



Australian War Memorial

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Statements by

- NX 2767 Pte. N. F. Lacey
 NX 52356 S/ Sgt. H. B. Lamb
 Major A. A. Lamb
 NX 53249 Wvt. A. F. Lambert
 VX 25930 S/pl. G. R. Lancaster
 WX 15451 Pte. K. A. Lance
 NX 41481 " M. R. Lane
 NX 52695 " G. B. Lang
 VX 63270 " G. B. Langford
 H 953 " G. H. Langford
 NX 57812 Pte. J. H. Langley
 863086 Gvt. J. Langley
 VX 39137 Sgt. B. W. Larcumbe
 VX 60812 Lt. W. H. Larkem
 NX 38362 Pte. J. R. Larkins

On this twentythird day of JUNE One thousand Nine hundred and fortyseven, I Norman Valentine LACEY of "Llaner" NARROMINE in the State of NEW SOUTH WALES, farm hand, makes out and says as follows :-

RCY I, Ex NX, 2743 Pte LACEY, N.V. of 105 General Transport Coy, was captured on the 8th MAR 1942 at BANDONG - JAVA. I arrived at FUKUOKA Camp in the first week of February 1945 where I remained till cessation of hostilities on 15 AUGUST 1945.

I do NOT remember the names of the JAPANESE mentioned.

I did NOT see any instances of sick P.W. being forced to work in FUKUOKA Camp.

RCY I did see instances of P.W. being ill treated. An ENGLISH private was severely beaten by a number of JAPANESE guards shortly after he had finished a shift in the coal mine. The ring leader was a civilian named MOTOSAN. The Englishman was taken to the guard room and beaten again by the guard. He was in the guard room call for 4 or 5 days and was forced to kneel most of that time. He was NOT severely injured.

RCY ^{not} Two AUSTRALIANS, whose names I do NOT know, were hit with a pair of ~~it~~ pliers and coal by a JAPANESE engine driver in the coal mine. The name of the JAPANESE was ADIT SAN. He was a civilian and was known as "WART EYE", as he had a wart under one eye.

I knew that Red Cross supplies were misappropriated in FUKUOKA P.W. Camp No. 24.

The P.W. personnel of the camp had been issued with one Red Cross parcel each and had been ordered by the Camp Comd. to eat a certain amount of it each day as directed by him. He had JAPANESE guards checking up on this. The P.W. in the camp were very hungry and a number did NOT eat the Red Cross food as directed. The whole camp was penalised by the Camp Comd. withholding all further Red Cross parcels. I actually saw the JAPANESE personnel of the camp eating Red Cross supplies which should have been issued to us. I do NOT remember the name of the Camp Comd at the time.

.... / 2

Norman Valentine Lacey

x N.V. Lacey

All of the above may be verified by Mr Fred ASSER, a school teacher, of Kelly Street, SOONS NSW, who was a P.W. in FUKUOKA P.W. Camp No. 24 with me. Mr ASSER took particular notice of all that happened in the camp and kept a diary relating to all camp matters.

Flight Lieutenant SUTHERLAND, R.A.A.F., was the Australian Camp Comd of FUKUOKA P.W. Camp No. 24 and Capt. HIGGINS was the Australian M.O.

"Sworn by the above deponent
Norman Valentine LACEY, at
NARROMINE on the Twenty-
Third day of JUNE One
thousand Nine hundred and
Fortyseven, before me

N. V. Lacey
.....
(Justice of the Peace)

N. V. Lacey
.....
(Signature of deponent)

11 (11)

H

On this Sixth day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, Herbert Benjamin LAMB of 2 Dulkanty Avenue, DUNEBO on the State of NEW SOUTH WALES, Shop Assistant, takes Oath and says :-

I, NX.52556 Ex S/Bgt LAMB, E. B. of 2/20 Batt was captured on 15 Feb '42 at SINGAPORE.

My Unit was assembled at "CHANGI" camp and about two (2) months later I was transferred to "ADAM PARK" working camp. Living conditions, Hygiene and Medical Supplies were fair.

Late in Nov. '42 we were embarked on the "KAMA KURA MARU" and although we were very cramped, conditions were NOT so very bad. Food was NOT very plentiful and consisted mainly of rice.

We disembarked at "NAGASAKI" on 8 Dec '42 and proceeded to "NAGATSU" Camp.

I remained in this camp until released on the 25 Aug '45. Whilst in this camp I was placed in charge of a number of men because of my Rank.

The working parties worked in the two Steel Mills. There were no Medical Supplies, food was very poor and the lashings were very frequent, and were given for very little reason.

On Apr 26th a large party was formed by the JAPANESE and I was placed in charge. The work of this party was unloading coal.

Conditions were very bad at this stage, we were crowded into the hull of a small freighter, were forced to work, and very often men were ill with BERRI BERRI and numerous other complaints, mainly malnutrition.

We repeatedly complained to the camp Commander about the treatment, but no action was taken by him to ease our position.

H. B. Lamb

J. C. O'Connell

L/Cpl. TRACEY used to report sick to the JAPANESE Medical Orderlies, namely "Sjt AKKI" and "TAGOUCHI". All information regarding TRACEY's illness was given to the two Medical Orderlies mentioned by myself through Capt. BARRATT but to no avail. L/Cpl. TRACEY never received any treatment from the two Orderlies but each morning was sent out to work, but could only work for about 10 minutes and would collapse each morning.

It was on one of these occasions that TRACEY collapsed unconscious in the hold of the coal ship and was hoisted to the upper deck and laid on the deck to recuperate.

Whilst laying in an unconscious condition on the deck "OGONA" who was a civilian guard approached TRACEY and kicked him several times in the face.

TRACEY's face was badly smashed about, and was bleeding profusely and we eventually dragged TRACEY away and approximately 8 hours later was given treatment by ourselves. He was given no treatment by the JAPANESE at all for his smashed face.

In my opinion the two Medical Orderlies "AKKI" and "TAGOUCHI" were responsible for a big percentage of the sickness amongst the P.W.

It was proved that when even anyone reported sick, they were NOT only given no treatment but invariably given a beating by one of the Orderlies and sent back to work.

Sworn by the abovenamed deponent }
Herbert Benjamin LAMB at DUEBO }
on the SIXTH day of MARCH One }
thousand nine hundred and forty- }
seven. }

BEFORE ME

Herbert Benjamin Lamb
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

AB/Lamb

Am 9/8

[Handwritten signature]

Y.P. Hutchell

On this *Y.P. Hutchell* day of July, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Edward Arthur Lamb, Mine Manager, of Takuapa Valley Tin Dredging Coy, 6 Wyayard Street, Sydney, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As Major E.A. LAMB, I returned to Siam in Oct 45 on loan from ISTD, HQ, SACSEA, to CA, HQ, ALPSEA, and before the war I was a mine manager in Siam for Takuapa Valley Tin Dredging Coy.

2. The following concerns three employees of the Takuapa Tin Dredging Coy:

James Rigby, Engineer,
Albert Edward Bentley, Accountant, and
Mr. Tabbers, Drudge-Master, whose christian name I think was John.

3. I saw Rigby in Singapore in Dec 41. He told me the following. He, Bentley and Tabbers left BANFRU mine on the afternoon of 8 Dec 41 in the Company's truck and were held up at the frontier village BAN SADAQ by the Siamese officials. The three of them were thrown into a cell. Later on in the evening he heard some firing, tried the door of the cell, found it was not locked and told the other two he was going to make a dash for the British lines, which was a mobile group. He stated that there was a skirmish there between the Japs and the British and he reached the British lines safely. He did not see what happened to the other two. RIGBY, when I last heard of him, was a Captain in the British Army. His regimental particulars were as follows: Capt J. RIGBY, 3439E1, Gen. List.

