIYAMA and I decided to scare them, so we tied their hands together. Later on we took them into the bush and while walking along I told ISHIYAMA that we had scared them enough and to let them go now. But he said "We have gone this far, we may as well finish it and I would like this officer's watch". ISHIYAMA then shot them both and took the watch.

Q. Was permission sought from any officer for these men to be killed?
A. No. We had been told previously by IZUMI that any Indian disobeying an order could be shot without permission.

Q. Did you report this killing to anyone?
A. Yes, I reported to Capt. IZUMI.

Q. What action did IZUMI take?
A. He did not take any action, but said "That's all".

Q. Was TAKEI present then?
A. TAKEI and all other Japanese soldiers of the platoon saw them with their hands tied.

Japanese
admit

Q. Did TAKEI have anything to do with the killing of these two Indians?

A. No.

Q. Did TAKEI ever take watches or pens from the Indians?

A. I did not see him actually do this, but I know he had some watches and pens belonging to the Indians.

Signatures of Officers taking evidence/s/ ? Brun Capt.
(Indecipherable) L.T.

Signature of Interpreter At Cape WOM
26 Oct. 45

(Indecipherable)

Certified true copy.

/s/ T. Mornane Lt. Col.
20 Sept., 1946.

1843A

WAR CRIMES

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF:
RISALDER RASHID MOHD and CPL MASHUQ ALI both of 3 Ind. Cav.
DECLARATION OF PTE LAKHU RAM

I, PTE LAKHU RAM of 2/12 Frontier Force do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am Pte LAKHU RAM of 2/12 Frontier Force.
2. While in New Guinea as an Indian PW I was a member of 19 Indian Working Party.
3. In September, 1944, I and the other members of 19 Indian Working Party were camped at KANIMBOA. At about 1400 hours one afternoon I saw RISALDER RASHID MOHD and Cpl MASHUQ ALI both tied to one tree with their hands behind their back. They were outside Cpl TAKEI's hut and as Cpl. TAKEI and other Japanese were about I did not ask them what they had been doing.
4. At about 1800 hours on the same day I heard two shots. I assumed that RISALDER RASHID MOHD and Cpl MASHUQ ALI had been shot and went straight to the hut that they occupied. A Private whose name I do not remember but whose bed was next to RISALDER RASHID MOHD told me that they had gone to see Cpl TAKEI at approximately 1100 hours that morning to ask for the return of some tobacco which Cpl TAKEI had confiscated on the preceding day.
5. Later in the evening I was told by Pte SOHNU (now deceased) that he had seen the two Indians led away into the bush by Ptes ISHIYAMA AND YASUSAKA shortly before the shooting.
6. I have not seen either RISALDER RASHID MOHD or Cpl MASHUQ ALI since that day.
7. I was present at a parade of Japanese soldiers at WEWAK on 9 November, 1945, I there pointed out to Lt. T. H. LIPSCOMBE of ATIS att 6 Div. the undermentioned Japanese who are referred to by name in paras 3, 4 and 5 hereof they are Cpl. (now Sgt/Maj) TAKEI Pte (now Cpl) ISHIYAMA and Pte (now L/Cpl) YASUSAKA and are the individuals whose photographs are exhibited hereto and numbered 83, 90 and 100 respectively.

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1911-1922 conscientiously believing the statements contained therein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED in the field this 11th day of)
November, 1945:)

LAKHU RAM

J. C. LOWRY Major
(JOHN COWAN LOWRY)
Officer of AMF

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

/s/ T. MORNANE Lt. Col.

20 Sept., 1946.

DEATH OF KITIAL SINGH
STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, JEMADAR CHINT SINGH, 2/12 Frontier Force, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

1. In the month of February 1945, when the JAPANESE marched us to YAKANO from YAWA and again back to YAWA, we stopped at FURRINGE on the way. On the following morning I saw Pte MAIDA, a member of our guard (nursing orderly) beating Jemadar KITIAL SINGH. Pte MAIDA had a big stick in his hand and KITIAL SINGH was lying on the ground. Pte MAIDA was beating his head, face and other parts of the body. His head started bleeding and the blood flowed over his face and shirt. He became unconscious. MAIDA left him and went into his hut.
2. We carried KITIAL SINGH to his hut and put water in his mouth and he recovered after half an hour. I asked him the reason for the beating. He told me that MAIDA had called him early in the morning, his boots being dirty with his uncontrollable motion and had order Jemadar KITIAL SINGH to clean them. He said he took the boots to the creek nearby and cleaned them. When he came back Pte MAIDA inspected the boots and found a little dirt in one of the boots and started beating him.
3. After this beating KITIAL SINGH did no work for 3 days. He was very weak and had been beaten so severely that he was not made to work for this period.
4. He was then made to work, although his condition was such that he could do very little. He told MAEDA and others that he was too ill to work. MAEDA said that he was a malingerer and sent him out to work each day.
5. KITIAL SINGH never recovered from the effect of the beating and became weaker and weaker every day.
6. About 3 weeks after he had resumed work he became too sick to eat or walk. We left him alone on his bed for 2 days and he received no medical attention.
7. On the third day he died.
8. The abovementioned incident was also witnessed by L/Cpl FUKAI, the JAPANESE guard who died later on and all the INDIANS present there.

9. I was present at a parade of JAP soldiers at WEWAK on 9 Nov 45. The JAPANESE whom I then pointed out to Lt. T. H. LIPSCOMBE, ATIS, att 6 Div, was the person referred to above as Pte MAIDA. He is identical with the person whose photograph is annexed hereto and numbered 101.

