

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Aus. 1.

AWC No. 2308

Accused: Sgt/Maj HIDANO Yoshiteru

Aust W.C. List Ser No. <sup>5</sup>Serial 834

Court, Place, WEWAK, NEW GUINEA  
Date and 11 Dec 45  
Formation: First Aust Army

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
(1) <u>MURDER</u> <in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 murdered a New Guinea native name unknown.>	Not guilty	Not guilty
(2) <u>CANNIBALISM</u> <in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 ate portion of the body of a New Guinea native, name unknown.>	Not guilty	Not guilty

Precis of Evidence: Jemedar Chint Singh of 2/12 Frontier Force, Indian Army, tendered a written statement made to him by Pte JOGINDAR SINGH (deceased) stating that the said Pte Jogindar Singh saw a native (name unknown) lie under a tree for refusing to hand over a pig to the Japanese and shot by a Sgt KHANADA under orders of a Capt AJANASHI, both being members of a Japanese Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Unit at NANGAGUA (Wewak Area, New Guinea) in early 1945. Also that the flesh of the native was later eaten by Sgt KHANADA and other Japanese members of the Unit. This statement was admitted in evidence. This witness gave evidence of the circumstances of his taking the statement. Other evidence was given of the phonetic rendering of Japanese names and ranks and as to the units and individuals in the area at the time of the alleged crime. The evidence given did not show a direct connection between the name "Khanada" given by Pte Jogindar Singh and the name of accused. The accused gave evidence on his own behalf denying the charges and denying that he had even heard of the murder of a native as he was sick with cerebral malaria at the time. JEMADAR CHINT SINGH, recalled, reiterated the names given by JOGINDAR SINGH as originally stated, and further stated that although the accused was close by during the making of the statement he was not directly indicated by JOGINDAR SINGH as the guilty party. > 3

Sentence Not guilty of both charges  
and Date: 11 Dec 45

Confirmation  
and by Whom: Not applicable

Promulgation: --

Petition: --

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: --

Action on Petition: --

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL/AR.

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Ans.3.

AWC No. 821

Accused: S/Maj SUGINO, Tsuruo

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 4 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
<p><u>First charge:</u> MASSACRE of approx 36 prisoners at or near 5 mile Riam Rd near MIRI in SARAWAK on or about 10 Jun 45.</p>	Not Guilty	Guilty
<p><u>Second charge:</u> MASSACRE of approx 15 prisoners at or near 5 miles Riam Rd near MIRI in SARAWAK on or about 10 Jun 45.</p>	Not Guilty	Guilty.

Precis of Evidence: Early in Jun 1945 the Allied Fleet was approaching NORTH BORNEO and S/Maj SUGINO, Tsuruo was in charge of approx 51 PW at Cape LOBANG. The accused alleged that he received instructions from Lt. NISHIMURA to take the PW inland along the Riam Rd and dispose of them. Having marched some little distance up the Riam Rd at or near the 5 1/2 mile the accused ordered the shooting of approx 36 PW and then at or near the 5 mile Riam Rd with reinforcement of approx 9 men from Nishimura Tai ordered the 15 strongest men of the PW who had been carrying food, to be killed by shooting and bayonetting. The accused pleaded that he acted under orders and refusal would have been punishable by death.

Sentence and Date: TO SUFFER DEATH BY BEING SHOT  
4 Dec 45

Confirmation and by Whom: Finding and Sentence confirmed by Acting C-in-C - 26 Feb 46.

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentence from Major to accused on 5 Mar 46  
Accused executed by shooting on 6 Mar 46

Petition: Submitted 13 Dec 45 against Finding and Sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the finding and sentence be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered:



*Complete*  
**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

*MS*  
*Ans. 4.*

AWC No.....

Accused: Capt MISUMI, Michiaki  
Sup Pte GOTO, Siataro

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 7,8, 13 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Murder of a prisoner of war about 23 Mar 45 at BEO in the TALAUD ISLANDS.	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Four airmen crashed vicinity BEO and were taken prisoner of war by Japanese. The Colonel in charge of the Jap tps decided four men were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. Decided at conference of officers that execution would take place at formal parade. Following presentation of colours of 23 Mar 45 details of four Coys were formed up on execution ground. One prisoner was handed over to each Coy for execution. Each prisoner was blindfolded and tied to a large cross. Each Coy Comd called out a man from the ranks who came to attention in front of the prisoner. The offr in comd of the Coy gave the orders "Fix Bayonets", "Prepare to Lunge" "Lunge" when the man bayoneted the prisoner in the heart. The prisoner was untied and buried. Capt MISUMI was in comd of one Coy and personally gave the comd to Pte GOTO Siataro to carry out the execution. The execution was carried out under direct order of Col Koba the senior offr on the Is through Maj TAMURA the offr in immediate comd of the tps.

Sentence and Date: Accused MISUMI - TO SUFFER DEATH BY SHOOTING - 13 Dec 45  
Accused GOTO - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 10 YRS - 13 Dec 45.

Confirmation and by Whom: Confirmed by Acting C-in-C and warrant in case of MISUMI signed 12 Feb 46.

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to the accused on 5 Mar 46. Accused MISUMI executed by shooting on 6 MAR 46*

Petition: Lodged 17 Dec by both accused against finding and sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the finding and sentence be confirmed in the case of accused MISUMI. Punishment respecting accused too severe, in fact suggest that no punishment be made as he had no option but to carry out order.

Action on Petition: Petition respecting accused MISUMI dismissed. Petition respecting GOTO in relation to sentence only upheld.  
Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

*Complete*  
**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

*M8*  
*Ans. 4.*

Accused: Capt MISUMI, Michiaki  
Sup Pte GOTO, Siataro

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 7,8, 13 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Murder of a prisoner of war about 23 Mar 45 at BEO in the TALAUD ISLANDS.	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Four airmen crashed vicinity BEO and were taken prisoner of war by Japanese. The Colonel in charge of the Jap tps decided four men were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. Decided at conference of officers that execution would take place at formal parade. Following presentation of colours of 23 Mar 45 details of four Coys were formed up on execution ground. One prisoner was handed over to each Coy for execution. Each prisoner was blindfolded and tied to a large cross. Each Coy Comd called out a man from the ranks who came to attention in front of the prisoner. The offr in comd of the Coy gave the orders "Fix Bayonets", "Prepare to Lunge" "Lunge" when the man bayonetted the prisoner in the heart. The prisoner was untied and buried. Capt MISUMI was in comd of one Coy and personally gave the comd to Pte GOTO Siataro to carry out the execution. The execution was carried out under direct order of Col Koba the senior offr on the Is through Maj TAMURA the offr in immediate comd of the tps.

Sentence Accused MISUMI - TO SUFFER DEATH BY SHOOTING - 13 Dec 45  
and Date: Accused GOTO - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 10 YRS - 13 Dec 45.

Confirmation Confirmed by Acting C-in-C and warrant in case of  
and by Whom: MISUMI signed 12 Feb 46.

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to the accused on 5 Mar 46. Accused MISUMI executed by shooting on 6 MAR 46*

Petition: Lodged 17 Dec by both accused against finding and sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the finding and sentence be confirmed in the case of accused MISUMI. Punishment respecting accused too severe, in fact suggest that no punishment be made as he had no option but to carry out order.

Action on Petition: Petition respecting accused MISUMI dismissed. Petition respecting GOTO in relation to sentence only upheld.  
Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



# RECORD OF MILITARY COURT

(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Ans. 5

Guards MATSUMOTO, Hideo L/Cpl MAEKAWA, Harukichi - 476, 866, 796, 854  
" YOKOYAMA, Nobuo " KANEKO, Masumi AWC No. 768, 745, 855, 735, 811, 729,  
" NANGO, Hiroshi Navy " YAMADA, Tokuichi 762, 761, 731, 793, 779.  
" YAMADA, Yoshimasa 1st Ptes IGAWA (IKAWA) Kichizemon - Aust W.C. List Ser No.....  
Accused: " SASAI, Shinzaburo  
" HIROTOMI, Asao  
" KOMAKI, Kiyomatsu  
" KOIZUMI, Jisaku  
" HODOSHIMA, Namiji  
" NAKAMURA, Hiroji (not guilty)  
" MIURA, Wataru (not guilty)  
Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 8 Dec 45  
Formation: 9 Aust Div  
Charge(s) Finding

Massacre  
at or near 5 Miles RIAM Rd in  
SARAWAK on or about 10 Jun 45

Not  
Guilty

Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Sgt/Maj SUGINO in comd of Jap prisoner of war guards who had in custody some 51 Allied PW. Early in Jun 45 the Allied Fleet was approaching NORTH BORNEO and instructions were given that SUGINO remove his PW inland and according to him, "Dispose" of them. Having marched some little distance along the RIAM RD, SUGINO decided to massacre the PW. SUGINO had some nine members in his guard. He applied to a neighbouring Unit for reinforcements who arrived 10 Jun and joined up with SUGINO at or near the 5 mile RIAM Rd, where there were some 15 Allied PW - the strongest of the 51 that SUGINO had in charge. These men were resting while carrying supplies of food inland. Upon arrival of the reinforcements Sgt/Maj Sugino gave orders that the 15 men were to be massacred. This was carried out by shooting and bayonetting.  
Evidence was given that under Jap Military Law the disobedience of an order such as given by Sugino to these men, was punishable by death; also evidence that some of the men were threatened with physical violence when they objected to carrying out the order to bayonet the wounded men.

Sentence  
and Date: To suffer death by being shot  
8 Dec 45

Confirmation  
and by Whom: Finding confirmed and sentence mitigated to ten (10) years imprisonment with hard labour by Acting C-in-C - 16 Feb 46

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences from the bench received on 31 Jan 46

Petition: Submitted 14 Dec 45 against Finding and Sentence of the Court

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the Finding be confirmed  
That the sentence be mitigated to imprisonment for 10 years

Action on Petition: Upheld in so far as sentences concerned

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL/AR.