4. I returned to Siam in Oct 45 as Major E.A. LAMB on loan to CA, HQ, ALPSEA, and met in BANGKOK Mr YIP IN TSOI, a Chinese banker, who had a branch at HAAD YAI, South Siam, with whom we have had dealings in peace time. I asked him whether he had heard of any incident at Ban Sadao on 8 Dec 41. He told me that he had heard that a party of three or four Europeans had tried to escape to Malaya on that date and had been held up by Siamese officials at Ban Sadao on the frontier. One had escaped and the others had been executed. One of those executed, he said, was a very tall man. Bentley was about six feet three or four inches in height. I cannot remember YIP IN TSOI telling me who had killed the Europeans.

5. In Oct or Nov 45 I contacted Lt-Col W. PARSONS, G1(I), HQ ALP, Siam, and told him as much as I knew. I also asked him whether inquiries could be made to determine the details of the incident. I pointed out that it should be easy to find out the names of the Siamese officials responsible for detaining Rigby, Bentley and Tabbers.

6. In Dec 45 I met a Eurasian, F.B. SNOW, an ex-employee of Takuapa Valley Tin Dredging Coy who at that time was being used as an interpreter by the Liaison Officer of HQ, ALP, Siam, at SONGKHLA. Snow told me that Rigby, Bentley and Tabbers had left BANFRU mine on the afternoon of 8 Dec 41 and had been held up at

[Handwritten signature in green ink]

[Handwritten signature]

the frontier. Inquiries then being made in Dec 45 by the Liaison Officer had revealed, according to Snow, that Bentley and Tabbers had been executed by the Japanese or the Siamese. Snow also said that an old Chinese man (name unknown) was an eye-witness to the execution but this Chinese was afraid to speak at that time.

7. About the same time I met Major HIRSHARDINE, Liaison Officer at HAADYAI, who told me he was investigating the matter. He confirmed what Snow had told me.

8. In early Apr 46 while travelling down from CHUMPHORN to HAADYAI by rail-jeep, as a member of the Australian Tin Inspection Party to Siam, I met a British Officer, whose name I cannot remember, who told me that two bodies had been exhumed at BAN SADAQ and were in the liaison officer's office at SONGRILA. I did not have time to go there to identify the bodies as we left for PENANG early the following morning. This officer made no mention of having definite identification of the bodies. He told me I had just missed the War Crimes Officer investigating these deaths, who, he said, could have given me full information.

SWORN by the abovesigned deponent,
Edward Arthur Lamb, at Sydney,
this *thirtieth* day of July,
One thousand nine hundred and
forty-six

W

[Handwritten signature in green ink]

BEFORE ME

A Justice of the Peace

[Handwritten signature in black ink]

On this Twelfth day of April, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Norman Fairchild Lambert, of Wallaringa, lower Wycombe Road, Neutral Bay, in the State of New South Wales, Cashier, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX53249 Dvr N.F. LAMBERT, of 1 Coy AASC AIF, I was taken prisoner of War at Singapore on 15 Feb 42.
2. The illtreatment which resulted in the death of Pte DWYER of 2/4 MG Bn took place whilst we were at BRENKASSI PW Camp. His death occurred during Aug 43. Pte Dwyer, who was suffering from dysentery and tropical ulcers and who was actually incapable of working, was forced by the Japanese guards to accompany us to a 20 ft cutting on the railway line. He was made to work with us on this cutting and whilst doing so he collapsed. After he collapsed we carried him to the top of the bank.
3. A Japanese Cpl, whose correct name I do not know but we nicknamed the "BLACK CAT" because of his very dark complexion, darker than the average, and whose age would be between 25 and 30 yrs, saw Dwyer lying on the top of the bank and proceeded to beat him unmercifully over the head and the body with a "meter" stick. It was quite obvious that Pte Dwyer was in a very weak state because of his sickness. After being severely beaten by the "Black cat" Dwyer became unconscious. On asking permission to move Dwyer into the shade we were refused and the "Black Cat" forced us to leave Dwyer lying exposed to the sun and rain for the remainder of the day.
4. We carried Dwyer back to camp with us that evening where I think he was given whatever medical treatment there was available. He was so badly knocked about, however, and his condition was so weak that he died within two days following the bashing.
5. I understand that this brutal treatment of Pte DWYER was reported to Lieut HOWELL, an Officer (Vic.) belonging to a motor transport unit, but I do not know what action he took in regards to reporting the matter.
6. This beating was so brutal that the WO1 in charge of us, an Australian PW whose name was "Snowy" GRAHAM, completely broke down whilst witnessing the beating. I have never seen Graham moved to such an extent before. WO1 GRAHAM later died.
7. This Japanese Cpl, "the Black Cat", was in charge of our party for some months and whilst he was in charge of it brutal treatment such as he carried out on Dwyer was experienced on a number of occasions by several POW in the party. The Japanese officials in charge of the camp must have been fully aware of the "Black Cat's" activities but apparently no action was taken by them to either curb his brutal treatment or to punish him for any of his devilish acts.

8. The Medical Officer in charge of us whilst at this camp was Capt DUNCAN and I think he was with Pte Dayer when he died.

9. Conditions were very bad at all times whilst we were working on the Burma-Thailand Railway.

SWORN by the abovesaid deponent,
Keruan Fairbaird Lambert, at
Sydney, this 12 day of April,
One thousand nine hundred and
forty-six

(Sgd) K.F. LAMBERT,

BEFORE ME

A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

5.00

5.6

5.0

4.0

T 20



W.O.

25

This is the photograph
marked T 20, ^{of} Swedisch
and shown to
George Richelieu
at the time of swearing
his affidavit on the
9th day of Aug 1896

Before me: R. H. Hetch
A Commissioner of the
Superior Court of the District
for the County of Alameda.

5' 10"

5' 8"

5' 6"

5' 4"



W-0.

C-5

This is the photograph
marked "20" heretofore
and shown to
George Lewis Lancaster
at the time of his viewing
by a plan on the
9th day of Aug 1946

Before me: R. H. [unclear]
a Commissioner of the Supreme
Court of Victoria for
the [unclear] of [unclear].

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54
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44



T206

This is the photograph
marked 9206 produced
and shown to
George Keith Hancock
at the time of swearing
his affidavit on the
9th day of Aug 1946.

Before me R. H. [unclear]
a Commissioner of the
Supreme Court of Victoria
for taking affidavits



7206

7206

This is the photograph
marked T 206
produced and
shown to
George Riches Lancaster
at the time of
viewing his
affidavit on the
9th day of Aug 1946

before me, R. H. H. H. H.
a Commissioner of the
High Court of Justice,
Victoria for the
affidavit.

T34



COL.

1

C31

T34

BANGKOK 25 FEB. 46

There is the ~~signature~~
marked "T. H. [unclear]"
and shown to

George Riches [unclear]
at the time of swearing
his affidavit on
the 9th day of Aug 1946.

Before me: R. H. [unclear]
A. Commissioner of the
Supreme Court of
Victoria for taking
affidavits.

734



COL. 211

This is the charge
marked T34 introduced
& shown to
George Nicholas
at the Court of Sessions
his appearance on the
2nd day of Aug 1846
before me. R. B. Betch
a Commissioner of
the Court of Sessions
for being a clerk

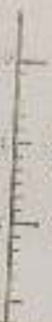


KOR... K 60

This is the photograph
marked "9214" provided
and shown to
George Richard Lane
at the time of swearing
his affidavit on the
9th day of Aug 1946.

Before me, K. H. [unclear]
a Commissioner of the
Superior Court of the District
for the County of Columbia.

T. 214



KOR K. 60

T. 214.

This is the photograph
marked "T. 21" produced
& shown to George
Recher & associates
at the home of the said
his affidavit on
the 9th day of Aug
1946.

Before me: R. S. Ditch
a Commissioner of the Superior
Court of Nevada for
the said affidavit.

T. 723



W.O. - 4-13-27

This is the photograph
marked T 733 produced
and shown to:

George Keith Tancarter
at the time of
swearing his affidavit
on the 27th day of August 1906

before me: R. S. Hitch
A. Commissioner of the
Supreme Court of
Victoria for taking
affidavits

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W.O. - 1 U381

This is the photograph
marked T 733" produced
and shown to
George Keith Lancaster,
at the time of swearing
his affidavit on the
9th day of August 1946

Before me R. H. DeLoach
A Commissioner of the
Supreme Court of Victoria
for a being a plaintiff



S

141

This is the photograph
marked "3141" produced
and shown to
George Keith Hancock
at the time of hearing
his affidavit on
the 9th day of Aug 1946.