AND I MAKE this solemn declaration by virtue of the STATUTORY DECLARATIONS ACT 1911-22 conscientiously believing the statements contained herein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED at WEWAK this)
8th day of January, 1946) /s/ CHINT SINGH JEM
before me)

(JOHN D STEED)
Capt. Officer of AMF

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY.

/s/ T. Mornane, Lt-Col.

1845A

WAR CRIMES

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF:

SUBEDAR ISHAR SINGH, SUBEDAR GANDA SINGH, JEMADARS RAM SINGH, and BAHADUR SINGH all of 2/12 Frontier Force.

DECLARATION OF SGT. HAMIR SINGH.

I, Sgt. HAMIR SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am Sgt. HAMIR SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force.
2. While in New Guinea as an Indian PW I was a member of 19 Indian Working Party.
3. At the beginning of February, 1945, I and the other members of 19 Indian Working Party left YAWA for YAKANO. Subedar ISHAR SINGH, SUBEDAR GANDA SINGH, JEMADAR RAM SINGH and JEMADAR BAHADUR SINGH were too weak to carry their loads and were left in YAWA. I have been told by Pte RAM SINGH and Pte SAPURAN SINGH (both now deceased) that Lt. MITSUBA ordered them to march to YAPANO and that they refused stating that they were too sick to walk.
4. Lt. MITSUBA, Nursing Orderly MAIDA, Cpl HATA and a Japanese whose name I do not know went into the hut in which the Indian Officers had been left. At that time I was outside a hut approximately 150 yards distant. Inside this, this hut, were Sgt/Maj DHAMESHO RAM and Pte PURAN SINGH (both now deceased) who were sick and who were not going on the march. I heard five shots four of them being fired in quick succession and the last one a couple of minutes later. About twenty minutes after the shooting Lt. MITSUBA and the other three Japanese emerged from the hut and joined my party about 200 yards away. I then also joined my party.
5. About half an hour after the shooting I went back to the hut in which were Sgt/Maj DHAMESHO RAM and Pte PURAN SINGH. The former told me that he had been across to the Officers' hut and that he had seen the bodies of the four officers lying on the floor under some blankets. They were dead.
6. I was present at a parade of Japanese soldiers on 9 Nov. 45 at WEWAK. The Japanese whom I there pointed out to Lt. LIPSCOMBE of ATIS att 6 Div as Lt. MITSUBA, Cpl HATA and Nursing Orderly MAIDA are the persons mentioned in paras 3 and 4 hereof by those names, and are the individuals whose photographs are exhibited hereto and numbered 70, 87 and 101 respectively.

7. I further pointed out to the said Lt. LIPSCOMBE a Japanese soldier whom I now know as Cpl HIROOKA who is the unnamed Japanese referred to in para 4 hereof and who is the individual whose photograph is exhibited hereto and numbered 89.

AND I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1911-1922 conscientiously believing the statements contained therein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED in the field this)
11th day of Nov. 1945:)

HAMIR SINGH

(Sgd) JOHN COWAN LOWRY Major
Officer of AMF

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

(Signed) T. MORRANE Lt-Col

RESTRICTED

Translation of Exhibit "A"
28 Nov. 1945.

53rd. Field Anti-Aircraft Artillery Bn. 36 Div. 2d. Army

Acting Bn. Comdr. Capt. ONO, Satoru

Born 25th April, 1921

Home Address 4028 Takatsuhara Kashima-cho Saga-Ken

The aforementioned officer was interrogated by Air Force Capt. Conduit and made the following statement through interpreter Sgt. Wright.

Q. On 25 Nov., when asked "What do you know about the American POW?" Why did you tell a lie and say "I don't know anything."?

A. I was ordered to say "I don't know," although I know something, I Staff Officer Lt. Col. KAJIWARA of the 36 Div. I believe he gave the same order to all other officer of the same Div.

Q. On the 25th when you were interrogated why did you say "I don't know" on the subject whether or not you were ordered to say "I don't know."?

A. If I said "I know" I thought I'd cause some trouble for the Div. Comdr.

Q. What was the name of the American POW who was transferred to Capt. ONO from 2nd. Lt. ISE (now 1st. Lt) attached to Hqs. of the 223rd. Inf Regt?

A. I do not know the name.

Q. Why were you in need of the POW?

A. Because I wanted to kill him.

Q. What was the date and time of killing?

A. I don't remember exactly, but I believe it was in Oct. 1944.

Q. 1st. Lt. ISE stated it was between the latter part of Oct. or the early part of Nov. Can you figure it out by comparison?

A. I believe it was latter part of Oct. 1944.

Q. To whom did you give the orders to kill the Americans?

A. I gave the orders to Sgt. OGINO and Cpl. YOSHIJIMA.

Q. Where are the two at the present?

A. They are dead.

Q. When did they die?

A. I believe Sgt. OGINO died in May 1945 and Cpl. YOSHIJIMA died in Aug.

1846A

Review
done
1/2/46

I wanted to kill him

Revenge from ancient times

Evidentiary Document No. 5229.

Page 2.