# RECORD OF MILITARY COURT

## (JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Guards	MATSUMOTO, Hideo	L/Cpl	MAEKAWA, Harukichi	
"	YOKOYAMA, Nobuo	"	KANEKO, Masumi	
"	NANGO, Hiroshi	Navy	YAMADA, Tokuchi	AWC No.....
"	YAMADA, Yoshimasa	1st Ptes	IGAWA (IKAWA) Kichigaemon	
Accused:		"	SASAI, Shinzaburo	Aust W.C. List Ser No.....
		"	HIROTOMI, Asao	
		"	KOMAKI, Kiyomatsu	
Court, Place,	LABUAN	"	KOIZUMI, Jisaku	
Date and	8 Dec 45	"	HODOSHIMA, Namiji	
Formation:	9 Aust Div	"	NAKAMURA, Hiroshi (not guilty)	
		"	MIURA, Wataru (not guilty)	
Charge(s)			Plea	Finding

Massacre  
at or near 5 miles Riam Rd in  
SARAWAK on or about 10 Jun 45

Not  
Guilty

Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Sgt/Maj SUGINO in comd of Jap prisoner of war guards who had in custody some 51 Allied PW. Early in Jun 45 the Allied Fleet was approaching NORTH BORNEO and instructions were given that SUGINO remove his PW inland and according to him, "Dispose" of them. Having marched some little distance along the RIAM RD, SUGINO decided to massacre the PW. SUGINO had some nine members in his guard. He applied to a neighbouring Unit for reinforcements who arrived 10 Jun and joined up with SUGINO at or near the 5 mile RIAM Rd, where there were some 15 Allied PW - the strongest of the 51 that SUGINO had in charge. These men were resting while carrying supplies of food inland. Upon arrival of the reinforcements Sgt/Maj Sugino gave orders that the 15 men were to be massacred. This was carried out by shooting and bayonetting. Evidence was given that under Jap Military Law the disobedience of an order such as given by Sugino to these men, was punishable by death; also evidence that some of the men were threatened with physical violence when they objected to carrying out the order to bayonet the wounded men.

Sentence  
and Date: To suffer death by being shot  
8 Dec 45

Confirmation  
and by Whom: Finding confirmed and sentence mitigated to ten(10) years imprisonment with hard labour by Acting C-in-C - 16 Feb 46

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgated to each accused on 31 Jan 46*

Petition: Submitted 14 Dec 45 against Finding and Sentence of the Court

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the Finding be confirmed  
That the sentence be mitigated to imprisonment for 10 years

Action on Petition: Upheld *in so far as sentences concerned.*

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

*Ans. b.*

Accused: HIROTA Seichi  
KANASHIGE Shokichi (Masayoshi)  
FUJIKAWA Tetsuo  
HIRAYAMA Hideo  
NAKAYAMA Kenichi  
KAWAMURA Teruhoshi  
UMEMURA Susumu  
Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 8 DEC 45  
Formation: 9 AUST DIV

728, 748, 704, 725,  
AWC No. 795, 752, 848  
Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Massacre at or near 5 mile RIAM Rd in SARAWAK on or about 10 Jun 45	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

Precis of Evidence: Sgt/Maj SUGINO in comd of Jap prisoner of war guards who had in custody some 51 Allied PW. Early in Jun 45 the Allied Fleet was approaching NORTH BORNEO and instructions were given that SUGINO remove his PW inland and, according to him, "Dispose" of them. Having marched some little distance along the RIAM RD, SUGINO decided to massacre the PW. SUGINO had some nine members in his guard. He applied to a neighbouring Unit for reinforcements who arrived 10 Jun and joined up with SUGINO at or near the 5 mile RIAM road, where there were some 15 Allied PW-the strongest of the 51 that SUGINO had in charge. These men were resting while carrying supplies of food inland. Upon arrival of the reinfnts Sgt/Maj SUGINO gave orders that the 15 men were to be massacred. This was carried out by shooting and bayonetting, and has been the subject of another trial. Then under the orders of SUGINO the above accused took part in this massacre of the remaining Allied PW to the number of about 31. Evidence was given that under Jap Military Law the disobedience of an order such as given by SUGINO to these men, was punishable by death; also evidence that some of the men were threatened with physical violence when they objected to carrying out the order to bayonet the wounded men.

Sentence To suffer death by  
and Date: being shot.  
8 DEC 45

Confirmation Finding confirmed and sentence mitigated to ten (10) years  
and by Whom: imprisonment with hard labour, by A/C-in-C. 16 Feb 46

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding sentences from 14th Dec 45 to 31 Jan 46*

Petition: Submitted 14 Dec 45 against Finding and Sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the Finding be confirmed.  
That the Sentence be mitigated to imprisonment  
for 10 years.

Action on Petition: Upheld in so far as sentence concerned.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL /AR.

**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Accused: HIROTA Seichi  
KANASHIGE Shokichi (Masayoshi)  
FUJIKAWA Tetsuo  
HIRAYAMA Hideo  
NAKAYAMA Kenichi  
KAWAMURA Teruhoshi  
UMEMURA Susumu

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and  
Formation: 8 DEC 45  
9 AUST DIV

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Massacre at or near 5 miles RIAM RD in SARAWAK on or about 10 Jun 45	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

Precis of Evidence: Sgt/Maj SUGINO in comd of Jap prisoner of war guards who had in custody some 51 Allied PW. Early in Jun 45 the Allied Fleet was approaching NORTH BORNEO and instructions were given that SUGINO remove his PW inland and, according to him, "Dispose" of them. Having marched some little distance along the RIAM RD, SUGINO decided to massacre the PW. SUGINO had some nine members in his guard. He applied to a neighbouring Unit for reinforcements who arrived 10 Jun and joined up with SUGINO at or near the 5 mile RIAM Road, where there were some 15 Allied PW - the strongest of the 51 that SUGINO had in charge. These men were resting while carrying supplies of food inland. Upon arrival of the reinforcements Sgt/Maj SUGINO gave orders that the 15 men were to be massacred. This was carried out by shooting and bayonetting, and has been the subject of another trial. Then under the orders of SUGINO the above accused took part in this massacre of the remaining Allied PW to the number of about 31. Evidence was given that under Jap Military Law the disobedience of an order such as given by SUGINO to these men, was punishable by death; also Sentence To suffer death by being shot. 8 DEC 45

and Date: evidence that some of the men were threatened with physical violence when they objected to carrying out the order to bayonet the wounded men.

Confirmation Finding confirmed and sentence mitigated to ten(10) years  
and by Whom: imprisonment with hard labour, by A/C-in-C. 16 Feb 46

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding & sentence promulgated to each accused on 31 Jan 46*

Petition: Submitted 14 Dec 45 against Finding and Sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the Finding be confirmed.  
That the Sentence be mitigated to imprisonment for 10 years.

Action on Petition: Upheld

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL /AR.

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

1115 Aus. 7.

Accused: Sgt/Maj HIDANO Yoshiteru

AWC No. 2308

Aust W.C. List Ser No. 5 Serial 834

Court, Place, WEWAK NEW GUINEA  
Date and 11 Dec 45  
Formation: First Aust Army

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
(1) <u>MURDER</u> in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 murdered a New Guinea native name unknown.	Not Guilty	Not guilty
(2) <u>CANNIBALISM</u> in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 ate portion of the body of a New Guinea native, name unknown.	Not Guilty	Not guilty

**Precis of Evidence:** Jemadar Chint Singh of 2/12 Frontier Force, Indian Army, tendered a written statement made to him by Pte JOGINDAR SINGH (deceased) stating that the said Pte Jogindar Singh saw a native (name unknown) tied to a tree for refusing to hand over a pig to the Japanese and shot by a Sgt KHANADA under orders of a Capt AJANASHI, both being members of a Japanese Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Unit at NANGAGUA (Wewak Area, New Guinea) in early 1945. Also that the flesh of the native was later eaten by Sgt KHANADA and other Japanese members of the Unit. This statement was admitted in evidence. This witness gave evidence of the circumstances of his taking the statement. Other evidence was given of the phonetic rendering of Japanese names and ranks and as to the units and individuals in the area at the time of the alleged crime. The evidence given did not show a direct connection between the name "Khanada" given by Pte Jogindar Singh and the name of accused. The accused gave evidence on his own behalf denying the charges and denying that he had even heard of the murder of a native as he was sick with cerebral

Sentence Not guilty of both  
and Date: charges  
11 Dec 45

malaria at the time. JEMADAR CHINT SINGH, recalled, reiterated the names given by JOGINDAR SINGH as originally stated, and further stated that although the accused was close by during the making of the statement he was not directly indicated by JOGINDAR SINGH as the guilty party.

Confirmation Not applicable  
and by Whom:

Promulgation:

Petition:

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition:

Action on Petition:

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL /AR.

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

1115 Ans. 7.

Accused: Sgt/Maj HIDANO Yoshiteru

AWC No. 2308  
Aust W.C. List Ser No. 5 Serial 834

Court, Place, WEWAK NEW GUINEA  
Date and 11 Dec 45  
Formation: First Aust Army

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
(1) <u>MURDER</u> in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 murdered a New Guinea native name unknown.	Not Guilty	Not guilty
(2) <u>CANNIBALISM</u> in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 ate portion of the body of a New Guinea native, name unknown.	Not Guilty	Not guilty

Precis of Evidence: Jemadar Chint Singh of 2/12 Frontier Force, Indian Army, tendered a written statement made to him by Pte JOGINDAR SINGH (deceased) stating that the said Pte Jogindar Singh saw a native (name unknown) tied to a tree for refusing to hand over a pig to the Japanese and shot by a Sgt KHANADA under orders of a Capt AJANASHI, both being members of a Japanese Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Unit at NANGAGUA (Wewak Area, New Guinea) in early 1945. Also that the flesh of the native was later eaten by Sgt KHANADA and other Japanese members of the Unit. This statement was admitted in evidence. This witness gave evidence of the circumstances of his taking the statement. Other evidence was given of the phonetic rendering of Japanese names and ranks and as to the units and individuals in the area at the time of the alleged crime. The evidence given did not show a direct connection between the name "Khanada" given by Pte Jogindar Singh and the name of accused. The accused gave evidence on his own behalf denying the charges and denying that he had even heard of the murder of a native as he was sick with cerebral

Sentence Not guilty of both  
and Date: charges  
11 Dec 45

malaria at the time. JEMADAR CHINT SINGH, recalled, reiterated the names given by JOGINDAR SINGH as originally stated, and further stated that although the accused was close by during the making of the statement he was not directly indicated by JOGINDAR SINGH as the guilty party.

Confirmation Not applicable  
and by Whom:

Promulgation:

Petition:

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition:

Action on Petition:

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL /AR.

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

1015 Ans. 7.

Accused: Sgt/Maj HIDANO Yoshiteru

AWC No. 2308

Aust W.C. List Ser No. 5 Serial 834

Court, Place, WEWAK NEW GUINEA  
Date and 11 Dec 45  
Formation: First Aust Army

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
(1) <u>MURDER</u> in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 murdered a New Guinea native name unknown.	Not Guilty	Not guilty
(2) <u>CANNIBALISM</u> in that he at KUNJAMA in or about Jan 45 ate portion of the body of a New Guinea native, name unknown.	Not Guilty	Not guilty

Precis of Evidence: Jemadar Chint Singh of 2/12 Frontier Force, Indian Army, tendered a written statement made to him by Pte JOGINDAR SINGH (deceased) stating that the said Pte Jogindar Singh saw a native (name unknown) tied to a tree for refusing to hand over a pig to the Japanese and shot by a Sgt KHANADA under orders of a Capt AJANASHI, both being members of a Japanese Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Unit at NANGAGUA (Wewak Area, New Guinea) in early 1945. Also that the flesh of the native was later eaten by Sgt KHANADA and other Japanese members of the Unit. This statement was admitted in evidence. This witness gave evidence of the circumstances of his taking the statement. Other evidence was given of the phonetic rendering of Japanese names and ranks and as to the units and individuals in the area at the time of the alleged crime. The evidence given did not show a direct connection between the name "Khanada" given by Pte Jogindar Singh and the name of accused. The accused gave evidence on his own behalf denying the charges and denying that he had even heard of the murder of a native as he was sick with cerebral

Sentence Not guilty of both  
and Date: charges  
11 Dec 45

malaria at the time. JEMADAR CHINT SINGH, recalled, reiterated the names given by JOGINDAR SINGH as originally stated, and further stated that although the accused was close by during the making of the statement he was not directly indicated by JOGINDAR SINGH as the guilty party.