Before me: R. B. Hetch
a Commissioner of the
Supreme Court of Victoria
for taking affidavits.



This is the photograph
marked S 141, produced
and shown to
George Riches Hancock,
at the time of
swearing his
affidavit on the
9th day of Aug 1946.

68273
Before me R. H. H. H. H.
a Commissioner of the
Supreme Court of
Victoria for taking
affidavits.

By Lt Lancaster

1, VX 25930 Cpl George Riches LANCASTER, of S.O.S.C. Southern Command in the State of Victoria, make oath and say:-

1. I was taken Prisoner of War on 15 Feb. 1942, at SINGAPORE.
2. In May 44, I was moved to TAMUAN CAMP, SIAM.
3. Capt. SUSIKI was Camp Commandant at TAMUAN CAMP.
4. SUSIKI was at all times aware of the mal-treatment of prisoners in TAMUAN CAMP, but took no action to rectify same.
5. Produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit, are photographs marked B.141 which I identify as those of Capt. SUSIKI.
6. About Christmas 1944, I witnessed SUSIKI striking a number of PW's on the head, with his sword and scabbard. This punishment was noted out for men crowding too close to him when coming off parade.
7. Produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit, are photographs marked T. 34, which I identify as those of Lt Col ISHII, O.C. Camps in LANBURI, Area. He was responsible for the administration of all camps in that area.
8. Accomodation at TAMUAN CAMP was very crowded, about 100 men to a hut 50 metres long by 4 metres wide.
9. The huts were bug infested, and no provision was made for fumigation.
10. Open latrines, maggott infested, and a breeding ground for dysentery were used in the camp and hospital areas. Repeated requests for materials to improve the latrine, was refused.
11. Food was in short supply and at no time conformed with the ration scale laid down by the Japanese army and posted outside the Q.M. store.
12. To bolster rations, we were forced to steal the food provided for the pigs, consisting of rice, peas and corn.
13. Clothing was extremely short, in spite of the fact that the QM store was full of clothing and boots.
14. The only bed clothes issued were bogs, and 35 blankets for 2000 men. The blankets were bought through the Swiss Consul, with money supplied by the International Red Cross.
15. Medical supplies were extremely short, and Red Cross parcels were withheld.
16. In June 1944, a Japanese W.O., nicknamed the ROCKING HORSE, unsuccessfully tried to force us to sign the Red Cross cards, stating that we had individually received parcels.
17. Quinine was available in small quantities, in a weak liquid form.
18. As the result of these short medical supplies, a Dutch Sgt, and an English Sgt. named CROSBY, died of blackwater fever in November 1944.
19. From March 44, to February 45, 15 prisoners died. Fourteen died of various illnesses, and one, FUSILLER WASTY, of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, was shot dead on the 31st Dec. 1944.

*G.R.L.
RSH*

G.R. Lancaster. RSH.

19. cont'd.

I never knew the names of the Japanese responsible for the shooting but it was carried out by a Japanese officer and two Korean guards.

20. Produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit are photographs marked T. 206, which I identify as those of MATSUMOTO, NICKNAMED THE "SILVER BULLET".

21. On numerous occasions I have witnessed MATSUMOTO beating prisoners; I can only remember one name:
LIUT. TEMPLETON of 2/2 Pioneers.

22. MATSUMOTO was a particularly brutal type, and renowned for his cruelty, which he delighted in meting out.

23. Sick PW's were forced to work, and the Japanese policy of allowing approximately 5% to remain in camp, was enforced. Hospital cases were put on half rations. Men too sick to work were also regarded as too sick to eat.

24. In September 44, I was marching past the Japanese guard room alone; I saluted the Guard Commander HOTOYAMA. He called me back, and subjected me to a severe bashing. HOTOYAMA struck me with his clenched fists, splitting my mouth, and the inside of my cheeks. He also kicked me severely in the ankles, resulting in an ulcer.

25. I lodged a written protest through Capt. STABB of 4 Anti Tank Regt., but received no satisfaction.

26. I had done nothing to warrant this treatment.

27. HOTOYAMA consistently beat prisoners from May 44, to Feb. 45. I witnessed Gnr. DOUGHERTY receiving a severe beating in June 44. A Bamboo rod was used.

28. Produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit, are photographs marked T. 214, which I identify as those of HOTOYAMA, nicknamed the BLACK PRINCE and KING OF THE RIVER.

29. Produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit, are photographs marked T. 733, which I identify as those of SUGAMOTO, A W.O. at TANJAN CAMP.

30. I witnessed SUGAMOTO beating and bashing prisoners, on numerous occasions. He is a particularly brutal type of Japanese. I am unable to recall the names of any of the prisoners I saw receiving this treatment.

31. I am unable to give any information regarding the shooting of an Englishman on 2 Jun 45.

32. The photographs marked T. 20 produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit, are those of a Japanese WO at TANJAN Camp. I never knew his name, and never saw him, at any time, mistreating prisoners.

Swore at Melbourne in the State of Victoria this 9th day of August 1946.

G. R. Lancaster.

Before me,

R. S. Hetch.

I never knew the name of the Japanese responsible for the shooting but it was carried out by a Japanese officer and two Korean guards.

Produced and shown to me at the time of searching by affidavit the photographs marked T. 200, which I identify as those of MATSUOKA, NICHIMASA THE "RIVER BRIDGE".

On numerous occasions I have witnessed MATSUOKA beating prisoners; I can only remember one name: LIANG, THERSON of 2nd Division.

MATSUOKA was a particularly brutal type, and notorious for his cruelty, which he displayed in various ways.

Sick PW's were forced to work, and the Japanese policy of allowing prisoners to remain in camp, was enforced. Hospital cases were not on their ration. Had the sick to work were also regarded as not sick to eat.

In September 44, I was working near the Japanese guard room when I noticed the Guard Commander, MATSUOKA. He called me back, and subjected me to a severe beating. MATSUOKA struck me with his clenched fists, twisting my wrist, and the strike of my cheek. He also kicked me severely in the groin, resulting in an ulcer.

I stopped a water protest through Camp. MATSUOKA of 4th Air Base, but received no retaliation.

I had done nothing to warrant this treatment.

MATSUOKA consistently beat prisoners from May 44 to June 44. I witnessed one instance involving a severe beating June 44. A bamboo rod was used.

Produced and shown to me at the time of searching by affidavit, the photographs marked T. 211, which I identify as those of MATSUOKA, NICHIMASA THE BLACK BRIDGE AND KING OF THE RIVER.

Produced and shown to me at the time of searching by affidavit, the photographs marked T. 212, which I identify as those of MATSUOKA, A.W.O. at TANKA CAMP.

I witnessed MATSUOKA beating and kicking prisoners on numerous occasions. He is a particularly brutal type of Japanese. I am unable to recall the name of any of the prisoners I saw receiving this treatment.

I am unable to give any information regarding the shooting of an airplane on 2 Jan 45.

The photograph marked T. 20 produced and shown to me at the time of searching this by affidavit, are those of a Japanese PW at TANKA Camp. I never knew his name, and never saw him, or any other, mistreated prisoners.

Copy of information in the state of Victoria this 22nd day of August 1945.

R. J. Alder

Before me,

EDA ASAICHI
No. 10
T. 20
No trace
This has been previously identified

Rocking Horse
M. K. ...

444

"Q" FORM

File No.....

Statement No.....