- Q. What other POW of the Allied Forces was killed by the 36 Div.
A. I just heard that Allied fliers that crashed in the vicinity of Salomi were fired by machine gun and hid in the sea. (T.N.died)
- Q. Where were the Americans executed by your orders?
A. They were killed by the road near the Div. Hqrs. (Details shown on the map attached to this report)
- Q. Why did you give the orders to execute the Americans?
A. I had a strong hostile feeling, because I lost more than 100 of my men, and 6 artillery guns, due to American bombing. Since ancient times the Japanese believed in revenge and I believed that I was justified in doing so during war time. I asked if I can get a POW and kill him. Then YOSHINO unit comdr. gave me permission through Hqs. officers. Therefore I made up my mind.
- Q. Did you take anything from the American POWs before you led them to the place of execution.
A. I didn't take anything then, but after the execution Sgt. OGINO took one pair of shoes.
- Q. When the POW was executed, what did the American POW have in possession?
A. I did not look into that.
- Q. What was the color of hair of the taller American?
A. I believe he was blonde.
- Q. What was the color of the shorter one?
A. I believe, he was blond too.
- Q. Did you tie the hands of the Americans?
A. Yes, I did have their hands tied.
- Q. What orders did you give the N.C.O. regarding the method of execution?
A. I ordered them to have the distance of 3 meters between the POW and have them kneel.
- Q. Did you blindfold them?
A. Yes, they were blindfolded with a towel.
- Q. What orders did you give when executing?
A. I gave orders to bayonet them and they did so. The NCOs bayoneted them in their chest one at a time. The Americans fell on their back and died. Then I ordered the Americans to be beheaded and it was carried out. The neck of the Americans couldn't be beheaded completely from the body so I ordered them to remove them. One NCO did so by using a shovel. Then I ordered to fire; Sgt. OGINO fired a round or two at one of the

REVENGE

Q. What did you do with the corpses?

A. I had the bodies buried at the place of execution, but I had one American head placed on top of the grave.

Q. Did you make a report to YOSHINO unit comdr that you killed them?

A. Yes I did after a few days.

Testimony of Capt ONO. Acting Bn. Comdr, 53rd. Field AAA Bn

/s/ Capt. ONO, Satoru

Certified by Capt. (F/Lt) Conduit Interrogator

" " Sgt. Wright Interpreter.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES)

) SS

CITY OF MANILA)

I, T/3 Naoya Haruta, 36917038, being duly sworn on oath, state that I truly translated the above Exhibit "A" from Japanese to English; and the above is a true record of that translation.

/s/ T/3 Naoya Haruta
NAOYA HARUTA, T/3
36917038

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22 day of March, 1946.

/s/ Roy J. Donnelly
ROY J. DONNELLY, 2d Lt. Inf.
Investigating Officer, War
Crimes Investigating
Detachment.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ John R. Fleming
JOHN R. FLEMING
2nd. Lt. ORD

E X H I B I T "A"

RESTRICTED

The accused: Fujinura Unit, Army Capt Kato, Kihachiro, gives the following evidence: being duly sworn.
(see form of oath attached)

Q. What unit did you belong to on the 14th Nov 44?

A. I was a member of the KATSU KIKI also known as the KATO Force.

Q. What did that force consist of - the number of Japanese and natives?

A. It was composed of 4 Japanese and about 16 Indonesians.

Q. What were the duties of that force?

A. The guarding of this place OTAKWA. The relations with the natives, seeing that they are controlled.

Q. Do you remember an Australian being captured at OTAKWA about 14 Nov?

A. There was a prisoner captured on the 12th November.

Q. When the prisoner was captured, what was done with him?

A. After his capture he was kept for two or three days and taken to the rear.

Q. Where at?

A. First of all he was taken to INOOGA and from there to KAPARAPOKA.

Q. Was he wounded when he was taken prisoner?

A. No.

Q. After the prisoner had been captured did you send any signals to 5 Div HQ?

A. In a signal sent to this HQ amongst other things mentioned I told them that I had a prisoner.

Q. It was just a normal situation report sent in by you?

A. The fact that I had a prisoner was mentioned last.

Q. When did you send that signal, how soon after the prisoner was captured?

A. About 2 days after the prisoner was captured.

Q. Did you get a reply to that signal?

A. No, there was no reply to that.

Q. Did you send another signal later on relating to the prisoner?

A. A good deal later I sent another enquiry "What will be done with the prisoner?"

Q. Did you get a reply?

A. I got a reply very much later I think early in March 45.

Q. What did that signal say?

A. The signal was "GENSHI SHOBUN". "I want it carried out - disposal locally". "You are directed to carry out the disposal SHOBUN locally". "Want SHOBUN carried out locally".

Q. Did you understand that signal to mean that you were to carry out the execution on the spot?

A. As soon as I received the telegram, under the conditions of the war situation at the moment, I understood that I was to kill the prisoners.

Q. Who signed the signal?

A. The Chief of Staff.

Q. What would you have done with the prisoner if you had not received the signal from Div HQ.

A. I was wanting him to be sent back and I would have done so if I had not got the signal.

Q. What were your reactions to the signal?

A. The prisoner and I had lived together and I had begun to understand the feelings of the Australian and I was very sorry it had to be done but seeing it was an order it had to be carried out.

Q. What would have happened to you if you had not carried out the order?

A. As it was an order from a superior I actually did not consider what would happen to me, it had to be carried out and I was very sorry.

Q. How did you treat the prisoner?

A. The prisoner was housed in a portion of the house that I lived in when I was in KAPARAPOKA and I was aware that foreigners ate more meat than Japanese and I used to try to get more meat for him when the opportunity arose.

Q. Did you ever give the prisoner medical supplies?

A. I had given him medicine for malaria and for stomach trouble.

Q. Do you remember the day of the execution?

A. Yes.

Q. What did you say to the prisoner on that day?

A. I told him "On orders received you are to be shot". Having known that the prisoner was a Christian I asked him if he would like 10 minutes to pray.

Q. After the execution how was the prisoner buried?

A. In following the Japanese custom we straightened the body out and put the arms resting on the chest and buried him, and covered the grave right up.