Confirmation Not applicable  
and by Whom:

Promulgation:

Petition:

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition:

Action on Petition:

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

R3 Aus-9

L/Cpl OKUMURA Rehei  
Accused: Sgt/Maj INAGAKI, Masaru  
Cpl YAMADA, Uichi

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, RABAU  
Date and 13-18 Dec 45.  
Formation: 11 Aust Div

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER about Oct 44 at MASSOWA plantation	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Sgt/Maj INAGAKI, Masaru was in charge of a small Section of M.P. about Oct 44 at MASSOWA 2/3 days travel from Rabaul. The Section included Cpl YAMADA Uichi and L/Cpl OKUMURA, Rehei. Acting on information received from a native he arrested a Chinaman known to him as Woo Chin Kiang and questioned him regarding possession of dynamite and offences by natives. Yamada was present and periodically OKUMURA was present at the questioning of the Chinaman. As a result Inagaki sent written report to M.P. HQ Rabaul and received orders from Col Kikuchi that the Chinese was to be killed. No method of execution was laid down but the usual method adopted by the Jap Army is shooting. Kikuchi admitted that the Chinaman had received no trial. Inagaki stated usual procedure was to send a letter applying for a Court Martial but the Chinaman was not given a court martial owing to distance from Rabaul and other difficulties. The Chinaman was taken by Okumura to where a hole had been dug by a native boy. Yamada was present. The Chinaman was blindfolded by Yamada and made to kneel by the hole.

Sentence TO SUFFER DEATH  
and Date: BY HANGING.

Inagaki drew sword and beheaded Chinaman with one blow. Native boys filled in the hole and were told that if they talked to other boys about this, their heads would be cut off. No evidence was given by L/Cpl OKUMURA R. or Yamada U.

Confirmation Finding and sentences confirmed by Acting C-in-C, - 15 Feb 46.  
and by Whom:

Promulgation:

Petition: Submitted 30 Dec 45 against Finding and Sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the finding and Sentence be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

*Ans 11.*

Accused: Sup Pte SUSUKI, Asanasa  
Lt ASAOKA, Toshio (Not Guilty)  
Pte OICHI, Tuichi)

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 13 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Murder of a prisoner of war about 23 Mar 45 at BEO in the TALAUD Is.	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Four airmen crashed either on the island referred to or close thereto and taken prisoner of war by Japs. The Colonel in charge of Jap tps on the Island alleges that as a result of orders received from higher command he decided the four airmen were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. On 23 Mar 45 at conclusion of presentation of colours which had been received from the Japanese Emperor, details of four Coys of the Bn were marched some little distance to what has been referred to as the execution ground. These Coys were formed up separately under their respective officers and one prisoner handed over to each Coy for execution. A large cross was erected in front of each Coy and the prisoner blindfolded and tied to the cross facing the Coy. Each Coy Comd then called out a man from the ranks who came to attention in front of the prisoner. The Officer in command of each Coy gave the orders "Fix Bayonets," "Prepare to Lunge," "Lunge", when the man bayonetted the prisoner of war in the heart. ~~The prisoner was then untied~~

Sentence <sup>conceded</sup> Both accused - to be imprisoned  
and Date: for 10 years.  
13 Dec 45

Confirmation Finding confirmed and  
and by Whom: sentences mitigated to  
imprisonment for five(5) yrs  
by Acting C-in-C.

and buried.  
Capt IWASA was in command of one company and personally gave the commands to Ptes SUSUKI and OICHI to carry out the execution. The whole parade and executions were carried out at the direct orders of Col KOBA, the senior offr on the Island through Major TAMURA, the officer in immediate command of the troops.

Promulgation:

*Petition*  
Submitted 17 Dec 45 against finding and sentence of the Court.

*Petition:* - *Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to accused on*  
*Promulgation:* - *11 Feb 46*

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the Finding be confirmed.  
That the sentences of 10 yrs should be much reduced  
and suggests that in the case no punishment should be imposed.

Action on Petition: Upheld. Sentences reduced to 5 years imprisonment.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No.....

Accused: W.O. MATSUMOTO, Toraturo(Also charged Aust W.C. List Ser No.....  
Same time same court

Court, Place, RABAU  
Date and 12 Dec 45  
Formation: 11 Aust Div

Sgt/Maj INAGAKI Masaku(Not Guilty)

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
TORTURING at RABAU on or about Apr-Jun 43	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: About the end of Apr 43 civilians were brought in for questioning at RABAU and included six referred to in the six separate charges against accused. There is evidence that:  
On the first charge the accused was present when witness was beaten with timber and whip. All soldiers saluted accused.  
On the second charge - the accused was in charge of the party and present at the hearings but not clear whether he carried out the beatings or was present when witness was made to drink a large quantity of water or when a stick was placed across back of legs and Japs stood on it.  
On the third charge - the witness was flogged with a stingray tail, toes hammered and red hot needles driven under finger nails. The accused was in charge at the HQ but no statement whether he was present directed or took part in acts of torture.  
On the fourth charge - the accused, when questioning witness, stamped his face into ground 15-20 minutes and beaten with timber. Two days later beaten 47 times with stingray tail and later again 20 times (over)

Sentence  
and Date:

To be imprisoned for life  
11 Dec 45

Confirmation Finding confirmed and sentence  
and by Whom: mitigated to 10 years imprisonment

Promulgation:

Petition: Submitted 25 Dec 45 against Finding  
and severity of the sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Suggests petition may be favourably  
considered and that imprisonment for 12 months  
might be sufficient sentence.

Action on Petition:  
Upheld.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



7  
Precis(Contd)

- 2 -

with tail, 9 times on head with timber. Also given "stick" torture and rendered unconscious. On the fifth charge - the accused; when questioning witness, beat him with wood and made him drink 8 saki bottles of water - corroborated by another witness. On the sixth charge - when witness being questioned third time, accused and five others beat him with fists and sticks until he was unconscious. Accused denied responsibility for beatings or tortures but admitted being present during some of them and of hearing screaming through torturing, but was not allowed to stop it. States not in charge of HQ when he heard sounds of torture. Blames KAMADADA, a subordinate of the accused, for the idea of torture and its execution.



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

119

Ans. 10

Complete

AWC No.....

Accused: Capt IWASA, Tokio

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 13 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Murder of a prisoner of war about March 1945 in the TALAUD Islands	Not Guilty	Guilty

**Precis of Evidence:** Four airmen crashed either on the island referred to or close thereto and taken prisoner of war by Japs. The Colonel in charge of Jap tps on the island alleges that as a result of orders received from higher command he decided the four airmen were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. On 23 Mar 45 at conclusion of presentation of colours which had been received from the Japanese Emperor, details of four Coys of the Bn were marched some little distance to what has been referred to as the execution ground. These Coys were formed up separately under their respective offrs and one prisoner handed over to each Coy for execution. A large cross was erected in front of each Coy and the prisoner blindfolded and tied to the cross facing the Coy. Each Coy Comd then called out a man from the ranks who came to attention in front of the prisoner. The offr in command of each Coy gave the orders "Fix Bayonets", "Prepare to Lunge", "Lunge" when the man bayoneted the prisoner of war in the heart. The prisoner was then untied and buried.

**Sentence and Date:** To suffer death by shooting  
13 Dec 45

Capt IWASA was in command of one Coy and personally gave the command to Ptes SUSUKI and OICHI to carry out the execution. The whole parade and executions were carried out at the direct orders of Col KOBA the senior offr on the Island through Major TAMURA, the offr in immediate command of the tps.

**Confirmation** Confirmed by Acting C-in-C and  
and by Whom: warrant signed 12 Feb 46.

**Promulgation:** Confirmation of finding and sentence from 1st Lt to be carried on 5 Mar 46. Accused executed on 6 MAR 46 by shooting

Submitted 17 Dec 45 against the  
**Petition:** finding and sentence of the court.

**J.A.G.'s Report on Petition:**  
That the finding and sentence be confirmed

**Action on Petition:** Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL /AR.

**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

*Ans. 12*

Accused: Lt TANAKA, Seizo  
Pte FUJISAKI, Maseo

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 13 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Murder of a prisoner of war about 23 Mar 45 at BEO in the TALAUD IS.	Not Guilty	Guilty

**Precis of Evidence:** Four airmen crashed on or close to Island referred to and taken prisoners. The Col in charge Jap tps on the Island alleges that as result of orders received from higher comd he decided our airmen were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. At conference of offrs order for execution was announced and it was decided that it would take place on a formal pde. On 23 Mar 45 following presentation of colours details of four Coys of the Bn were formed up on execution ground under their respective offrs and one prisoner handed over to each Coy. A large cross had been erected and a grave was dug, the prisoner blindfolded and tied to the cross. Each Coy Comd then called out a man from the ranks, who came to attention in front of the prisoner. The Coy Comd then gave the order "Fix Bayonets" "Prepare to Lunge," "Lunge" when the man bayoneted the prisoner in the heart. The prisoner was untied and buried. Lt TANAKA was in comd of one of the above Coys and personally gave the command to Pte FUJISAKI to carry out the execution. The whole pde and execution was carried out at direct orders of Col KOBA, the senior offr

Sentence and Date: Accused TANAKA - to suffer death by shooting. on the island through Maj TAMURA the offr in immediate comd of the tps.

13 Dec 45

Accused FUJISAKI - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 10 YEARS - 13 Dec 45

Confirmation and by Whom: Finding and sentence respecting accused TANAKA.—Confirmed by Acting C-in-C and warrant signed 12 Feb 46. Finding confirmed in the case of accused FUJISAKI confirmed by Acting C-in-C and sentence mitigated to 5 years imprisonment.

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to both accused 5/3/46. Accused TANAKA executed by shooting on 6 Mar 46*

Petition: Lodged 17 Dec 45 by both accused against Finding and Sentence of Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the Finding and Sentences be confirmed. In the case of accused FUJISAKI.—That the punishment be reduced and suggests that in this case no punishment should be imposed.

Action on Petition: Petition dismissed in the case of accused TANAKA. Petition of accused FUJISAKI upheld in so far as sentence is concerned.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Aug-13

AWC No. ....

Aust W.C. List Ser No. ....