By: VX25930 Bombadier LANCASTER G.R. 4 A/Tank Regt.
112 Davis St E. Brunswick N.10

Date and Place: Temuang 11/9/44

Particulars: Whilst at 'ANUANG P.O.W. Camp I was in charge of the cattle yards and each day it was duty to go to the ration store to find out the number (if any) of the cattle to be killed. One morning at about 10.20 hrs on approximately 11/9/44 I was returning from this duty and as I marched past the Japanese Guard room (saluting in the manner laid down by the Japanese) I was called back and was asked where I was going. Explaining my business I was told to proceed by the sentry. I saluted and turned away only to be called back again. The Guard Commander, a Korean named NOJIYAMA rushed from the guard room and savagely assaulted me for no reason whatsoever. He struck me across the face six or eight times, punched me in the mouth splitting my lips and knocked me to the ground where he kicked me twice on the ankle, necessitating medical attention. I immediately placed into British HQ a written report which Capt RFQ Stabb, Adjutant, passed on to Capt SUZUKI Japanese Commandant. Capt SUZUKI in his usual style, took absolutely no action whatsoever except to warn all ranks to be careful in our dealings with the guards.

AGAINST: Korean Guard NOJIYAMA
Capt SUZUKI

Signed: (G.W.S.) G .R. Lancaster.

Certified true copy of the original which is in my custody.

Singapore 9 July 1946

Capt M'Intyre
.....Capt
1 Asst War Crimes Sec (SEAC)

and

IN THE MATTER of WAI5951 Private
K. S. LANCE of 2/4 Machine Gun Bn (AIF).

United Nations War Crimes Commission
Reference No. 81130H

I, Kenneth Stanley LANCE of 101 Berwick Street, VICTORIA PARK,
in the State of Western Australia, being duly sworn, make
solemn oath and say:

1. I was formerly WAI5951 Private Kenneth Stanley LANCE of 2/4 Machine Gun Battalion (AIF). I was captured by the Japanese at Singapore on 15 February 42.
2. In February 1943 I was at 14 kilometre POW Camp, Burma, known as THETKAW. The Japanese Commandant there was a Lieutenant HOSHI. He commenced duty there in February 1943. He was about 5 feet 2 inches in height, rather stout, about 45 years old. HOSHI remained as Camp Commandant at THETKAW, then at HBILOE (75 kilometre) Camp and finally at ANKANAN (105 kilometre) Camp.
3. At these camps the prisoners were employed on the Burma-Thailand Railway. Conditions were never good and got worse as time went on. There were Korean guards who treated the prisoners harshly, beat them and kicked them on numerous occasions for trifling offences or for actions which the Koreans chose to regard as offences.
4. The food was poor and inadequate and as time went on the ration was reduced until at 105 Kilo Camp the ration was a small quantity of rice only.
5. The sick who our own Medical Officers had certified as unfit for work were made to parade and the Korean guards used to arbitrarily pick out a number sufficient to make up the specified number of the men the Japanese wished to have working. I frequently saw prisoners who were quite unfit for work being made to work and being specially annoyed and ill-treated by the guards. Men suffering from dysentery were made to work, which prevented their recovery. A great many deaths occurred among the prisoners at the aforesaid camps under HOSHI'S command, particularly at 105 Kilo Camp. Most of these deaths could have been avoided had the Japanese supplied us with drugs such as quinine, iodoform, etc. I know the Japanese at the camps in question had the drugs required and would not supply them to the prisoners as asked. I know this because the Japanese themselves were well provided with the drugs and after the cessation of hostilities these drugs in quantity were found in the Japanese possession.
6. The working conditions at the three camps were bad. Men were forced to do quarrying work barefooted. The work was made dangerous by reason of the fact that the overseers (Japanese or Koreans) took no precautions against injuries to the prisoners. There was a general lack of footwear for the prisoners, who were in consequence obliged to work in the quarries and jungle without adequate foot protection and the result was that many prisoners suffered from ulcers. With rare exceptions, the only clothing provided for the prisoners were G strings. The prisoners were sent out to work before dawn and did not return until after nightfall. We were made to work irrespective of the weather.
7. On arrival at 105 Kilo Camp we were instructed to fill in a latrine and use the same, filled in, as our kitchen. This site was used as our kitchen for the whole of our stay at the camp. Generally hygienic conditions at the camp were frightful. We

On this ~~twentieth~~ ^{twentieth} day of ~~August~~ ^{August} One thousand nine hundred and forty seven Melvel Darlton LANE of 190 Connells Point Road, South Hurstville in the State of New South Wales, Carrier, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. I was previously RM41481, Pte LANE, M.D., of 2/3 Res. M.T. Coy, Australian Imperial Forces.
2. In or about the month of April 1942 I was taken prisoner of War by the Japanese Armed Forces at Java and taken to Singapore.
3. In or about the month of November, 1942 I was taken to BURMA where I remained until about the month of March, 1944.
4. In or about the month of March 1944 I was taken to Japan and then to FUKUOKA CAMP near NAGASAKI.
5. I remained in FUKUOKA CAMP until the Japanese forces surrendered and during practically the whole of that time I was employed in the Coal Mines.
6. During the time we were in FUKUOKA CAMP we were forced to work no matter what condition of health we were in. Only those who could not walk were not forced to work. During this period I was ill with fever, dysentery and ulcers but was forced to work. Practically all the prisoners in FUKUOKA CAMP were sick most of the time they were there. The number required for a working party was made up irrespective of the medical condition of the prisoners. Only those in hospital were not forced to work.
Prisoners at FUKUOKA CAMP did not desire to go to hospital owing to the poor quality and quantity of food given to the patients in hospital. Prisoners who were working received 12ozs of Rice per day, those on light duties 8ozs and those in hospital 4ozs of rice per day. The ration to those in hospital was only Rice water. ^{Mo}
Lieutenant THERU Gurio was in charge of the working parties and was responsible for forcing the sick prisoners to work.
7. There were many cases of illtreatment by the Japanese guards of prisoners too sick to work.
In or about the month of April 1945, Captain Higgins, Medical Officer of our Unit intervened on behalf of the sick prisoners and I saw him punched and knocked to the ground and kicked, because of this intervention, Captain Higgins was punched and beaten at other times for endeavouring to protect sick prisoners from illtreatment ~~from~~ by the Japanese guards.

M.D. Lane
Melvel Darlton Lane

8. In or about the month of April 1945 I witnessed illtreatment of Gunner T. LEE. Gnr T. LEE was a big man and we were working on three feet seams of coal. Owing to his size and bulk Gnr LEE found great difficulty in working in the confined space in which we had to work. The Japanese guards found fault with the work done by Gnr LEE and under orders from Lt. KURASAKI Sekio who was in charge of the guards, Gnr LEE was punched and then beaten with sticks and kicked whilst on the ground. Lt KURASAKI Sekio stood by whilst this was being done. There were many other cases of similar illtreatment by the guards under Lt. KURASAKI Sekio.
9. I remember Lt. HAYASHI Yuichi as being Camp Commandant ~~at~~ at FUKUOKA CAMP. Only one parcel of Red Cross Supplies was issued to the prisoners during the time we were in FUKUOKA CAMP. The Officers of our Unit made many requests for Red Cross supplies without result. There was a great quantity of Red Cross supplies held by the Japanese in store. We knew the Japanese were using these supplies because we saw empty tins and wrappings of Red Cross supplies in garbage bins. Japanese guards were openly smoking cigarettes which on account of their brands could only belong to Red Cross supplies. These cigarettes and other articles were sold to the prisoners by the Japanese guards whilst we were in FUKUOKA CAMP.

SWORN by the abovesaid deponent
Melvin Saulton LANE at
HURSTVILLE on the ~~twentieth~~ day of August
AUGUST, ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED
AND FORTY SEVEN.

M. L. Lane

BEFORE ME *Martin J. Galt J.P.*
A Justice of the Peace.

8157

C 1/7

On this *Twenty Fourth* day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, NX503033 Pte Clyde Elton Lang of RR&DD, Liverpool, in the State of New South Wales, member of the AMF, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX57695 Pte LANG C.E. of 2/18 Bn I was taken prisoner of war at Singapore on 15 Feb 42.