Q. You gave the same burial to the prisoner that you would have given to a normal Japanese soldier?

A. Yes.

Q. If you had not received this order from Div HQ would you have executed the prisoner?

A. I had no authority to kill any prisoner. I would have evacuated him to the rear at the first opportunity.

Q. You were your own boss, there was no one senior to you in your particular area?

A. Yes.

Q. You heard the other witness say you were about 300 kilometres from the nearest HQ?

A. Yes, I heard that.

Q. So if you had kept this prisoner alive for some additional time there wasn't much likelihood of your getting into trouble with 5 Div HQ was there?

A. An order had been received to carry out this execution therefore I carried out without any thought of not receiving any punishment myself if I did not carry it out.

Q. How long was it before WILLIAMS was well. Wasn't he sick for some period.

A. He was down with malaria 2 or 3 times and he had a slight touch of dysentery.

Q. You went to the execution yourself didn't you?

A. Yes.

Q. And ordered the firing party to fire?

A. Yes.

Q. Who did you use, natives?
How many?

A. 5.

Q. Did they all have ball ammunition?

A. Yes, I gave them 5 each.

Q. Did you know of anything wrong that this man WILLIAMS had done?

A. No.

Q. But you suggested at one stage that WILLIAMS was a spy hadn't you?

A. I did not say such a thing.

Q. How long have you been a Capt?

A. April 1945.

Q. How long did you have a commission before that?

A. Nov. 40 I became an officer.

Q. Have you ever had any teaching on what is the proper treatment of prisoners of war?

A. I was never taught anything. All my training was in connectic with war. At schools we were not likely to be more than Capts we were not instructed.

Q. Have you ever heard of International Law relating to prisoners of war?

A. I didn't know anything about International Law but I had heard that prisoners of war were to be put in a stockade and remove them to higher HQ as soon as possible.

Q. And how are they to be treated?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you think it is a good thing to kill a defenceless man?

A. I think it is a very bad thing. I myself was very upset about it.

THE DEFENDING OFFICER:

Q. What is your civilian occupation?

A. I was on the technical side in a company which made glass cement etc.

Q. You were not a permanent soldier?

A. I had been in the Army since 1939.

Q. But you were not a permanent soldier?

A. I was called up in 1939 and I have been in ever since, I don't know whether I am a permanent soldier or not.

Q. Was the school you went to a Reserve Officers' School and not a school for the Permanent Army?

A. Reserve Officers' School.

THE COURT:

Q. When did you first mention the signal you had received to the previous witness.

A. I first told the Lt. in a letter I wrote.

Q. How long after you received the signal?

A. I think it was 2 or 3 days after I received it.

Q. Why didn't you kill the prisoner within the first few days of receiving that order?

A. It never entered my head to kill him.

Q. Do you agree it would have been wrong to kill the prisoner at that time?

A. Yes.

Q. Why?

A. I didn't consider anything about the killing. I arrived on the night after he had been captured and my thought was to move him to the rear, it didn't enter my head whether it was right or wrong.

Q. Why do you think it is a bad thing to kill a defenceless prisoner of war who has committed no offence?

A. A prisoner of war had no means of defending himself and his weapons have been taken and I had also heard that a prisoner of war should not be executed. Therefore I knew it was wrong.

R. P. 83(B) complied with.

THE DEFENDING OFFICER: That is all the evidence I have.

I certify that this sheet and the four preceding sheets bearing my signature contain a true copy of the official record of evidence of Captain KATO KIHACHIRO contained in the proceedings of Military Court held at Morotai on 14th January, 1946, relating to the trial of the said Captain KATO, KIHACHIRO on the charge of murdering a prisoner of war at KAPARAPOKA, Dutch New Guinea, between 10 March 45 and 20 March 45.

/s/ T. Mornane Lt. Col.

1848A

C E R T I F I C A T E

The undersigned CHARLES JONGENEEL, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., head of the War Crimes Section of NETHERLANDS FORCES INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (NEFIS) being first duly sworn on oath deposes and states that the annexed:

- a) letter from Colonel O.I.C. 2nd. Echelon, H.Q.A.M.F., Melbourne, dd.11 April, 1946, to Director Mefis Batavia,
- b) statement of prisoner Yunome, Kunio (Civilian), taken by Capt. Edwin L. Booth, representative U.S. Army, War Crimes Branch
- c) letter from Colonel O.I.C. 2nd. Echelon H.Q.A.M.F., Melbourne 26 March 1946 to N.E.I.H.Q - Melbourne, and two photographs enclosed,

are full, true, complete and accurate copies of the original documents or foto's, and

- d) extract of report by Capt. H.A.J. Fryer, d.d.10 Oct. 1945

is a true, complete, and accurate extract of the original document,

which documents, photo's and report all concerning Missing Personnel NEFIS, are part of the official records of the N.E.F.I.S.

SIGNATURE:

Stamp of the Intelligence Service
Netherlands Forces
BATAVIA, 7 June, 1946.

Subscribed and sworn to before me K.A. deWEERD, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A. Higher Official attached to the Office of the Attorney-General, N.E.I.





AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Quote (Ech.145/4/32)
In Reply

MELBOURNE
11 April 1946.

Director,
N.E.F.I.S.
Batavia,
via Box 1386 R.,
G.P.O. BRISBANE

MISSING PERSONNEL - NEFIS
PTES RAHARING & PATTAWAEL

With reference to this office letter of 26th March 1946 to N.E.I. HQ Melbourne enclosing photographs relating to the execution of the abovenamed Indonesian soldiers and to interview of 5 April 1946 with Lieut N.G. DYKSTRA of NEFIS, forwarded herewith as arranged are copies of the following documents viz:

- (1) Report of Capt. H.A.J. FRYER of the activities of "Whiting" party up to the time of the capture of Sgt. SIFFLEET (AMF) and the two abovenamed Indonesians.
- (2) Statement of prisoner YUNOME, Kunio taken at Prisoner of War Camp, Murchison, Victoria on 6th February 46.