Accused: Lt YABE Tokukuro,  
Lt NOMURA Koichi  
Sgt UCHINO Seizo  
Court, Place: Morotai  
Date and Formation: 13 December 1945  
Morotai Force

Charge(s)

Plea

Finding

Murder of a prisoner of war  
about 23rd March 1945 at BEO  
in the Talaud Is.

Not  
Guilty

Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Four airmen crashed either on the island referred to or close thereto and were taken prisoner of war by the Japanese. The colonel in charge of the Jap troops alleged that as a result of orders received from higher command he decided the four airmen were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. It was decided the execution would take place on a formal parade. The formal parade was held on the 23rd March for the presentation of colours which had been received from the Japanese Emperor. At the termination of this formal parade four companies of the battalion formed up on what was referred to as the execution grounds. One prisoner of war was handed over to each company for execution. A large cross was erected in front of each company, a grave dug and the prisoner of war was blindfolded and tied to the cross facing the company on parade. Each company commander called out a man from the ranks who came to attention in front of the prisoner of war. The officer in command of the company gave the order "Fixed Bayonets" "Prepare to Lunge" and "Lunge", when the man bayoneted the prisoner of war in the heart. That man was then marched back to his position in the ranks. Lt Yabe was a commander of one of the above companies. The order to carry out the execution was given to Sgt UCHINO personally by Lt Nomura. The execution was carried out on a direct order from Col Koba, Senior officer on the island through Major Tamura, officer in immediate command of the troops.

Sentence To suffer death  
and Date: by shooting.

13 Dec 45

Accused - UCHINO - TO BE IMPRISONED  
FOR 10 YEARS.

Confirmation

and by Whom: Confirmed by Acting C-in-C and warrant signed 12 February 1946.

Promulgation: Confirmation of findings and sentences promulgated to accused on  
5 MAR 46. Accused YABE and NOMURA executed by shooting at MOROTAI on 6 MAR 46

Petition: Submitted 17th December 1945 against the finding and sentence  
of the court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the finding and sentence be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Accused: Pte TANAKA, Takeo

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 13 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Murder of a prisoner of war about 23 Mar 45 in the TALAUD ISLANDS.	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

Precis of Evidence: Four airmen crashed either on the island referred to or close thereto and were taken prisoner of war by the Japanese. The Col in charge of the Jap tps alleged that as a result of orders received from higher command he decided the four airmen were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. It was decided the execution would take place on a formal parade. The formal parade was held on 23 Mar for the presentation of colours which had been received from the Japanese Emperor. At the termination of this formal parade details of four coys of the Bn were formed up on what was referred to as the execution ground. One prisoner of war was handed over to each Coy for execution. A large cross was erected in front of each Coy, a grave dug, the prisoner of war blindfolded and tied to the cross facing the Coy on parade. Each Coy Comd called out a man from the ranks who came to attention in front of the prisoner of war. The Officer in command of the Coy gave the order "Fix Bayonets" "Prepare to Lunge" and "Lunge" when the man bayoneted the prisoner of war in the heart. The order to carry out the execution was given to Pte TANAKA personally by Lt. YABE.

Sentence  
and Date: To be imprisoned for  
10 years.  
13 Dec 45

The execution was carried out on a direct order from Col KOBA, Senior Officer on the Island, through Maj TAMURA, Officer in immediate command of the tps.

Confirmation  
and by Whom: Sentence mitigated to imprisonment for 5 years  
by Acting C-in-C.

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding and sentence as mitigated from 10 years to 5 years on 11 FEB 46.*

Petition: Submitted 17 Dec 45 against the finding and sentence of the court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the finding be confirmed.  
That the punishment be much reduced and suggests  
no punishment be imposed.

Action on Petition: Upheld.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No.....

Accused: Sgt YAKI, Yoshio

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, RABAUL  
Date and 13 Dec 45  
Formation: 11 Aust Div.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
(1) RAPE of BETTY PANG WOO at MASSOWA plantation from about 31 Oct 44 to about 19 Dec 44.	Not guilty	GUILTY
(2) TORTURE of BETTY PANG WOO, a civilian at MASSOWA Plantation about 31 Oct 44.	Not guilty.	GUILTY

Evidence of BETTY PANG WOO a chinese civilian of RABAUL was that  
Precis of Evidence: the accused had forced her to sexual intercourse against her will. He threatened that her husband would be beheaded if she refused. She refused repeatedly. The accused tied her to a tree for three hours and put ants on her face and body. She went back to where she previously lived and was told by a native girl that JERRY had been beheaded. She then went to YAKI's place. He forced her to dance and drink and ultimately had intercourse. BETTY saw her Mother in Law two or three days later and told her what had happened. Intercourse only happened once. WO LEE SAI, a Civilian stated that BETTY PANG WOO had described to her what had happened with YAKI some few days prior.

Defendant Sgt YAKI, Yoshio 6 MP Unit denied that he tied BETTY PANG WOO to a tree or put ants on her face and body. He admitted sexual intercourse once only and with her consent. She was on the kitchen staff. He had not heard that a Chinese was executed about that time at MASSOWA. He denied that he told BETTY that her husband would be beheaded if she refused intercourse.

Sentence Death by hanging.  
and Date: 13 Dec 45.

Confirmation Finding and sentence confirmed by Acting C in C 12 Mar 46  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to accused  
12 Mar 46. Accused executed at Rabaul on 18 Mar 46.

Petition: No petition submitted.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: -----

Action on Petition: -----

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AAF A117(a)  
(Introduced Jan 46)  
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DPW(AG13(2a))/WMcL /AR.

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Accused: Col Koba, Shigeru  
Maj TAMURA T.

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 15 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
Murder of Prisoners of War about FEB & MAR 45 at TALAUD IS.	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

Precis of Evidence: Four airmen crashed either on island referred to or close thereto and taken prisoner of war by Japs. Col in charge Jap tps on Island alleges that as a result of orders received from higher command (but such orders NOT satisfactorily proved and denied by Staff Off of higher comd) he decided the four airmen were to be executed. No trial or legal proceedings to convict them of an offence was held. A few days prior to 23 Mar 45 at a conference of officers orders for execution were announced and it was decided it would take place on formal pde. On 23 Mar 45 a formal pde was held for presentation of colours. At termination thereof details of four Coys of the Bn were marched to execution ground. A large cross was erected in front of each Coy, a grave dug, prisoner blindfolded and tied to cross. Each Coy Comd then called a man from the ranks who came to attention in front of prisoner. Off in Comd of Coy then gave order "Fix Bayonets", "Prepare to Lunge", "Lunge" when the man bayoneted the prisoner in the heart. The whole parade and execution were carried out at the direct orders of Col Koba, the senior Officer on the Island, through Major TAMURA the officer in immediate comd of tps.

Sentence and Date: To suffer death by shooting  
15 Dec 45

Confirmation and by Whom: Finding and sentence confirmed by Acting C-in-C and warrant signed 12 Feb 46.

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgate to each accused on 5 MAR 46. Accused executed by shooting at MOROTAI on 6 MAR 46

Petition: Submitted 17 Dec 45 against finding and sentence of the Court

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That the finding and sentence be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No. 836,802 - 859

Accused: Capt TAKINO Motoi  
Lt OJIMA Takeo

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 15-22 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE~~(Also charged same time before same court~~  
{ Capt NAKATO, Takeo (Takito)  
Lt YAMAMOTO, Katsuji)

Charge(s) (Abbreviated)	Plea	Finding
First Charge: ILLTREATMENT OF PRISONERS authorised and permitted men under their command frequent cruel assaults upon PW and civilian internees thus inflicting grievous bodily harm.	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY
Second Charge: ILL TREATMENT OF PRISONERS Denying PW and internees sufficient food and medical supplies and attention where- by many of the said PW and internees died.	NOT GUILTY	Charge amended deleting words "medical supplies and attention". GUILTY of charge as amended.
Third Charge: ILLTREATMENT OF PRISONERS Forced certain of the PW and Internees when sick and starving to do heavy manual work whereby many of the said PW & I died.	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

Precis of Evidence: KUCHING PW & I Camp held approx 1200 and nearly 600 perished.  
Camp Staff at the Kuching PW & Internee Camp included:-  
Lt-Col SUGA, CO; in charge general admin of the camp also similar camps  
in BORNEO. After surrender of Jap in Aug 45 he committed suicide.  
Capt NAKATO, Takeo (Takito) was 2 i/c and controlled general affairs of Camp.  
Capt TAKINO, Motoi was intendant of fr equivalent to Quartermaster.  
Lt OJIMA, Takeo was in charge admin and working parties.  
Lt YAMAMOTO, Katsuji was medical officer in charge of the camp.  
A mass of evidence showing acts the effects of which individually and/or  
collectively would contribute to the cause of death of PW & I at Kuching.  
Capt NAKATO T had responsibility for and full knowledge of beatings,  
intimidation, lack of provision of food and medical supplies. Lt YAMAMOTO  
K had full knowledge of the pitiful condition of all PW & I through lack  
of food and medical supplies and was personally brutal and refused to give  
medical attention. Capt TAKINO M had full knowledge of beatings, lack  
of food and very low condition of PW & I.

ACCUSED ALL  
Sentence TO SUFFER DEATH BY SHOOTING (over)  
and Date: 22 Dec 45

Confirmation Findings confirmed  
and by Whom: Sentences commuted to 5 years imprisonment - 15 Feb 46  
in the case of  
the accused TAKINO by A/C-in-C and OJIMA. Sentences in  
respect of other charges confirmed - Acting C-in-C 15 Feb 46.  
Promulgation: Findings and sentences as confirmed, or confirmed as  
commuted promulgated to accused. Received  
NAKATO and YAMAMOTO executed by shooting at MOROTAI on  
6 MAR 46.  
Petition: Submitted 5 Jan 46 against Finding and Sentence of the Court

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Considers NOT sufficient evidence to drive home  
responsibility of existing conditions on these two subordinate officers.  
Recom and Finding and Sentence should NOT be confirmed.

Action on Petition:  
Upheld

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



7

PRECIS( contd)

Lt OJIMA T had full knowledge of beatings, lack of food and working of unfit men on manual work.

Immediately following the Jap surrender, ample medical supplies and food were made available, the evidence produced showing large stocks of most commodities including over 500 tons of rice.



**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No.....

Accused: Lt YUNOMURA, Fumiwo

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 20 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER OF PRISONERS OF WAR at SARIO on 19 Jun 45 in that he unlawfully ordered and caused to be carried out the killing of WO W. McQUIGAN, RAAF and SBA HILL Alec, RAN; both PW held by the Japanese Armed Forces.	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

**Precis of Evidence:** Accused was in comd 8 Garrison Unit (equivalent to MP) at SARTO. Just prior to 19 Jun he was verbally instructed that 6 PW (2 Aust, 2 Dutch, 2 Indonesians) were being forwarded from MANADO to him for execution. The evidence discloses that the 6 PW were executed under the order of the accused and in his presence. The two PW referred to in the charge were bayoneted or speared. The accused was handed an order of execution by LPO YAMAGUCHI, Shiro who had compiled it under instructions from Lt KATAGIRI. The accused alleges that this order was signed by either Rear Admiral HAMANAKA or Comd TAKASAKI and that he had previously twice received verbal instructions from TAKASAKI that the PW were to be executed.