2. I subsequently arrived at BLAKANG MAPI Island PW Camp on 7 Feb 43. Early in Feb 45 myself, Pte Single and Pte Thorne were caught by a guard returning from thieving sugar and oil from the Q Store. We dropped the sugar and oil and made off back to our barracks. About half an hour later a party of Japs came down and searched the barracks. They found oil on my tunic and also on Single's. The WO questioned me and asked whether I was responsible for the thefts. I said, "No." He belted me across the face with his fist a couple of times. They then took me to the PW Officers' quarters and took Pte Single to the interpreter's room.

3. The WO and SIGIUCI, a Jap Cpl, questioned me. Capt MATTHEWS, British Army, and Lieut GOODMAN, also a British Officer, were present. Others were there some of the time. I was ultimately taken outside where I was punched and kicked by about half a dozen of them. I was then stood to attention and the Japanese Orderly Cpl belted me with his slipper across the face. This lasted a long time. He knocked me down a couple of times. They threw water over me to make me conscious. At the same time I saw Single being belted with a wooden clog. This went on for about three hours. Everyone was then turned out and the Jap WO i/c said he would punish everyone. Single and I said we were to blame. At the same time WELSH, THORNE, and SCATE admitted to having taken sugar and oil. They then left us until about eight the next morning.

4. Next morning everybody was turned out again on the parade ground. The five of us were lined up facing the parade and KABOTO spoke to the parade through a PW interpreter. He hit Single with the scabbard of his sword and punched the five of us. He said if we were bad our officers must be too. He stood all the officers to attention, belted them across the face with his fist. They marched the parade off and left the five of us standing there at attention until about 10 o'clock. The B29s came over and they put us in the trenches.

5. When the planes had gone we were taken over to Singapore to the HQ, where we were put in the guard house. We were kept there for three days without anything to eat. We were then taken before Col. YOSHIDA, who sentenced WELSH and me to three months hard labour and the others to two months.

6. Lieut KABOTO was a tall, very dark Japanese. He was somewhat like a Korean in appearance, well built. I think he had some front silver teeth. The WO was a rather small Japanese

C. E. Lang

fairly well built. He used to work on the gardens at No. 2 Mess.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,)
NX503033 Pte Clyde Elton Lang, at)
Sydney this twenty-fourth day of)
May, One thousand nine hundred)
and forty-six)

C. E. Lang

BEFORE ME

B. T. King
Brian Thomas Claude King, Captain,
An officer of the Australian Military
Forces.

I, Alfred Ernest LANGFORD of 607 Collins Street, MELBOURNE, in the State of Victoria, formerly VX63270 Pte A.E. LANGFORD of 2/10 Army Field Workshops, make oath and say.

1. I was taken prisoner of war in March 1942.
2. Produced and shown to me at the time of swearing this my affidavit are photographs of a Japanese, marked 201 and 201A which I identify as Lt KUDO who was also known to me as "THE CAT".
3. Lt KUDO was at the HAKONATE POW Camp from June 1943 to September 1944.
4. In the latter part of the year 1943, I was suffering from dysentery. A parade was called about 1 a.m. as was usual when KUDO was carrying out the duties of Orderly Officer. There was a great deal of snow on the ground at this time, and as I was answering a call of nature, I was late on parade.
5. The guards seized me and rolled me in the snow and by the time they had finished with me I was "almost frozen".
Lt KUDO stood by grinning and made no attempt to restrain the guards.
6. I consider that the treatment meted out to me by the guards and with Lt KUDO'S connivance was detrimental to my health.
7. On another occasion late in 1943, I was confined to camp through sickness. The sick personnel in camp were each issued with a loaf of bread and at about lunch time one of the POWs complained that his loaf of bread had been stolen.
8. The guards were informed and they reported the loss to Lt KUDO. KUDO came around and asked who stole the bread but no-one confessed.
9. Lt KUDO then marched all the sick POWs in camp to the bake house where he lined us all up and again asked who stole the bread but again no-one confessed.
10. KUDO then slapped each one across the face. He then stood back and ordered another Japanese, known to me as the "YANKES CLIPPER" to beat us up.
11. The "YANKES CLIPPER" who was a big man punched each of us about the face several times.
12. After the beating was completed, we were all stood to attention for about one to one and a half hours. After that we were marched back to our quarters and disarmed.
13. Most of us had swollen faces etc after this hiding and some required medical attention.
14. The whole of the punishment meted out to us was supervised by Lt KUDO.

SIGNED at MELBOURNE in the State of Victoria
this 27th day of September, 1948.

Before me,

Alfred Ernest Langford
A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria
for the taking of affidavits.

By: H 953 LANGFORD C.R.
ALIAS FERTH
Police Station Domain Rd,
ROBART TAS.

Date and Place: July 28 1945 Nakor Chassi

Particulars: On July 28th at Kakom-sasie while working on railway line, the Black Corporal "Shoka-Sato" kicked me several times on both of my legs. His reason he said for doing so was because I wasn't working hard enough and I told him I was feeling sick he then kicked me again on the right leg and snacked my face. On the same day I was slapped by Chesby Haritsu Doctor over the head and back, with an auger for no reason whatever.

Witnesses: Cmr. McDougall
Quarrel.

Responsible: SHOKA-SATO ALIAS "BLACK CORPORAL"
HARITSU-DOCTOR ALIAS "CHESBY"

Signed C.R. Langford

WAR CRIMES.

Affidavit of H 953 A.S. LANGFORD, C.R. *M.C. 1073*

On the *21st* day of June 1946, Clifford Roy LANGFORD, of Police Station Domain, HOBART, TASMANIA, Sailor, whose Regimental Number H 953, being duly sworn makes oath and says as follows:-

1. I am H 953 A.S. LANGFORD, C.R. a former Prisoner of War in Japanese Hands held in Camps - TAMBUZANT Camp BURMA - 36 KILO, 45 KILO- 36 KILO - 55 KILO - 80 KILO. In each of these camps we had an English speaking officer in charge.

2. CONDUCT OF CAMP.

The discipline in all these camps were carried out by the Japanese in a brutal manner. Our own officers carried out the administration of our own Troops, under the control of the Japanese.

3. Parades were called two to three times a day, early morning parade would be about 0700 Hrs and evening parades at 1900 hours. Sometimes they would call a parade at lunch time (Tango). Parade warning would be sounded on Bugles. On these parades men would be selected for work parties. The sick men when sent out by the Japanese medical Officer would often be ill treated by the Japs if they were slow in moving or talked in the ranks.

4. MESSING.

(a) Cooking arrangements were very poor "quarries" and 44 galls drums cut down were used.

(b) Personnel who had their own Mess Tins when captured used them, but the less fortunate had to use what utensils they could improvise, such as Jap tins, tin Hats, and some made from Bamboo. These Japanese did not issue any utensils whatever

(c) Rations consisted of Rice, very little salt, and a watery stew, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, sometimes melon, very little meat. Hot water was given to the P.O.s to drink very little tea and coffee being issued.

5. RECREATION.

Recreation periods allowed in accordance with Jap Army Regs. Concerts were allowed on the nights we had off work mainly because the Japs used to enjoy them.

6. ABLUTIONS AND LATRINES.

Ablutions were generally carried out in small streams in the vicinity of the Camps.

LATRINES.

Trenches were dug about 20 ft long by 4 ft deep, 3 ft wide. When these became full it was covered with earth and new one dug close by. The fly menace was very bad. Very little, if any disinfectants were issued for this purpose.

7. MEDICAL TREATMENT.

The Medical arrangements for the sick and wounded were very bad. Our own Medical Officers treated our Troops the best way they could. What Medical supplies we had were kept for the worst cases. Bandages were made out of Mosquito nets, mens clothing, and under the supervision of Medical Officers, these would be washed and re-issued for considerable periods. In fact they were used until worn out. I know that the Japanese had American and British Red Cross Medical supplies in the stores which they kept for their own use.

Sworn by the Deponent on the day and year first before mentioned at Hobart.