(Signed) Colonel
OIC 2nd. Echelon HQ AMF
10 Apr. 1946.

7th February, 1946.

Statement of prisoner YUNOME, Kunio (Civilian) - attached Japanese Army - taken at Prisoner of War Camp, Murchison, Victoria, Australia on 6 February, 1946.

About September, 1943, I was ordered to report by the Aitape agent Commander Shingawa to go to Maroe where a branch of the Aitape agent was located. The Commander of that branch was HIROE of the Naval garrison troops. The Takasa Unit which consisted of about six men and two civilian employees were also in Maroe. The natives in the area reported to HIROE that there was an element of enemy reconnaissance unit in the rear side of the mountains. Thereupon, HIROE, The Takasa Unit, and I, went to investigate the said area. We also brought some natives to guide us. However, we were unable to find the enemy. HIROE told the

natives in that area that if anyone should capture this enemy he would be well rewarded. About two weeks later, about ten natives brought to HIROE an Australian Sgt. and two Ambon natives. Upon request, I interpreted for HIROE and interrogated them. A report about this was made to SHINAGOWA of the Aitape agent. Then these three prisoners were taken to Aitape. Sgt. Maj. WATANABE who was the garrison troop leader made the report through wireless to the Wewak Hqrs. I heard from YASUNO that an answer from Hqrs. came through a wireless saying to execute the men. Therefore, I believe we executed them the following day.

On 24th October, 1943, Sgt. Maj WATANABE ordered the natives to dig a hole in the sand along the sea coast. Then Sgt. Maj WATANABE, Sgt. YASUNO, myself, MITSUBASHI, ADACHI, six men of the Takasa Unit and about 25 or 26 men of the Navy garrison unit went to the place of execution. There were natives also present at the execution. The first execution was done by YASUNO, who beheaded the Australian sgt. with a sword. By the order of YASUNO, I then beheaded one of the Ambon natives with a sword. MITSUBASHI executed the other native in the same manner. I believe ADACHI, a civilian employee, was the one who took the picture of the execution. After the execution we buried them and covered the hole with sand. I was told by YASUNO that the reason for the execution was that they were guilty of reconnoitering the area and giving secret information through wireless, the natives acting as a spy.

This statement was taken by Capt. Edwin L. Booth, Representative, U.S. Army, War Crimes Branch.

EDWIN L. BOOTH,
Capt. C.M.P.,
Investigating Officer,
War Crimes Branch.

Department of the Army.
Quote in (Adjutant-General) Melbourne S.I.
Reply (Ech.145/4/32).

N.E.I. HQ.
431 St. Kilda Road,
Melbourne.

MISSING PERSONNEL - NEFIS

Forwarded herewith for information are two photographs one depicting a member of the AMF and two Indonesians (Ambonese) awaiting executions by the Japanese and the other depicting one of the Indonesians about to be executed by a Japanese named

YUNOME Kunio, a civilian attached to the Japanese Navy as an interpreter. Yunome is at present a prisoner of war interned at Murchison prisoner of war group Victoria.

2. The identity of the Australian in the photograph is known and the two Indonesians are Ptes RAHARING AND PATTAWAEL members of NEFIS project known as "Whiting" party.

3. Whiting Party was under the leadership of Naval Officer-Cadet Staverman which party, beside the leader, included Sgt. Sifleet and Cpt. Topman (AMF) and the two abovenamed Indonesians. The object of the party was to collect military intelligence in the Hollandia area. Staverman was attacked and believed to be killed during September 43 and on 19 October 43 Sgt. Sifleet and two Indonesians were captured by natives at Wantipi 44 km West of Aitape and handed over to the Japanese who executed them on 24 Oct. 43.

4. Further information concerning the events leading up to the capture of the Indonesians and their subsequent execution may be obtained from files held at this office and it is suggested that a representative from your HQ call and examine the relevent files. There is also in existence a photograph of the execution of the other Indonesian a copy of which is not held at this office but if a copy of same is desired your HQ will be advised how this may be obtained.

(Signed) Colonel
OIC 2nd. Echelon HQ AMF
26 Mar 46.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT
BY CAPT. H.A.J. FRYER
10 Oct. 45.

On November, 16, 1942 arrived at CAIRNS to undertake the final organisation of the delayed LOCUST party destined for the HOLLANDIA-WEWAK area.

On Dec. 12 travelled to TOWNSVILLE embarking on "DUNTHOON" on 17 arriving at P.M. on 23rd.

The LOCUST party consisted of:

Capt. (then Lt) H.A.J. FRYER - Leader
" (" ") H. A. AIKEN - 2 i/c
" (" ") G. BLACK -

Sgt. BAILLIE L. - Radio operator and
to it was attached the HOLLANDIA party (21A):

Sgt. STAVELMAN (238) - Leader
Cpl. TOPMAN (259)
Pte. RAHARING (234)

Pte PATTAWAEL (252)
Sgt SIFFLETT (336) - Radio operator

The arrangement was for these two parties to be flown to VANIMO; to establish a base near the border and to move E and W, until the Dutch party reached the Dutch border they were to be under the control of Capt. FRYER. These instructions were dated at MELBOURNE Nov 23 1942. They were varied in some details by instructions issued by Cdr. FELDT at P.M. on Dec. 21 1942. These provided that the parties be flown to BENA BENA and possible BARUI (on the SEPIK), proceed towards AITAPE and pass the Dutch party safely and secretly into Dutch territory.