Sentence TO SUFFER DEATH BY SHOOTING  
and Date: 20 Dec 45

Confirmation Finding confirmed and sentence commuted to 5 years imprisonment,  
and by Whom: by A/C-in-C - 31 Jan 46.

Promulgation: *Finding and Sentence confirmed as commuted promulgated to the accused on 21 MAR 46*

Petition: Submitted 21 Dec 45 against finding and sentence of Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Recommends the finding and sentence of death should NOT be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Upheld

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Sgt HOSOTANI, Naogi

AWC No. 738

Accused:

Aust W.C. List Ser. No.

Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 29 Dec 45  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER at or near 15 1/2 mile SANDAKAN BRITISH NORTH BORNEO about June 1945	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Early in Jun 45 approx 91 English and 439 Aust PW were marched from SANDAKAN en route to RANAU. At 15 1/2 mile SANDAKAN after a halt of some hours 7 PW were unable to continue the march. This was happening all along the route. In this particular case two Jap and one Malay soldier remained behind with them and when the main body had left they forced the 7 prisoners off the road and shot six of them, the other escaped temporarily into the bush. The soldiers then moved on leaving the 6 PW for dead. The following day Sgt HOSOTANI Naogi who was living nearby, came out and found three Chinese digging a grave for the dead PW. Discovering that two PW nearby were only wounded he procured a gun from his Malay boy and shot them dead. He then searched for the PW who had escaped and shot him dead. All 7 PW were buried by the Chinese. The accused pleaded sick with malaria, anxiety that escaped PW would spy on Japs and that he had received instructions from Cpl KATAYAMA, one of the three soldiers mentioned above to shoot stragglers.

Sentence and Date: TO SUFFER DEATH BY BEING SHOT

Confirmation Finding and Sentence confirmed by Acting C-in-C - 26 Feb 46  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to accused on 5/3/46. Executed by shooting at MOROTAI on 6 MAR 46

Petition: Submitted 5 Jan 46 against Finding and Sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: That Finding and Sentence be confirmed

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



*Accused  
written complete*

## RECORD OF MILITARY COURT

(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Sgt IWABE Shigaru YANAI Kenji  
HAYASHIDA Mitsujiro  
ISHII Fujio  
KAWAKAMI Kiyoshi  
Accused: SUZUKI Saburo  
TAKATA Kunio

*M 19 Ans 20*  
743, 722, 740, 751,  
AWC No. 824, 830, 862

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 29 & 31 Dec 45  
Formation: 9 Div

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MASSACRE at RANAU British North Borneo, on or about 10 Jun 45 to with wilfully and without lawful cause or excuse killed unkown prisoners of war to the number of eight or thereabouts	All accused Not Guilty	All accused guilty except accused YANAI Not Guilty

Precis of Evidence: 1. Between 28 Jan 45 and 6 Feb 45 approximately 325 Australian and 135 British PW in Japanese hands left SANDAKAN to proceed to RANAU approximately 165 miles away. On 28 Apr 45 there were about 40-50 PW left RANAU and were taken to No 1 Jungle Camp a short distance from RANAU. The reason for this move was that the RANAU Camp was being subjected to allied bombing. On 10 Jun 45 it was decided to move these prisoners to No 2 Jungle Camp located at the 110½ mile RANAU. At this time there were 18 PW left and a Japanese named HANEDA took 10 of the PW to No 2 Jungle Camp leaving the remaining 8 who were sick at No 1 Camp. The accused IWABE then ordered the other accused to carry the sick men in stretchers to a point about 50 yds away from their hut. All the PW were then killed by shooting and each of the accused except the accused YANAI admitted taking part in such executions

Sentence and Date:	Accused	IWABE S.	TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 14 YEARS - 31 Dec 46
"	"	HAYASHIDA M	TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 10 YEARS " " "
"	"	ISHII F	" " " " 10 " " "
"	"	KAWAKAMI K	" " " " 15 " " "
"	"	SUZUKI S	" " " " 12 " " "
"	"	TAKATA K	" " " " 5 " " "

Confirmation and by Whom: Findings and sentences confirmed by Lt Gen V.A.H. STURDEE

Promulgation: Promulgated to accused on 1 Apr 46

Petition: Joint petitions lodged Jan 46 on behalf of each convicted accused

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm findings and mitigate sentences to a term of 3 years imprisonment with hard labour

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



2. The accused gave evidence in their defence. They alleged that the executions were carried out pursuant to the orders of Lt SUZUKI. Evidence was also given to the effect that two of the accused objected to carrying out such orders and were threatened by Lt SUZUKI with his revolver. A submission was also made on behalf of the accused that disobedience of Lt SUZUKI's order would have made the accused liable to a sentence of death under the Japanese Military Code.



## RECORD OF MILITARY COURT

(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Sgt OKADA Toshiharu

SHOJI Shinsuke

HIROTA Ginjiro

YOSHIKAWA Tatsuhiko

HIROUCHI Jiro

YOSHIOKA Shigeo

MATSUDA Nobunaga

YASUYAMA Eikichi

Accused: MIAKE Tadao

MORIOKA Teikichi

Court, Place, LABUAN

Date and 11, 12 &amp; 13 Jan 46

Formation: 9 Aust Div

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MASSACRE in that they at near RANAU British North Borneo on or about 1 Aug 45 wilfully and without lawful cause or excuse killed unknown PW to the number of 17 or thereabouts	All accused not guilty	All accused guilty.

Precis of Evidence: 1. About 25 Jan 45 183 PW out of a party of 536 arrived at RANAU, the balance having either died or been killed on the 165 mile march from SANDAKAN to RANAU. Six other prisoners joined the party, making a total of 189. By 1 Aug 45 all of the above party with the exception of 6 who had escaped and 33 who were still in custody, had died. On this date, Capt TAKAKUWA decided to kill the 33 survivors in his hands. He divided the 33 into 3 parties of which 17 were sick. Two of the 17 could just walk and the remainder had to be carried and all were taken to the cemetery. They were then shot by the accused found guilty who were members of the guard. The PW were then buried.

2. The accused pleaded in their defence that they carried out the executions under direct orders of their commanding officer.

Accused OKADA T )  
Sentence HIROTA G ) EACH TO BE IMPRISONED FOR LIFE - 13 Jan 46  
and Date: MIAKE T )  
Accused YOSHIKAWA T - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 20 YEARS - 13 Jan 46  
HIROUCHI J)  
YOSHIOKA S) EACH TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 15 YEARS - 13 Jan 46  
YASUYAMA E)  
Confirmation Accused MORIOKA T - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 10 YEARS - 13 Jan 46  
and by Whom: SHOJI S - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 8 YEARS - 13 Jan 46  
Lt Gen V.A.H. STURDEE Acting Commander in Chief 15 Mar 46

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgated to each accused on 1 Apr 46.

Petition: Joint petition submitted in Jan 46 by all accused against finding and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm finding and mitigate sentences to say imprisonment for 3 years

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

GOTO Tsuneyoshi  
HAYASHIDA Kiyoshi  
KANESHIGE Yoshio  
MATSUBA Shokichi  
NISHIKAWA Moriji  
TAKEUCHI Yoshimitsu  
TOMIYAMA Shintaro  
TOYOOKA Eihiro

Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 13 & 14 Jan 46  
Formation: 9 Aust Div

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MASSACRE at or near RANAU British North Borneo on or about 1 Aug 45 wilfully and without lawful cause or excuse killed unknown PW of the number of 11 or thereabouts	Not Guilty	All accused guilty

Precis of Evidence: (1) About 25th June 1945, 183 prisoners of war out of a party of 536 arrived at RANAU, the balance having either died or been killed on the 165 mile march from SANDAKAN to RANAU. Six other prisoners joined the party, making a total of 189. By 1st August 1945, all of the above party, with the exception of 6 who had escaped and 33 who were still in custody, had died. On this date, Capt TAKAKUWA decided to kill the 33 survivors in his hands. He divided the 33 into 3 parties of which 11 were in better condition than the others. He sent the above 11 out of the camp with guards saying that they were to go to get rations but when a little distance from the camp, instructed the guards to shoot them. This was done and the men were buried.

(2) The accused in their defence pleaded that they had merely carried out the executions pursuant to orders of the commanding officer.

Sentence Accused MATSUBA S )

and Date: " TAKEUCHI Y) EACH TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 20 YEARS - 14 Jan 46

Accused GOTO T.

HAYASHIDA K ) EACH ACCUSED TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 15 YEARS - 14 Jan 46

NISHIKAWA M )

TOYOOKA E. )

Accused KANESHIGE Y. TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 12 YEARS

Confirmation Lt Gen V.A.H. STURDEE Acting Commander-in-Chief 14 Mar 46  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgated to each accused on 1 Apr 46.

Petition: Joint petition lodged Jan 46 on behalf of each accused against finding and sentences.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm finding and mitigate sentences to terms of imprisonment for 3 years

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

S/M BEPPU Yoichi YAMAMOTO Jiro  
HASHIMOTO Masao  
KAWAKAMI Kiyoshi  
NAGAIHIRO Masao  
Accused: NAKAYAMA Tamao(Not guilty)  
OYAMA Tatsuo(Not guilty)  
Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 14 & 15 Jan 1946  
Formation: 9 Aust Div

M 25  
702, 718, 751, 787,  
AWC No. 794, 809, 857  
Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MASSACRE in that they at or near RANAU, British North Borneo on or about 1 Aug 45 wilfully and without lawful cause or excuse killed unknown PW to the number of five or thereabouts.	All accused Not Guilty	All accused guilty except accused NAKAYAMA & OYAMA not guilty

Precis of Evidence: About 25 June 1945, 183 PW out of a party of 536 arrived at RANAU, the balance having either died or been killed on the 165 mile march from SANDAKAN to RANAU. Six other PW joined the party making a total of 189. By 1 Aug 45 all of the above party with exception of 6 who had escaped and 33 who were still in custody, had died. On this date Capt TAKAKUWA decided to execute the 33 surviving PW in his custody. The 33 PW were divided into 3 parties. In one party were the 5 PW referred to in the charge. They were officers and they were sent out of the camp believing that they were to be interrogated. When some distance along a track they were told to sit down, given tobacco to smoke and then shot by the guards and buried.  
2. Each of the accused gave evidence in their defence and called witnesses. The convicted accused admitted that they took part in the executions.