Before me

A.P. Burrows JP

C.R. Langford

8. ILL TREATMENT.

- (a) Men would leave Camp at approx 0800 Hrs and work till 1800-1900 Hrs in the evening until they completed the tasks allotted them by the Japanese. Small breaks of a few minutes were sometimes allowed providing the men worked to satisfy the Japs. Bashings were very frequent during the day, under the slightest provocation, such as talking, or relaxing for a few minutes to straighten his back, or smoking. If a man went into the Jungle to attend to the demands of nature without asking permission from the Jap Guards he would be severely Bashed by the Guards.
- (b) A.B. MILLS, K of Western Australia was working on the BURMA Line, and was in the act of driving a "dog" into a sleeper, when a Jap Officer (whose name I do not know) thought that MILLS was going to strike him with a hammer he was using. The Jap Officer called two Jap Guards and instructed them to Bash MILLS. They instantly knocked him down with the butts of their Rifles. He was knocked unconscious and his Jaw was badly broken. He was treated by Majors Fisher and Hobbs and Capt Simpson Dental Officer. There were daily bashings of our Troops but I am unable to concentrate on any one particular case except one mentioned above.
- (c) I never saw a Jap steal any Medical supplies, but I actually saw Jap Guards selling Medical supplies to the natives.
- (d) On many occasions I have seen Jap Medical Officers order Medical treatment to our Troops, but they were never made available. Their excuse being they could not get enough for their own soldiers.
- (e) Honk, the Donk, was a Japanese about 28 years- approx 6 ft in height - about 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone in weight - Very quiet disposition - very rudy complexion - very brutal.
- (f) Jackie the Jew - 5 ft 4 in. in height - 10 Stone weight - 22 yrs approx - very sharp features - very prominent nose, - very cruel. His main means of torture was to make P.O.Ws hold weights above their heads until they dropped, also stand at attention, and throw stones at them. If they moved the P.O.Ws would be bashed. I have experienced this treatment.
- (g) NEG. T 265.

I am absolutely sure that the photograph Negative T 265 is known to me as the ("Smiling Ter")

NEG. T 101.

I am absolutely sure that the photograph negative T 101 is "PLUTO". I did not know his Japanese name. This man was very cruel. I have seen him hit men in the back with his "Rifle Butt" and he kicked me on the small of the back on one occasion.

9. PERSONS WHO COMMITTED THE CRIMES.

Col. NAGATOMA.

Age 40 years.
Height 5 ft 5 in.
Weight 12 stone approx.
Wore a moustache.

Sworn by the Deponent on the
day and year first beforementioned
at Hobart.

Before me

A.P. Burrows JP

B.H. Langford.

A Japanese Officer called "The Animal" in charge of NAKONCHESI Camp was Brutal in all treatment to P.O.s

Age 26 Yrs.
Weight 11 stone.
Height 5 ft 11 in.

Very fine physique - nothing peculiar to identify him by.

10. CAMP COMMANDANT.

See above.

Sworn by the
Deponent on
the day and year
first before
mentioned at

Nobart

L.H. Langford

Before me.

A.P. Burrows JP

June 21st 1946

"Honus the Donk" - on card in Registry
name is SATO, Saburochi

"Jackie the Jew" - Maybe SAITO, Saburochi 1946?
No trace of given name

"The Animal" - No trace of given name

Col. NAGATOMA - NAGATOMO YOSHITADA

Not photographed as yet - WCR no 86

As far as Tanaka is concerned
this affidavit is "So So"

On this twenty eighth day of October one thousand nine hundred and forty four
John Ryan LINDSEY of 14 Trenchard Parade North in the State of New
South Wales Train Conductor I being sworn and says as follows:-

1. As WITNESS Pte A.I. HIGGINS I was captured at Singapore on 15 Feb 42
and was subsequently transferred to Changi Area Camp No. 245 which
I reached in Oct 44.
2. On one occasion there were three Australian P. who were beaten so
badly that the beatings led to their subsequent deaths.
3. I recall in Dec 45 1/Cpl I.C. LEE was brutally reported by
a group factory employee for standing in the latrine for 20 minutes.
LINDSEY severely beaten. I did not witness his punishment but saw
his injuries subsequently. He was very badly bruised about the body.
He was in bed for some days and then returned to work. Several days
later he spoke of pains in his chest. He was returned to the camp
hospital for some two weeks and then evacuated to Singapore where he
died.

I do not know the names of those who flogged him.

Pte H. HIGGS 2/30 I witnessed his beating and should be able to
name those responsible.

4. On another occasion Pte A.I. HIGGINS 2/30 I was badly beaten by some
guards. I did not witness this beating but saw HIGGINS's injuries
later in the lines where he was confined for some days. His body
was badly bruised and he had sustained a leg injury. He was later
evacuated to SINGAPORE where he died. I cannot name any witnesses
of this beating.
5. On another occasion Sergeant G. G. FRYER of the 11th BATT was beaten by
guards. I did not witness his beating but saw him in hospital later.
His body was badly bruised and his legs injured. He was evacuated
to SINGAPORE where he died. I do not know of any witnesses to G. G.
FRYER's beating.
6. "HERRING" of the 11th BATT was the worst bully in this camp.
/a/ On one occasion he engaged in a quarrel with some soldiers several
ME. people over the head of a Dutch PW named HIGGINS. He then beat
him with a heavy pole for hours. I witnessed this beating. Sub-
sequently I heard the Dutch soldier's mother say that he had little
chance of surviving unless he was operated on immediately. There
was no operation and HERRING died early next morning. I understood
that his death was attributed by the Japs to Beri-Beri.

"HERRING" was ever ready to punish violently and encouraged
other guards to do the same. I witnessed numerous floggings admin-
istered by him but cannot recall details now.

7. Medical supplies were very short and of poor quality. Later drugs
from the American Red Cross were available in very limited quantities
but saved a number of lives of European patients. Sgt MC (P. Coy)
would allow only nine patients in the camp hospital at a time.
Other sick were forced to sleep, some being conveyed there on carts
and unloaded at a tent where they could sit down.

/s/ John R. Lindsey /s/ J. R. Lindsey

- 8. Quarters were wooden buildings with plaster lining. Windows were boarded and became damp and cold in winter. No sleep or wooden planks with grass mats. Each PW was allotted a patch about 6'x8' by 10'.
- 9. Latrines consisted of a concrete pit beneath the floor. It was part of the duties of sick PW to empty this out by carrying it into a nearby canal.
- 10. There were no facilities for bathing except cold baths. This led to a number of cases of pneumonia.
- 11. Hot Cross Buns were supplied occasionally. In mid 2-11/45 parcels were mailed to each unit. I know there were many parcels in the 2d store when it was burnt. Some of the parcels lacked labels and expiration. Preserved milk was sent to the camp hospital. I saw Sgt. HOO's orderly (Gard), an American, take powdered milk for HOO's use. Carl stated this was done on HOO's instructions.
- 12. At Shibuya Denki Factory, work was done under cover but the concrete floor was increasingly cold and our shoes offered no protection against this.

PW were kept hard at work by being told that we were working because Jap airplanes under conditions similar to theirs.

- 13. The camp which was destroyed on 13 Jul 45 was within the factory grounds and about 100 yds from the nearest bombing building. No attempt was made to distinguish the camp from the factory.

I am unable to say who was responsible for the sinking of this camp. I doubt if there were any stone landing operations available for PW after the residential quarters had been struck out by American bombing. I was not present when 28 PW were killed by bombing.

PW were never to my knowledge protected from seeking shelter from bombing and always went to shelters at the same time as the Japanese.

- 14. I know nothing of the execution of prisoners killed by an air raid.
- 15. During the transfer of PW from the bombing camp on 14 Apr 45 I do not if any PW would have survived the day of the civilian mob if it had not been for the soldierly action and leadership of HOO.

STORN by the abovementioned Detachment }
 JOHN EYON JACOBSON at SHIBUYA this }
 twenty eighth day of October }
 One thousand one hundred and }
 forty six }
 WITNESSETH /s/ A. WILLIAMS AF }
 a Justice of the Peace.

/s/ JOHN R. TROTT

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
Charles A. Jesty
 CHARLES A. JESTY
 S.W.O., H.S.A.