Unfortunately it was found impossible to obtain any form of transport beyond BENA BENA, presumably owing to a lack of facilities for air cover, and on Jan 16 1943, the first plane with Capt. AIKEN and stores landed at BENA BENA in central NEW GUINA an unprotected outstation subject to bombing by the enemy from WEWAK, MADANG, LAE and SALAMAU. On Jan 20 all the remaining stores and personnel were landed at BENA BENA and on Jan 21 the combined parties with about 400 carriers set off on its long trek through and across N.G.

During the whole of 1943 Capt. FRYER kept detailed notes, survey particulars, panoramic sketches and photographs of the whole of the route followed - 939 miles on foot and 245 miles by waterways. Complete plans were drawn and submitted with a covering report.

The route followed by the combined Australian and Dutch parties is indicated in the following brief chronological sequence. Dates are approx. only since in many places the ferrying of stores or labor broke the party into four groups.

BENA BENA	21 Jan 43	
HAGEN	30 Jan 43	Last outpost.
WABAG	9 Feb 43	
KEMAN	16 Feb 43	Crossed Divide at 10,300'
LEYALAM	9 Mar 43	Cpl. TOPMAN returns
KUENGU	24 Mar 43	Found Messrs. MacGREGOR, SCHROEDER, BELL, HARTLEY, LAMBERT, RAPHAEL
YIMAS	6 Apr 43	McGREGOR and RAPHAEL join party.
KUVANMAS	11 Apr 43	Capt. Taylor's base
AVATIF	17 Apr 43	Found ASHTON's party in dire straits and passed them to Capt. TAYLOR (ANGAU).
MASALAGA	4 May 43	
MAIMAI	9-31 May 43	MacGREGOR RETURNS to TAYLOR
LUMI	10 Jun-8 Jul 43	At this point Capt. FRYER had travelled 514 miles by track and 225 miles by waterways. Here also the Dutch party was despatched with

guides, police and labour for the HOLLANDIA area on 7 Jul. The FRYER party moved easterly to

TORRICELLI OP.

(overlooking AITAPE) 26 Jul 43

when Jap patrols became active in the area (a warning of the fact that a particular patrol was on Capt. FRYER's trail was radioed by Sgt. STAVERMAN, from SUMOR on the report of one of Capt. FRYER's flanking scouts at MALOL (12m. west of AITAPE).

ELFA 2 Aug 43
NIGRE 22 Aug 43
LUMI 2 Sep 43

met Lt. STANLEY
STORE looted by Japs in Jul, captured and escaped from natives, but lost all weapons. Returned to hidden radio and advised STAVERMAN of attack and to beware of "friendly" natives, (there is some doubt whether STAVERMAN received this message)

YILVI

11 Sep 43

On 4 Oct first received a report by radio from SIFFLETT that STAVERMAN had been attacked and believed killed behind VANIMO. Immediately volunteered to lead a relief party and advised SIFFLETT to travel S.E. across BUVANIO and would meet him north of YAGPONE. Owing to signal delays this message apparently did not reach SIFFLETT before he destroyed his set at WOMA. Capt FRYER was instructed from VIG to take no action, as Major FARLOW of MOSSTROOPS would arrange all necessary action from his base. 8 Oct. Major FARLOW invited Capt. FRYER to visit MOSSTROOP Base (D). 14 Oct. Capt. FRYER at "D" Base. No action had been taken in regard to SIFFLETT. Again requested permission to proceed towards VANIMO. Placed under instructions of Major FARLOW to guide MOSSTROOP patrol to the KILIWAS area. After futile waiting, Capt. FRYER and Capt. BLACK left "D" base with 17 natives 21 Oct. A MOSS patrol followed for 2 days and turned back.

8 Nov. reached the BIWANI Mts. south of MORI and learned that SIFFLETT, PATAWAE and RAHAKING had passed easterly as far as ASIKI some weeks before. As it was believed that the Dutch party would cross the Mts. at KAPOHI and try to follow down the sand or a branch of the NORTH River, FRYER and BLACK travelled back to these rivers. Major FARLOW advised that he would send a patrol from STANLEY's base at Melip through WAPI. (I believe that a few natives only went and made enquiries in the south WAPI area).

It appears that SIFFLETT and the 2 others followed the route out by which they had entered. They were guided by a WAPI native named MAIENA who should have known better. The natives of WANTIPI, aided by others, treacherously attacked that party apparently at night in late Oct, (20?). They were captured, trussed and taken to AITAPE and apparently executed in front of natives.

C E R T I F I C A T E

The undersigned CHARLES JONGENEEL, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., head of the War Crimes Section of NETHERLANDS FORCES INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (NEFIS) being first duly sworn on oath deposes and states that the annexed reports are full, true, complete and accurate copies of the original documents entitled:

1. Nefis reports of Interrogation of PAIMIN bin KARTOSEMITO (No. 548) of NAWI bin GIMAN (No. 513) and of MADOELIA bin MESDIN (No. 514).
2. Sworn Statements of the same Informants.

All concerning Massacre of Indonesians, former soldiers R.N.I.A., forced Hei-Ho's on Noemfoor Island, in July, 1944.

which documents are part of the official records of the NEFIS.

SIGNATURE:

(Signed)

Stamp of the Intelligence Service
Netherlands Forces.

PATAVIA, June 7th., 1946.

Subscribed and sworn to before me K.A. de WEERD, first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., Higher Official attached to the Office of the Attorney-General N.E.I.

SIGNATURE: (Signed) K. A. de WEERD

PAIMIN - from MAGELANG, PARMINI from KOETOADJO, PARDJO from MAGELANG, PARIJO from POERWOREDJO, with 10 Madoerese were bayoneted to death at GEELVINK BAY, NOEMFOOR Is., about July, 1944.