Sentence and Date: Accused BEPPU Yoichi )  
" HASHIMOTO Masao ) Each TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 15 YEARS -  
" KAWAKAMI Kiyoshi ) 15 Jan 46  
" NAGAIHIRO Masao )

Accused YAMAMOTO Jiro - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 10 YEARS - 15 Jan 46

Confirmation and by Whom: Confirmed by Lt Gen V.A.H. STURDEE

Promulgation: Confirmation of findings and sentences promulgated to each accused on 1 Apr 46

Petition: Joint petitions lodged Jan 46 on behalf of each convicted accused against findings and sentences.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm findings and mitigate sentences to imprisonment for 3 years

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



The executions, it was claimed, were carried out pursuant to orders of superiors and in some cases it was alleged that there were protests about such executions.



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT

S/Maj MUROZUMI Hisao (JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)  
FUKUDA Nobuo (not guilty) GOTO Yoshitaro  
HIROTA Nobuo (not guilty) IKEDA Yoshio AWC No.....  
MATSUDA Takeo NAGATA Shinichi  
NISHIKAWA Yoshinori TOYODA Kokichi  
Accused: YANAGAWA Hideo YANAGAWA Shigemori (not Aust W.C. List Ser No.....  
guilty)  
Court, Place, LABUAN  
Date and 18 and 19 Jan 46.  
Formation: 9 Aust Div.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MASSACRE in that they at or near SANDAKAN, British North Borneo, on or about the 13 Jul 45 wilfully and without lawful cause or excuse killed unknown PW to the number of 23 or thereabouts.	Not guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: On 29th May 1945 there were approximately 820 British and Australian prisoners of war in SANDAKAN camp. This PW camp was under the command of Capt TAKAKUWA who had taken it over from Capt HOSHIJIMA on 17 May 1945. On 29th May 536 of these prisoners of war moved out in a march from SANDAKAN to RANAU and the remaining 288 were left behind at SANDAKAN, these being too sick to move to RANAU. Those who were left behind were in charge of Lt MORITAKE and his 2 i/c was the accused, Sgt-Maj MUROZIMI. MORITAKE was absent from the camp when TAKAKUWA left with the party ~~from~~ for RANAU and the PWs were handed over to MUROZUMI and later MORITAKE returned to SANDAKAN and took over as O.C. These prisoners had been left in the open, all camp buildings having been burnt when the RANAU party marched out. Seventy-five (75) marched out towards RANAU and the remainder died off until on 12th July 45 only 50 to 60 were still alive. It was decided to kill 23 of these prisoners. Lt. MORITAKE was ill at the time and actually died on 18th July. On the 18th July the

Sentence and Date: Accused MUROZUMI H TO BE IMPRISONED FOR LIFE - 19 Jan 46. (over)  
" GOTO, Y. )  
" IKEDA, Y. ) EACH TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 15 YEARS - 19 Jan 46  
" MATSUDA T. )  
" YANAGAWA H. )  
" NAGATA S. )  
" NISHIKAWA Y ) EACH ACCUSED TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 12 YEARS )  
" TOYODA K. ) 19 Jan 46.  
Confirmation and by Whom: Confirmation: Findings and sentences confirmed except in the case of accused TOYODA. Finding confirmed in this case and sentence mitigated to imprisonment for 2 years - Lt-Gen V.A.H.  
Promulgation: STURDEE Acting Commander-in-Chief - 15 Mar 46.  
Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgated to all accused (except accused TOYODA) on 1 Apr 46. Promulgated to accused TOYODA on 29 Nov. 1946.  
Petition: Joint petition on behalf of all accused against finding and sentences.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm finding and mitigate all sentences to terms of imprisonment for 3 years.

Action on Petition: Petition dismissed except in case of accused TOYODA in so far as sentence is concerned. Sentence mitigated to imprisonment for 2 years.  
Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



7

accused MUROZUMI and a party of guards which included the other accused, took 23 PWs out to the SANDAKAN airfield. Those who were left out of this killing were prisoners of war whom it is considered would die in a few days anyhow.

A deep air-raid shelter on the airfield was selected as being a suitable grave and then MUROZUMI then forced the prisoners to line up near the shelter. He then lined the guards up and ordered them to open fire on the prisoners. The guards immediately opened fire, shooting all the prisoners until they were dead. The bodies were then thrown into the shelter and it was then filled in.

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*Complete*

**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

*M27*

*Ans. 32*

AWC No.....

Accused: Sgt OKADA, Tomiyoshi

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 21-23 Jan 46  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Also charged same time before  
same court S/Maj HONDO, Kazuma (Not Guilty)

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER at KAATEN in or about Aug 45 of Flt/Sgt F.G.B. HUTTON and Sgt A.A. LOCKYER both members of RAAF and PW then held by Japanese Armed Forces.	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY with the substitution of the words "an unidentified member of the RAAF" for the words "Flt/Sgt F.G.B. Hutton"

**Precis of Evidence:** About 27 Jul 45 an aircraft crashed near TOMOHON and the three occupants captured and imprisoned at KEMPEI TAI HQ at KAATEN. One night about Aug 45 they were removed from their cells by members of the Kempei Tai incl Sgt OKADA. The latter under directions from S/Maj MORIMOTO chloroformed one of the PW and he was buried - evidence does NOT establish that he was dead. The second prisoner was then chloroformed but apparently it was not effective and he was strangled by OKADA with a rope. The evidence against OKADA included two members of the Kempei Tai guard. Defence claimed that OKADA only acted as a sentry some distance from the scene and that Capt SAITO gave orders to Sgt Maj MORIMOTO who was the leading factor in the killings.

Sentence TO SUFFER DEATH BY SHOOTING  
and Date: 23 Jan 46

Confirmation Finding and Sentence confirmed by Acting C-in-C - 26 Feb 46  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: *Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to the accused on 5 Mar 46. Executed by shooting at MOROTAI on 6 Mar 46*

Petition: Submitted 27 Jan 46 against finding and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Recommend petition be dismissed and finding and sentence may be lawfully confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



## RECORD OF MILITARY COURT

Lt KAWAZUMI Taisuke (JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)  
Sub Lt HAYASHI Mitsuoshi (Not guilty)  
Chief PO IKEDA Chokichi  
PO 1st Cl IKEBATA Hishashi(not guilty) AWC No.....  
Chief PO KAGAWA Haruo  
PO 1st Cl KUWABARA Masuji Aust W.C. List Ser No.....  
Chief PO OKI Kiichi  
PO 2nd Cl YOSHINO Isamu Chief PO SHIBATA Shigenobu  
Court, Place, MOROTAI  
Date and 5-14 Feb 46  
Formation: MOROTAI FORCE

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
ILL-TREATMENT OF PW AT TAN TOEY CAMP AMBON between Feb 42 and Aug 45 (a) Physical beatings and torture (b) Compelling sick and infirm PW to go out on work parties. (c) Failing to ensure the provision of proper food supplies.	NOT GUILTY	Accused HAYASHI and IKEBATA both not guilty. The accused KAWAZUMI guilty of failing to ensure the provision of proper food supplies. Remaining accused guilty of physical beatings and torture.

Precis of Evidence: (1) Evidence discloses the following against KAWAZUMI. That he was responsible for the rationing of the Unit and PW committed to his charge; looking after all rations; telling Capt SHIROZU what the position was, what was going on, and how much was there. He was in charge of the Q store and the farm, which came under his management. Suggestions for the substitution of rice by other foodstuffs was made by KAWAZUMI, also the food ration was reduced not by order of the senior formation but on the order of SHIROZU himself, and this on the advice of his Chief Paymaster KAWAZUMI.

Evidence shows that the PW got exactly half the amount of rice per man as issued to the Japanese, 4 1/2 oz a day which had to provide the PW with staple food for 3 meals a day, plus substitute of sweet potatoes, native grasses etc.

KAWAZUMI admits that there was a difference in the rice rations between PW and Japanese.

Sentence and Date:	Accused KAWAZUMI I )	Each to be imprisoned for 10 YEARS - 14 Feb 46
"	KUWABARA M )	
"	YOSHINO I )	
"	IKEDA C )	
"	KAGAWA H	- TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 8 YEARS - 14 Feb 46
"	OKI K	- " " " " 6 " - 14 Feb 46
"	SHIBATA	- " " " " 2 " - 14 Feb 46

Confirmation and by Whom: Findings and sentences confirmed by Lt Gen V.A.H. STURDEE 30 Apr 1946.

Promulgation: 15 May 1946

Petition: Submitted against the Findings and Sentences of the Court

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Findings should NOT be confirmed

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

Precis contd:

KOJIMA Toshio QM 25 Naval Base states:

That the food for both Jap and natives was not enough, this condition lasted till Aug 44, after Aug 44 the conditions became worse. The food condition was not sufficient to ensure normal life after Sep 44. (Understands the position was worse in the Army).

Also there were some among the Jap personnel who had died of Beri Beri. The only remedy to save the situation was to increase the ration to the Japanese, but the food position would not have improved if all the PW had died as there were so little of them, there was no reason at all why the PW should not receive the same ration as the Jap, as they would require so little extra that it would not have effected the overall ration situation.

At the time of surrender the Army had 400 tons of rice in the store.

Ration returns did not show PW separately but were included in 20 Garrison Units return (therefore they should have received the same amount as the Japanese, as the rations issued were for the total number including Jap and PW).

KAWAZUMI states supply of rations was based on PW ration regulations of Jap Navy issued by 25 Naval Base Unit, KOJIMA, QM 25 Naval Base states that PW were issued on same scale as Jap, yet KAWAZUMI states there was a difference in the amount of rations between Japs and PW.

As a result of this reduction PW died at an appalling rate.

2. The evidence shows with regard to the undermentioned accused charged with "physical beatings and torture of PW":-
  - (a) IKEDA - frequently inflicted unmerciful beatings on PW with crowbars, saws, hammers and native swords, and as a torture forced a nail up a PW's nostril. PW Hutchins after being beaten all one day by Ikeda was carried home unconscious by his mates and died next morning.
  - (b) KUWABARA - was responsible for constant brutal treatment particularly while moving the PW from their compound to working areas and often beat PW unconscious. PW Wright after brutal treatment by Kuwabara one afternoon died the next morning. A form of torture he often inflicted on PW was known as "Lockheed Torture" and consisted of making the victim stand on one leg, the other leg stretched out behind, and arms held out sideways.
  - (c) KAGAWA - was responsible for frequent brutal beatings and the breaking of a PW's arm.
  - (d) OKI - was responsible for frequent bashings and on one occasion jabbed a broom into a PW eyes. PW Ralph died two days after receiving a brutal beating by Oki.
  - (e) SHIBATA - was responsible for some comparatively mild beatings.
  - (f) YOSHINO - was responsible for extremely brutal treatment of PW who were working under him. One PW was beaten unconscious with an iron bar and he often kicked PW on their ulcers. PW Alford was struck on the head with a bayonet by Yoshino, had to be assisted back to camp and died three days later. As a torture he made a PW hold an iron bar above his head.



**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

R15

Ans 29.

AWC No.....