On this *Twenty eighth* day of October one thousand nine hundred and fortysix John Ryan LANGLEY of 14 Ponsonby Parade Seaforth in the State of New South Wales Tram Conductor makes oath and says as follows :-

1. As NX57812 Pte J.R. LANGLEY I was captured at Singapore on 15 Feb 42 and was subsequently transferred to TOKYO AREA CAMP No. 14B which I reached in Oct 44.
2. I refer to my affidavit of the *Twenty eighth* day of October one thousand nine hundred and fortysix.

I identify the Japanese in photograph in folder marked "B" attached hereto as Lt TANAKA.

I identify the Japanese in photograph in folder marked "C" attached hereto as Sgt INO - "THE FIG".

I identify the Japanese in photograph in folder marked "D" attached hereto as WATANABE a factory guard.

I identify the Japanese in photograph in folder marked "E" attached hereto as "RUBBER NECK" or "FU MAN", who was in charge of factory guards.

I identify the Japanese in photograph in folder marked "F" attached hereto as "LITTLE RUBBER NECK", a factory guard.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent,
~~the~~ John Ryan LANGLEY this *Twenty*
eight day of October One
thousand nine hundred and fortysix
at SYDNEY

BEFORE ME

Williams J.P.

Langley
John R. Langley

A Justice of the Peace.

110/51. /63/50/297

IN THE MATTER OF WAR CRIMES COMMITTED BY JAPANESE
NATIONALS AND IN THE MATTER OF ILL-TREATMENT OF
PRISONERS OF WAR (CIVILIAN INTERESS) AT
OHAMA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP

46

THOMAS LAPSLEY, (34), Railway Shunter, residing at
59 Leehside Road, Ayr, Ayrshire.

States:-

I am 24 years of age, born at Alloway, Ayr,
on 27th June 1921.

I joined the Territorials, 513 Battery,
R.A., at Ayr, in March 1937. My number was 869036
and my rank that of Gunner.

I was called to active service on 3rd
September 1939.

In January 1940 I was transferred to the
65 Manchester Heavy A.A., R.A., and about September
1941 to the 6th Heavy A.A.

I was drafted overseas to Singapore,
arriving there about 15th January 1942. From there
I went with the Unit to Sumatra, thence to Java where
I was transferred to the 77th Heavy A.A. Regiment.
I was in action there until the capitulation on 8th
March 1942. From that date we lived in the hills
and lived on rations from the R.A.S.C.

On 7th May 1942 the Japanese came and we
were taken by train to Batavia and placed behind barbed
wire. The food here was not too bad, rice, fruit
and buffalo meat. We were there until September 1942.
During this time no clothing was issued to us.

In September 1942 we were shipped to
Japan on the 'Singapore Maru'. Conditions on board
were/

Signed..... Thomas Lapsley.

Signed..... James Smith.
Justice of the Peace.

HR-10

were terrible. There were 1,100 of us. We were packed in the holds and sleeping almost on top of one another. Sanitary arrangements were insufficient. There was a lot of sickness and many died. The dead were thrown overboard. Death was due to cold, lack of clothing and no medical supplies. Japanese troops joined the ship at Singapore. We were landed at Japan and taken to Ohashi, arriving there about November 1942. We were housed in a large building there. Conditions were pretty good but food was short. I was at this camp until 13th August 1945.

During my stay at this camp I got a few Red Cross parcels. The Japanese Camp Commander distributed these parcels to those who in his opinion had worked best - perhaps one parcel between four and sometimes one parcel between two. Unknown to the Camp Commander, however, we always got together and shared all parcels alike amongst all of us.

Benjamin Sullivan in the Light A.A. was a prisoner in this camp. He was about 3 rooms away from me. Another prisoner was named Winker and he and Sullivan were friendly. Winker told me that while Sullivan was in an air raid shelter a Japanese guard had attacked him and that Sullivan had resisted. Sullivan was charged with resisting the guard and sentenced to punishment. Winker stated that Sullivan told him he had been made to kneel and then to stand for long intervals and that this lasted for a period of seven days while guards beat him. One day I actually /

Signed .. Thomas Lapsley.....

Signed... James Smith.....
Justice of the Peace.

Hi-10

actually saw Sullivan kneeling in the guard room and saw the guard strike Sullivan a blow with his hand on the side of the face. According to Winker, Sullivan only got a rice ball three times a day for food during this period of punishment. This punishment, I understand, was ordered by Captain Furuhara.

Another prisoner in this Camp was James O'Hara. O'Hara told me that he had been made to hold a smouldering bamboo in his hands for one day. I did not ask what this punishment was for and I did not see it carried out. I did not see O'Hara's hands and I do not know to what extent he was injured.

Sullivan's home address is 100 Gunson Street, Miles Platting, Manchester, while O'Hara's home is at Maryhill, Glasgow.
(Signed) Thomas Lapsley..

I, THOMAS LAPSELY, railway shunter, residing at 59 Lochside Road, Ayr, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that the foregoing statement made and signed by me is truth.

(Signed).....Thomas Lapsley.....

Taken the twenty-third day of May 1946, by me.

(Signed).....James Smith.....

One of His Majesty's Justices
of the Peace for the County
of Ayr.

12/18
I, Edmund Alexander Larcombe, of 79 Racecourse Road, North Melbourne, in the State of Victoria, formerly VX 39137, Sgt. R.W. LARCOMBE of 4 Anti Tank Regt., make oath and say:-

1. I was taken prisoner of war on 15 Feb. 42 at SINGAPORE.
2. In September 43, I was moved to 18 KILO CAMP, BURMA a cattle droving camp.
3. On admission of Sgt. TOOMEY, 2/19 Bn, to hospital, I became senior NCO in charge of 18 other Australians in the camp, under the control of 4 Koreans. RSH
4. The 4 Koreans were: TOMAMMASUS, TOMAYAMA, TAKEDA, and one other. The senior guard was TOMAYAMA, but TOMAMMASUS assumed control because of his stronger personality and physical strength.
5. The normal treatment under these guards was consistently bad, consisting of mild lashings, beatings, and constant ill treatment.
6. Towards the end of September 43, TOMAMMASUS went on one of his regular orgies of drinking, etc. in TRANBUZYAT, demanded that we purchase sugar from him at a price three times in excess of the normal price.
7. I ordered the men under my charge, to refuse to buy and informed TOMAMMASUS that we did not have the necessary money to purchase.
8. He demanded explanation of how we had spent our pay and as each man explained, he was soundly bashed about the head and body, with a stout sappling about 4 feet long and 1 1/2 inches thick, by TOMAMMASUS.
9. We were then stood to attention, while he worked himself into a further rage. This time he vented his rage on me alone, hitting me with two handed strokes, on top of the head, until the stick broke after 12 to 15 blows.
10. In spite of the fact that the injuries received would normally have necessitated absence from duty for a week, TOMAMMASUS set us to work immediately, on normal duties.
11. Men whose names I can remember, who were thrashed on this occasion are :-

Pte. J. HARKERVIS
J. SCANLAN
CRAIG. of 2/19 Bn.
BROOKS " " "
J. HOWSE
T. MORTIMER of 2/40 Bn.

12. TOMAMMASUS was of larger build than most Koreans about 5 feet 10 inches in height, and he had a cast in one eye.

Sworn at Melbourne in the State of Victoria this 23rd day of July 1946.