Informant: PAIMIN bin KARTOSEMITO Fus. KV 3142

Reliability: Uneducated but bright and helpful, clear in what he has seen and knows. Information may be taken approximating the fact.

Person Responsible; Japanese names not stated.

Hearsay:

On Noemfoor Island, Geelvink Bay, DNG, about July, 1944, informant was told by two Madoerese who though bayoneted at the time, survived and escaped, that 14 men (10 Madoerese and 4 Javanese) missing from a Hei-ho detachment of 56 originally sent fr Manokwari, DNG, had been bayoneted to death by Japanese. The names of the four Javanese were, PARMIN from Koetoardjo (Mid. Java), PAIMIN from Magelang (Mid. Java), PARDJO from Magelang (Mid. Java) and PARIJO from Poerworedjo (Mid. Java).

NOTE: According to Informant Painin bin Kartosemito, the following Japanese may be regarded as responsible for the murder of the 14 Hei-ho reported above:

KUJITA	Goenso	(Sergeant)
INOYE	Djotohei	(Supr. Priv.)
ODJAWA	"	" "
MATJAMOTO	"	" "

All believed to have fled to the interior of Noenfoor Island in July 1944.

INTERROGATION REPORT NO. 548

I, the undersigned, named,

PAIMIN bin KARTOSEMITO, Sthno, 3142

herewith declare before 2nd. Lt. PA.C. v.d. BERGH, temporary unpaid police-official for the whole of the Netherlands East Indies, as follows:

About the 20th of July, 1944, after the American landing on Noenfoor, 16 Hei-Ho's and myself, who had already tried to escape twice were recaptured again by the Japanese.

The next morning at about 8 o'clock, we saw many Japanese armed with rifles and bayonets. We were blindfolded and ordered to open our coats. All of us were bayoneted and fell down.

Except my friend, named MADOELLA bin MESDIN, and myself all were killed. We acted like being dead. At that time a Japanese came back to ascertain whether or not we were still alive. This Japanese severed the back of my head with his sabre.

After the Japanese had left, we moved away to the village KANSAI where we met the Americans.

On

at

I saw a photo, nr. 51 J 5636 of a Japanese named INCUE KOJI, and I recognised him as the INCUE KOJO, who was standing near us with a sword in his hand, before we were blindfolded.

Name:

After the above declaration of informant PAIMIN bin KARTOSEMITO had been put into writing by me and had been slowly and carefully read to him, and he had affirmed and signed the declaration he took an oath according to his religious persuasion, that in the

above mentioned declaration he told the truth and nothing but the truth.

In witness hereof,

Made under official
oath.

Temporary unpaid
Police--Official

P.A.C. v.d. BERGH
Res. 2 de Lt. der Inf. v.s.d.

NAWI bin GIMAN, Fusilier No. 37070, was severely maltreated at NCEMFOOR Island, about the middle of July, 1944.

Informant: NAWI bin GIMAN, Fusilier No. 37070.

Reliability: Fair Intelligence, information may be considered reliable.

Person Responsible: Japanese, names not stated, but there were about 4 officers present, including a Captain, a 1st. Lieut., 2 2nd. Lieuts. and a Sergeant Major

Informant states that after the American landing on Noemfoor Is., on July 2 1944, he was taken with about 50 other Heiho of mixed Indonesian races into the jungle with the Japanese Garrison. He does not know how many Japs. there were but they numbered some hundreds. After the 5th, he and ten others of mixed races succeeded in escaping. After about 5 days of walking in the jungle, they fell in with about 50 Japs. who took them again into the jungle for about 2 days. Informant escaped again, this time with 7 others, for one day, when they met 9 others (Heiho) who had escaped they were then a party of 17 escapees. They were together for 2 days, when they again met Japanese numbering about 100, once more they were under escort, but on the following day, in the evening they were very closely watched and kept in a bunch with Jap. sentries all around them. In the morning at about 8 o'clock, informant and the 16 others were ordered to fall in, they were blindfolded and ordered to open their coats. Before this however, informant saw that all the Japanese had fixed bayonets, they were behind and in front of these 17 men, about 4 officers were present including a Captain, a 1st. Lieut., 2 2nd. Lieuts., and a Sergeant Major., orders were shouted to the Japs., and all 17 men were bayoneted. Each was then examined to ascertain whether life was extinct or not.

Informant received 4 stabs in the back with a bayonet and then fell down, when being examined he with another Madoerese named

MADOELLA feigned death, informant lay quiet for a little while until all the Japs. had gone and then managed to get up. He saw the bodies of the 15 men who had been bayoneted, these two men walked for 5 days in the jungle until on the 5th day they reached the road which skirts the shore, and there met an American patrol which rescued them.

INTERR. REPORT NO. 513.

Further to the previous report:-

Informant: MADOELLA BIN MESDIN, Fusilier KV No. 41040.

Reliability: Low intelligence, information may be considered reliable.

Person Responsible: Japanese soldiers, one of whom was Superior Private INOE.

Informant with NAWI bin GIMAN, were the only survivors of the massacre carried out by the Japanese about the 20th July, 1944, on NOEMFOOR Island.

Madoella confirms Nawi's evidence, and adds that he and Nawi emerged after being bayoneted at the village of KANSAL, where they met the American patrol. Informant states after being bayoneted and whilst lying prone on the ground feigning death, a Jap. laid his hands on his back to ascertain whether he was still breathing he then got a sabre cut on the back of his head. He adds the important fact that one of the Japanese soldiers present was formerly belonging to his Butai (Araidatai No. 10446). His name is Superior Private INOE. Just before the victims were blind-folded he saw this man standing near with a drawn sabre.

INTERR. REPORT NO. 514.