Accused: Sgt OSAKI Kazuo

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, RABAU  
Date and 6 - 8 Mar 46  
Formation: 8 MD.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER of Pte WONG SHIU TSUN at RABAU about 26 Jul 44.	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

**Precis of Evidence:** About 26 Jul 44 at Rabaul three members of the Chinese National Army were accused by Sgt OSAKI, Kazuo with stealing of cigarettes. The Chinese denied the accusation and were then beaten and kicked. OSAKI then tied one man to a tree and ordered the others to move into their cave quarters where he again beat them, particularly WONG SHIU TSUN. Cpl BAN NEI DIN said to OSAKI that if he beat these men so cruelly they would be unable to work for some time, to which OSAKI replied "Whether they work or not is not important". OSAKI then again beat and kicked WONG who was bleeding from the head and body and then stuck on his stomach causing him to vomit blood. On seeing this OSAKI left the cave. WONG died 3 or 4 hours later.

Cpl BAN then reported WONG's death to OSAKI who replied "He's dead, that is not important".

WONG was not suffering from any illness prior to this and was  
(over)

Sentence DEATH BY HANGING.  
and Date: 8 Mar 46.

Confirmation Chief of General Staff - Lt-Gen V.A.H. Sturdee.  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to accused on 24 May 46. Executed by hanging at Rabaul on 25 May 45.

Petition: Submitted against the finding and sentence of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Finding and sentence should be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



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Precis of Evidence:(contd).

comparatively strong.

OSAKI denied any knowledge of the incident and stated that the only death about that time was a TB Chinese whose name he could not remember.



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Accused: Lt-Col YUTANI Yujiro  
Sgt Maj KASEZAWA Toshinobu (Not guilty)  
Interpreter SANO Taketomi

AWC No. 1915, 1921, 1926

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, Darwin  
Date and 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 Mar 46 and 10 Apr 46  
Formation: 7 MD.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
(1) Committing A War Crime to wit ill-treatment of a PW at KOEPANG in or about Apr and May 43 namely Gnr MARTIN 79 Lt A/A Bty a member of the British Army by beating and torturing him.	Not guilty	Accused YUTANI guilty on both charges accused SANO guilty on first charge with the exception of the words "and torturing" - not guilty on second charge, Accused KASEZAWA not guilty on both charges.
(2) Committing A War Crime to wit ill-treatment of a PW namely TX3282 Cpl J.H. Armstrong 2/40 Bn, a member of the AMF by beating and torturing him at KOEPANG in or about the month of May 43.	Not guilty	

Precis of Evidence: The case for the prosecution consisted largely of the sworn evidence of 3 natives AMIN, TARKOE and HAGA supported by some documentary evidence.

2. In respect of first charge there was evidence that Gnr Martin had been interrogated by HQ Kempei Tai on three occasions and that on each occasion he had been brutally beaten and tortured. The accused SANO struck Martin on these occasions and the accused YUTANI the CO of the unit was also present. On the first occasion Gnr Martin was suspended by a rope tied to his wrists from the ceiling. He was kept in this position for about 15 minutes during which he was flogged. On the second and third occasions he was made to sit on the floor with his hands held above his head by a rope and in this position he was flogged.

3. In respect of the 2nd charge evidence for the prosecution showed that Cpl Armstrong was subjected to interrogation on several occasions. On the first occasion he was seated on a stool and then the stool was tipped up (over)

Sentence Accused YUTANI - IMPRISONMENT FOR 10 YEARS with hard labour - 10 Apr 46  
and Date: " SANO - " " 6 MONTHS - 10 Apr 46.

Confirmation Brig W.J. Urquhart, Deputy Adjutant-General. (Personal Services)  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: Confirmation of findings and sentences promulgated to accused  
on 17 May 46.

Petition: Lodged April 46 by both accused against findings and sentences.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm findings and sentences and dismiss petitions.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



- 2 -

causing Cpl Armstrong to fall backwards and strike his head heavily on the concrete floor. On the second occasion his beard was set on fire and he was beaten. He was made to squat on the floor and his arms were held above his head with a rope. On each of these occasions the accused SANO and KASEZAWA were present. The prosecution contended that both these accused were directly under the command of the accused YUTANI and in consequence was responsible for the ill-treatment in connection with the second charge.

4. In regard to both charges all the accused denied the ill-treatment as alleged.



**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Capt KASHIMOTO Naoji  
Sgt KOBAYASHI Shotaro (Not guilty)

AWC No. 2232, 2233

Accused:

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, RABUL  
Date and 5/6 April 46.  
Formation: 8 MD.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER of Pte FATEH KHAN Indian Army in Apr 44 near Boiken	Both not guilty	KASHIMOTO Guilty KOBAYASHI Not guilty

Precis of Evidence: Jemadar ABDUL LATIF of 4/9 Jat Regt declared he was a member of 26 Indian Working Party marching from WEWAK towards HOLLANDIA. Near BOIKEN FATEH KHAN asked for his load to be lightened because of his weakness. KASHIMOTO ordered KOBAYASHI and others to bind FATEH KHAN and put him in the sea. He was drowned in water 4 feet deep and ABDUL LATIF saw him drown.

Accused KASHIMOTO alleged that the working party was divided into 3 parties, that ABDUL LATIF was not in the accused's party, that KOBAYASHI was sick and did not march at all and that he could not remember FATEH KHAN. KOBAYASHI also said he was sick and did not march.

Sentence Death by hanging  
and Date: 6 Apr 46.

Confirmation Finding and sentence confirmed by Lt-Gen V.A.H. Sturdee - 11 June 1946.  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: 25th June 1946 (Accused KASHIMOTO executed at RABUL on 26 June 1946).

Petition: Submitted 18 Apr 46 against finding and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Findings and sentences be confirmed and petitions be dismissed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No. 2230

Accused: L/Cpl MAEDA, Bishin

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, Rabaul  
Date and 4/5 Apr 46  
Formation: 8 MD.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER of JEMADAR KITIAL SINGH Indian Army in Feb 45 at KURRINGE	Not guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: Jemadar Chint Singh declared that in Feb 45 while the Indians were being marched from Yawa to Yakano and back he saw the accused severely beat deceased Kitial Singh with a big stick so that he bled and became unconscious. When he recovered Kitial Singh said he was beaten because he had not cleaned perfectly accused's boots. Accused forced deceased to work after the beating while was unfit as a result of the severe beating, so that he became progressively weaker and after 3 weeks died.

Accused denied the beating and said he was not present when accused died of malnutrition and beri beri about Apr 45. He was corroborated by fellow soldiers.

Sentence and Date: To suffer death by hanging. 5 Apr 46.

Confirmation and by Whom: Finding and sentence ~~be~~ confirmed, by Lt-Gen V.A.H. Sturdee 11 Jun 46.

Promulgation: 25 Jun 46 (executed at Rabaul on 26 Jun 46).

Petition: Submitted 5 Apr 46 against finding and sentence of the court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Finding and sentence be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC N2211, 2223, 2224, 2230.....

Accused: Lt MITSUBA Hisaneo, Sgt HATA Saburo, Aust W.C. List Ser No.....  
Cpl HIROOKA Tokio, L/Cpl MAEDA Bishin

Court, Place, Rabaul 3/4 Apr 46, 8 MD  
Date and  
Formation:

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER in Feb 45 at YAWA of 4 Indian Army officers	Not Guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: The deceased Indians were members of 19 Indian Working Party which in Feb 45 was moving from YAWA to YAKANO. They were left behind because of weakness. MITSUBA, HATA and MAEDA and one other Japanese were seen going into the deceased's hut, four or five shots were heard and the Japanese, except MITSUBA, were seen carrying the dead Indian officers' clothes. Another Indian Pte PURAN SINGH who did not go on the march saw their dead bodies. HIROOKA is alleged to have admitted he took part in the murder. The accused denied that the Indian officers were killed.

Sentence and Date: MITSUBA and HATA - death by hanging.  
HIROOKA and MAEDA - 15 yrs' imprisonment  
4 Apr 46

Confirmation and by Whom: Chief of General Staff - Lt Gen V.A.H. STURDEE

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgated to each accused (except accused MITSUBA who committed suicide on 13 Apr 46).

Accused HATA executed by hanging at RABAU on 17 Jul 46  
Petition: Submitted against finding and sentences by all accused Apr 46.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm findings and sentences and dismiss petitions

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



Precis of Evidence (Contd):

Subsequently 6 Indians disappeared in similar circumstances. In July we marched to DAGUA. Three sick PW were left behind. About a mile out from SOWAM a native told me that he saw Japs killing 3 PW at the camp.

Lt KASHIMOTO in charge of DAGUA told me that he was punishing Lt TUMIASI and that TUMIASI would not kill any more Indians".

Statement by Lt TOMIYASU, Hisato was admitted in evidence - "I went to SOWAM in Aug 44 with about 90 Indians. I deny that I took an Indian away to carry medical supplies and that I stated that any Indian who moved about alone would be shot by Kempei Tai.

In Oct 44 I went to DAGUA with some patients and met KASHIMOTO there. I do not remember him accusing me of any offence.

Defence does not call any witnesses or tender any statements.

Defending officer, addressing the court, claims there is no case to answer in at least 13 of the 14 alleged murders and that in Pte MOHD SHAFI's case TOMIYASU is cleared of responsibility.



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Accused: Maj KUDO, Masao  
Lt SATO, Hiroshi  
Sgt NONAKA, Shigeru  
L/Cpl OGUSU, Yasuo.

Court, Place,  
Date and  
Formation: RABAU, 30 Mar-1 Apr 46, 8 MD.

AWC No. 2236, 2241, 2238, 2239.

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER of SUBEDAR RASIL SINGH and Pte GANGA RAM, Indian Army PW at KABRIMAN about Jul 45.	Not guilty	All accused GUILTY of manslaughter.

Precis of Evidence: In Jul 45 the seven surviving members of 18 Indian Working Party were transferred to the charge of Maj KUDO, who divided them into three parties, SUBEDAR RASIL SINGH and Pte GANGA RAM being sent to KABRIMAN, where Medical Lt SATO was in charge.

It was alleged that the Indians were spying and circulating rumours amongst the natives to the effect that the allies would soon land and kill all the native collaborators. This caused the natives to leave the villages, causing loss of food supplies. Lt SATO reported accordingly to Maj KUDO who states that he also interrogated the Indians and issued orders to Lt SATO for their execution.

Lt SATO instructed Sgt NONAKA and medical orderly L/Cpl OGUSU to carry out the execution.

Maj KUDO admits issuing the order under authority of the Emergency Punishment Order issued by 18th Army. The other accused admit their part in the execution, pleading that they acted under their superior's orders.

Sentence and Date:	Maj KUDO	- imprisonment 15 years.
	Lt SATO	- " 10 "
	Sgt NONAKA	- " 5 "
	L/Cpl OGUSU	- " 5 "

Confirmation and by Whom: Chief of the General Staff - Lt-Gen V.A.H. Sturdee.

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to each accused on 29 Jun 46.