Before me,

E. A. Larcombe
R. S. Hetch

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria for taking

1, William Henry LARKIN of 34 Uvadale Grove, Kew, in the State of Victoria, formerly VX 50842 Lt. W.E. LARKIN of Rabaul Fortress Coy. RAE, make oath and say:-

1. I was taken prisoner of war at Rabaul on 29 Jan 42.
2. In June 42, I was moved to ZENTSUJI Camp.
3. Capt. HOUSATINI was Camp Commandant during the period June 42, to June 45.
4. The food at this camp consisted of rice and greens. Both were in very short supply and of poor quality.
5. Medical supplies were controlled by a Japanese doctor nicknamed "JEEPERS CREEPERS". He was fairly tall, bald headed, swarthy features, stooped, long thin legs, and about 50 years of age.
6. These supplies were always short and quite inadequate.
7. Clothing and quarters were reasonable, according to Japanese standards. Some clothing issues were made.
8. Work consisted of gardening and loading and unloading rail trucks.
9. Beatings and general ill-treatment were not common, but one Japanese guard, nicknamed WHITEGLOVE, was responsible for a number of beatings. He had one arm, and always wore a white glove on his artificial left hand.
10. Lt. A.G. ROBERTSON of an Aust. Fd. Ambulance, received ill treatment from WHITEGLOVE in Oct. 44.
11. Ft/Lt MOULDER of the RAF died of malnutrition in Jan 1945.
12. Lt/Comdr VAN PEENAN of the American Navy, who was the allied Medical Officer at this camp, could give further information, if necessary.

Sworn at Melbourne in the State of Victoria this 23rd day of August 1946.

Before me,

R. A. Hitch

A Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Victoria for taking Affidavits

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATION of John Desmond LARKINS, aged 25, Accountancy Student, of 13 Gladstone Avenue, HUNTERS HILL, SYDNEY, NSW.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY states: I am a British subject by birth and was born at Hunters Hill, SYDNEY, on 13 February, 1922. My permanent place of residence is Sydney, NSW, Australia. I am a student under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme.

I was a Private in the Australian Imperial Forces - my personal number was NX33022, and I was attached to A/EI Bn on Ambon Island, where I was made prisoner by the Japanese on 3rd February, 1942. I was sent to HAINAN ISLAND in the same year, and was in the Japanese PW Camp known as HASSHO - near SAKALI Bay.

Whilst in the PW Camp I was employed as a labourer on work of a military nature, such as construction of Ack Ack Battery emplacements, building of roads to the Batteries; loading and unloading Military Stores from ships in the harbour; construction of beach defences, etc.

HASSHO Camp was controlled by the Japanese Navy.

The first camp commandant at HASSHO was Commissioned W/O - afterwards promoted to Naval Lieut TAKAI - known as "THE BLACK SHARK". This officer left in April 1943 but returned for a second tour of duty as camp commandant in June 43, and finally left the camp in the middle of August 1943.

The second camp commandant was a Naval Lieut known to us as "JACK LANG".

When Takai finally left HASSHO he was relieved by an officer who was killed (together with a Jap named SARA) by the explosion of a mine.

The next camp commandant was a man known as "GOOD TIME CHARLIE" - one of the best men we had in camp. He was a terrific disciplinarian but was very fair.

My memory is somewhat vague as to the correct chronological order of camp commandants after "GOOD TIME CHARLIE", but I do know that the officer commanding No. 1 Ack Ack Bty was holding that post for a while.

Another commandant was S/Major TAJIMA. He was a man of very uncertain temper - good when things were going well and vile when the Japs began to take a licking. Tajima was at first known as "FRIENDLY FRED" but this name was afterwards changed to "UNSUCCESSFUL HARRY". Tajima left HASSHO Camp to join No. 1 Bty.

In March 1945 the camp was shut in by an electrified barbed wire fence and, from that time we were not sent out on work parties other than collecting firewood for our own use.

Although we were all more or less sick men in HAINAN, the Japs drove us to work without any mercy. Beatings were common and brutal and the food was bad and insufficient. It was very obvious that the Japanese had every intention of starving us all to death. There was no scarcity of food on Hainan Island - this I know to be the fact as the day we were informed that the war was over, food started coming in to the camp in bullock cart loads. The same was with medical supplies - the Japs deliberately kept back drugs which could have saved the lives of many of our people.

Striking of PW by the Japs on working parties was the common thing and rarely did a day go by without somebody being beaten.

I personally saw RESSICK, G.M., being beaten up by Jap guards on a work party at SAKALI Beach. The Jap work party concerned was from No. 2 Ack Ack Bty which was commanded by a young Jap officer known to us as "THE

BY WONDER". In the second week of March 1945 I was working on beach

John D. Larkins

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATION OF John Desmond LARKINS, aged 25, of 18 Gladstone Avenue, Hunters Hill, Sydney, NSW.

DULY SWORN states: I have made an affidavit, dated Sydney, 18th April, 1947, relative to conditions in and incidents at the Japanese Prisoner of War Camp at HASSHO, HAINAN ISLAND, in which camp I was held as a prisoner from 5th November, 1942, until the closing of the camp after the Japanese capitulation.

Whilst I was a prisoner on HAINAN I kept a diary of events in two small pocket books. The notes were originally written in pencil and afterwards, whilst still in PW Camp, I was able to get hold of some ink and so rewrote over the pencil. As it was almost impossible for me to get hold of any new note books I cramped my writing in ink so as to save space but I did not in any way change the original entries. From May 19th, 1945, the entries were made only in ink.

I submit these two diaries and for their identification I have signed my name on their inside fly leaves.

John Larkins

SWORN TO before me, Dwyer A. NEVILLE, S/Ldr RAF, a member of the British Minor War Crimes Liaison Section, TOKYO, Japan, at Sydney, NSW, Australia, this 18th day of April, 1947.

DETAILED to examine the above by the Commander in Chief, Allied Land Forces, South East Asia.

AUTHORITY: ALFSEA War Crimes Instructions No. 1 (2nd Edition) para 19(a)

Dwyer A. Neville

J. H. ...

defence - shovelling sand and shifting heavy timbers. I was at the bottom of a pit and I saw Kissiak who was on top, slip and accidentally push some sand down the hole. He was grabbed by one of the Jap guards and bashed with shovels and fists by the guards. He was knocked senseless and revived with cold water. He was struck across his spine with the shovels. He was kicked and knocked about while he was on the ground. Some of the beating I saw and the rest I heard from down the hole. KISSIAK was a sick man before this beating and was put in the camp hospital when he got back that evening after work.

One of the Japs who beat up KISSIAK was a man known as "JACK LANG's BAKMAN". Another Jap involved in this case was a Jap NCO known as "The TRACTOR DRIVER SERGE" - he drove the tractor employed in making the new road to No. 2 Lok Aek Battery.

One evening at the end of May 1945 several men were sitting on a greatcoat outside our barrack hut in HASSHO Camp, in the cool of the evening. One of the camp guards came up and accused the owner of the greatcoat - L.J. FENNY - of intending to escape from camp. He took Fenny to the guard house where he was bashed with a stick and had his great coat confiscated. Several of the guard took turns at bashing Fenny who was knocked down to the ground and kicked. He was made to get up and was thrown several times by jujitsu holds. All this was watched by CHIN - the interpreter who refused to intervene. The Camp Commandant, at that time, was "THE BOY WORKER".

On April 8th, 1945, I was a member of a work party on road building a short distance from HASSHO Camp. Major SACRAS was O/C of this party. The weather was cold and most of us were malaric and beri beri cases and felt this cold intensely and so wore our great coats. The work was proceeding normally until Naval Lieut TAKAI - the Camp Comdt - arrived. We were resting at the time and he shouted to us to get up and get back to work. TAKAI started laying into us with his stick and ordered us to take off our overcoats. He picked on Pte WOODWARD and hit him, knocked him down and kicked and hit him with the stick. TAKAI was wearing long leather boots. Major SACRAS went up to TAKAI and spoke to him and TAKAI turned on him and struck him across the face with the stick. Pte SYMONS was also struck by TAKAI during this affair. I was only about 10 feet away from Woodward during the whole time.

John A. Reville

SHOWN TO before me, Major A. REVILLE, S/Ldr, RAF, a member of the British Minor War Crimes Liaison Section, Tokyo, at SYDNEY, NSW, this day of April, 1947.

DETAILED TO REPLICATE THE ABOVE by the Commander in Chief, Allied Land Forces South East Asia.

AUTHORITY: ALPSEA War Crimes Instructions No. 1 (2nd Edition) para 10(a)

Major A. Reville *S/Ldr*