I, the undersigned, named:

NAWI bin GIMAN,

No. 37070.

herewith declare before 2nd. Lt. P.A.C.v.d.Bergh, temporary unpaid police-official for the whole of the Netherlands East Indies, as follows:-

About the 20th of July 1944, after the American landing on Noemfoer, 16 Hei-Ho's and myself, who had already tried to escape twice were recaptured again by the Japanese.

The next morning at about 8 o'clock, we saw many Japanese armed

with rifles and bayonets. We were blindfolded and ordered to open our coats. All of us bayoneted and fell down.

Except my friend named MADOELLA bin MESDIN, and myself all were killed. We acted like being dead. At that time a Japanese came back to ascertain whether or not we were still alive. This Japanese severed the back of my head with his sabre. (rifle).

After the Japanese had left, we moved away to the village KANSAL, where we met the Americans.

On
at
I saw a photo, nr. 51 J 5036 of a Japanese named INOUE KOJI, and I recognised him as the INOUE KOJI, who was standing near us with a sword in his hand, before we were blindfolded.

Casion,
Name:

After the above declaration of informant NAWI bin GIMAN had been put into writing by me and had been slowly and carefully read to him, and he had affirmed and signed the declaration he took an oath according to his religious persuasion, that in the above mentioned declaration he told the truth and nothing but the truth.

In witness hereof,

Made under official oath.
Temporary unpaid, Police-
Official.
P.A.C. v. d. Bergh.
Res. 2de Lt. der Inf. v.s.d

I, the undersigned, named:

MADOELLA bin MESDIN, nr. 41040

herewith declare before 2nd. Lt. P.A.C.v.d. BERGH, temporary unpaid police-official, as follows:

About the 20th of July, 1944, after the American landing on Noenfoor, 16 Hei-Ho's and myself, who had already tried to escape twice were recaptured again by the Japanese.

The next morning at about 8 o'clock, we saw many Japanese armed with rifles and bayonets. We were blindfolded and ordered to open our coats. All of us were bayoneted and fell down.

Except my friend, named NAWI bin GOMAN and myself, all were killed, We acted like being dead. At that time a Japanese came back to ascertain whether or not we were still alive. This Japanese

severed the back of my head with his sabre.

After the Japanese had left we moved away to the village KANSAI, where we met the Americans.

On
at
I saw a photo, nr. 51 J 5636 of a Japanese named INOUE KOJI, and I recognized him as the INOUE KOJI, who was standing near us with a sword in his hand, before we were blindfolded.

Casino:

Name:

After the above declaration of informant MADOEILLA bin MESDIN had been put into writing by me and had been slowly and carefully read to him, and he had affirmed and signed the declaration, he took an oath according to his religious persuasion that in the above mentioned declaration he told the truth and nothing but the truth.

In witness hereof,

Made under official oath.

P.A.C. v.d. BERGH

Temporary unpaid
Police-Official
Rcs. 2nd. Lt. Inf. v.s.d.

1850 A (dissection)

Excerpt from Document No. 409 (being excerpts from page 47)
Evidentiary Document No. 409)

a. Extract from Document entitled "Daily Record of Investigation of Prisoners," dated 8 March - 14 May, 1942, unit unknown, containing daily records of investigation of CHINESE, natives and civilians under surveillance in LAE Area:

"28 April - Although we today re-examined them at the Mountain Gun Unit sentry group, they did not confess. Perhaps MAHI and the other natives took separate roads to come here, so the latter did not see them. However considering the future, one person was handed over to the Chief Medical Officer of No. 4 Air Medical Unit for medical experiments, and the other five persons were stabbed to death."
(ATIS Enemy Publications No. 65, page 6).

b. Prisoner of War FUSEI, Iwataro, (JA 145118) labourer, member of 15 Pioneer Battalion, surrendered near BUNA, 3 January 1943, stated:

"An AUSTRALIAN Second Lieutenant was captured at BUNA in September and was questioned by Interpreter SATO. He was examined as to Allied treatment of prisoners of war and stated that we placed them in internment camps and that they were well treated. After examination he was beheaded that night. The medical officer of 14 Pioneer United acted as executioner using his own sword."

"Two AMERICAN soldiers were captured. One of them is said to have claimed to be a MEXICAN. The other was an AMERICAN. Prisoner of war stated he did not know full details. Interpreter SATO told him that these prisoners of war were blindfolded while being questioned and afterwards were both beheaded by the same medical officer of the 14 Pioneers who used his own sword."
(ATIS Advanced Echelon No. 1. Subsequent Preliminary Interrogation of Prisoner of War JA 145118, page 3).

8. VIVISECTION.

a. While B-363 was at KHANDOK, he saw the following committed on a healthy, unwounded AFRICAN prisoner of war:

"The man was tied to a tree outside the HIKARI KIKAN Office. A JAPANESE doctor and four JAPANESE medical students stood around him. They first removed the finger nails, then cutting open his chest removed his heart, on which the doctor gave a practical demonstration."
(CSDIC Information Section Report No. 40, page 3).

b. Extract from diary, apparently belonging to an officer, unit unknown. Vivisection took place in KOKUMBONA Area of GUADACANAL.

"24 September, 1942 - Because two prisoners escaped, each unit was notified and we searched until it finally became daylight.

"26 September - Discovered and captured the two prisoners who escaped last night in the jungle, and let the Guard Company guard them. To prevent their escaping a second time, pistols were fired at their feet, but it was difficult to hit them. The two prisoners were dissected while still alive by Medical Officer YAMAJI and their livers were taken out, and for the first time I saw the internal organs of a human being. It was very informative."

(SOPAC Translation, Serial No. 01497, Item 614, pages 1 - 7.)