

### Execution of Escapees

On 2 June 1942 the undermentioned men of the 2/4 A/T/Regt escaped from captivity at Tavoy aerodrome camp, in which I was confined at that time.---

VX45344	WOII	Quitterton	N.W.	VX18444	L/B dr	Emmott	A.A.
VX31946	Sjt	Danerher	C E	VX47903	Gnr	Wilson	J A T
VX31670	B dr	Cumming	T S	VX27292	Gnr	Reeve	A
VX57043	Bdr	Glover	A W	VX46835	Gnr	Jones	A H

The men were recaptured. Brigadier Varley (now deceased) was notified to be present at their execution at 5 p.m. on 6 June 1942. Brigadier Varley after consultation with the camp interpreter, Captain W Drower (BEF) and certain legal personnel drafted a letter of protest to Lieut. Chena, the Japanese camp commandant at Tavoy Aerodrome camp. This letter was delivered personally. This letter of protest was of no avail, and Brigadier Varley then decided to see the highest-ranking Japanese officer in the district to protest against the execution. He was taken to Major Itsui, then Japanese commander of the district of Tenasserim in south Burma then at Tavoy.

On being granted an interview with Itsui, the Brigadier was treated with contempt and ordered out of Itsui's office. The Brigadier was not allowed to speak to the men, and seeing them in the distance at Tavoy was not allowed to converse with them but shouted to them, "You are for it lads". Similarly the camp interpreter was not allowed to see or speak to the men prior to the execution. If any trial of these men was held they certainly were not represented by any member of the AIF or BEF. In company with Chaplain H.A. Smith I approached Lieut .