Petition: Submitted Apr 46 against findings and sentences of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Findings and sentences should be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

R 23 Aug 46

AWC No. 2203, 2205

Accused: Lt MATSUO, Masaru  
WO YAMANAKA, Gunichi

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, RABAU  
Date and 29 Mar 46  
Formation: 8 MD

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER of seven Indians at YAWA about Dec 44	NOT GUILTY	GUILTY

Precis of Evidence: Indian PW members of 17 Indian Working Party escaped from MOI near YAWA. They were captured by Jap guards of 18 Special Water Duty Coy under Sgt MORIMOTO and brought to YAWA. Lt MATSUO, Masaru officer in charge of 18 Special Water Duty Coy at Yawa ordered WO YAMANAKA to shoot the Indians. WO YAMANAKA called a muster parade and lined up the 7 Indians in front thereof. He then warned other Indian PW that if they ran away they would be shot - "as we are going to shoot these men."

MORIMOTO and L/Cpl TAKAHASHI with rifle and shovel led the 7 Indians away, followed by WO YAMANAKA. The three Japs returned alone about 3 hours later. Evidence of a large new grave was found about 800 yards away the following day.

Defence claimed that the Indian escapees attacked the search party and five were killed by return fire and two escaped.

Sentence  
and Date: DEATH BY HANGING  
29 Mar 46Confirmation  
and by Whom: Chief of General Staff - Lt-Gen V.A.H. STURDEEPromulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgated to each  
accused on 17 May 46. Executed by hanging at Rabaul on 18 May 46.

Petition: Submitted 11 Apr 46 against Findings and Sentences of the Court

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Findings and Sentences should be confirmed.

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



**RECORD OF MILITARY COURT**  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

*Rev* *Ans 47*

AWC No. 2233, 2235

Accused: Sgt KOBAYASHI Shotaro  
L/Cpl SHIBATA Hideo

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, Rabaul  
Date and 25/26 Mar 46  
Formation: 8 MD

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER in Sep 44 near Wonginara of 6 named Indian POW	Not guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: The dead Indian POW were members of 26 Working party which in Sep 44 marched from DAGU to CHAREM. At WONGINARA they were too weak to move and were left behind with the accused and another Jap. Soon after shots were heard and the accused rejoined the party carrying clothing recognisable as that of the dead Indian POW. SHIBATA told a Lt KASHIMOTO that the three Japs had killed the Indians and KASHIMOTO repeated the report to JEMADUR ABDUL LATIF who had heard the original report.

The accused each denied that the Indians named in the charge had been killed.

Sentence and Date: Both accused to suffer death by hanging - 26 Mar 46.

Confirmation and by Whom: Finding and sentences confirmed by Lt-Gen V.A.H. Sturdee - 8 June 1946

Promulgation: 31 July 1946. (Both accused executed at RABAUl on 1 August 1946

Petition: Lodged April 46 by each accused against finding and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm findings and sentences and dismiss petitions.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No. 2242, 2201

Accused: Lt YAMAMOTO Jintaro  
Sgt Maj MIYAKAWA Kazuo

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, Date and Formation: RABAU 25 Mar 46 8 MD.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER of three Indians (names unknown) at NANGAGUA between Dec 44 and Mar 45.	Not guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: NUM-A, a native who lived on the opposite side of the brook to the Japanese 16 Special Water Duty Coy made a statutory declaration. "I am a native of NANGAGUA. Between the months of Dec 44 and Mar 45 about 30 Japanese were living in Nangagua. Three Indians were living with the Japanese. One day between Dec 44 and Mar 45 some of the Japanese took a mosquito net and some calico from the Indians who objected to this. This made the Japanese angry. The Japanese comd named YAMAMOTO (now known to me as Lt YAMAMOTO, Jintaro) and his 2 i/c/ named MIAKO (now known to me as Sgt Maj MIYAKAWA, Kazuo) then beheaded the three Indians and threw their dead bodies into the SCREW RIVER. On 29 Dec 45 from a line up of Japanese I identified the abovenamed Japanese :

Cross-examination by the prosecution :-

Q. Do you remember me, the Prosecutor, being in charge of the identification parade? (P.T.O.)

Sentence and Date: Death by hanging. 25 Mar 46.

Confirmation and by Whom: Chief of General Staff - Lt-Gen V.A.H. Sturdee. Findings confirmed but sentences in each case commuted to imprisonment for 15 years and confirmed as commuted.

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences as commuted promulgated to accused on 29 Jun 46.

Petition: Submitted 6 Apr 46 against findings and sentences of the Court.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: The findings and sentences may be confirmed but suggest that their sentences be commuted to a term of imprisonment.

Action on Petitions Upheld insofar as sentences concerned only sentences commuted to imprisonment for 20 years.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



7

Precis of Evidence (contd) :

- A. I do not remember if you were there or not but I recognise your face.
- Q. Do you remember when you walked back into the compound some of the Japanese came over and spoke to you?
- A. No, that did not happen.
- Q. When were you first spoken to when you went into the gate of the compound?
- A. After I went back into my tent, it was not a very long period.
- Q. Is not this a fact that as soon as you were spoken to when you went into the compound by another Japanese, you drew your finger across your throat?
- A. No, that is not a fact."

The defence is a complete denial of the beheading and that out of a total of 26 Indians, 5 died of illness and the remainder, due to shortage of food, deserted from the camp in small parties.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AAF A117(a)  
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RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

156 45

AWC No. 2211, 2226, 2227

Accused: Lt MITSUBA, Hisaneo  
E/Cpl OTSUKI, Matsuo(Not guilty)  
L/Cpl SHIMOURI, Chiyoza(Not guilty)

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, RABAU  
Date and 22 Mar 46.  
Formation: 8th Military District

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
MURDER about Oct 44 at AIN of 2 unknown Indian PW.	Not Guilty	Mitsuba guilty Others not guilty.

Precis of Evidence:

Accused MITSUBA ordered the shooting of 2 Indian POW who were made to sit on the bank of a creek and shot by a firing party of which the other accused were alleged to be members but at the trial all three accused denied that OTSUKI and SHIMOURI were members of the firing party. The only evidence for the prosecution was a written interrogation of MITSUBA who justified his act by alleging the dead Indians had stolen rice, ammunition and medical supplies.

Sentence and Date: MITSUBA death by hanging 22 Mar 46(N.B. He has since suicided).

Confirmation  
and by Whom:

Promulgation: (Accused committed suicide at RABAU on 13 Apr 46).

Petition: Notice of petition submitted 23 Mar 46 but petition has not been received.

J.A.G.'s Report ~~on Petition~~ Confirm finding and sentence.

Action on Petition:

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

2753 2750

AWC No.....

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

1st Lt KISHI Tadenori  
Accused Cpl S SHIMAJIRI Jitchoku

Court, Place, HARAUL  
Date and 11 July 46  
Formation: 8th Military District

Charge(s)

Plea

Finding

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
ILL TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR		
(1) Between FIJIMIDAI and HAGA HAGA on or about 3 January 1945 ill treated 18037 Sepoy PIARA SINGH of 5/11 Sikh Regiment an Indian PW.	Both accused not guilty	Accused KISHI not guilty. Accused SHIMAJIRI guilty
(2) At KUMORIYAMA on or about 25 August 1944 ill treated Subedar SANTA SINGH an Indian PW.	Both accused not guilty	Both accused guilty
(3) At KUMORIYAMA on or about 25 August 1944 ill treated Subedar SANTA SINGH an Indian PW	Both accused not guilty	Accused KISHI not guilty Accused SHIMAJIRI guilty

Precis of Evidence:

1. The evidence for the prosecution on all charges was documentary and consisted of written statements made by PIARA SINGH, RAHO ALI, SANTA SINGH, GURD SINGH, DALIP SINGH and the interrogation of both the accused reduced to writing and signed by them. The substance of the evidence was as follows:-  
1st CHARGE. On 3 Jan 45 a party of Indian PW were moving from FIJIMIDAI to HAGA HAGA and the accused SHIMAJIRI was in charge of such party. A plank was found lying on the road, and the accused ordered PIARA SINGH to carry the plank along with his other gear. After carrying the load for about 3 miles PIARA SINGH was unable to continue further. He asked the accused to order one of the other men to carry the plank and the accused thereupon beat him with a stick he was carrying. As a result of the beating PIARA SINGH was admitted to hospital where he remained for a considerable time. Both the accused gave evidence in their own defence.

(over)

Sentence and Date: Accused KISHI T - TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 12 MONTHS  
Accused SHIMAJIRI J. " " " 3 YEARS

Confirmation and by Whom: Lt-Gen V. A. H. Sturdee.

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentences promulgated  
Kokusa on 28 Nov 46

Petition: Petition lodged 19 July 1946 by accused SHIMAJIRI T against findings and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm findings and sentences and dismiss petition.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

The accused SHIMAJIRI denied that he knew PIARA SINGH or that he had assaulted him. He admitted being with the party of Indians which moved from FIJINIDA to a place called ASHIBAYAMA but not to NAGA NAGA. The accused KISHI denied he assaulted PIARA SINGH or was present when the alleged assault by the accused SHIMAJIRI took place.

2nd CHARGE In July 44 a party of Indian PW were encamped at ~~KONORIYAMA~~ and owing to shortage of food at the request of Indian officers the accused KISHI had permitted two Indian soldiers to go into the jungle each day and collect vegetables. On 25 Oct 44 SANTA SINGH was supervising Indian PW at work in a garden at ~~KONORIYAMA~~. The accused SHIMAJIRI was in charge of the working party and SANTA SINGH asked him to send two Indian soldiers into the jungle to collect vegetables in accordance with the existing arrangements. The accused ignored SANTA SINGH's request and SANTA SINGH again made the request. The accused SHIMAJIRI then commenced to beat SANTA SINGH with a stick. When the stick broke he continued the beating <sup>with another stick</sup> until SANTA SINGH fell to the ground in an unconscious condition. On 26 Oct 44 the Indian reported to the accused KISHI. This accused struck him two blows and said "You are an English officer and hence the beating is justified". Both accused gave evidence in their defence in respect to this charge. ~~The~~ <sup>Both</sup> accused denied striking SANTA SINGH, <sup>that</sup> ~~as~~ SANTA SINGH had reported to him the alleged assault by SHIMAJIRI. He further alleged that the accused SHIMAJIRI was not at ~~KONORIYAMA~~ at the time thereof.

3rd CHARGE On 25 Aug 44 SANTA SINGH was supervising gardening fatigue at ~~KONORIYAMA~~. The accused SHIMAJIRI was in charge of the party. Earlier the accused KISHI told the accused SHIMAJIRI and SANTA SINGH to send two men into the jungle after 1200 hrs to collect papayas. After 1200 hrs on the same day SANTA SINGH reminded the accused that two neboys had to be sent to the jungle. The accused was very angry and said "You are all slaves of the British". "I will set you alright". He then beat SANTA SINGH with a thick stick and about 4 feet in length. SANTA SINGH reported this assault to the accused KISHI but he took no action. Both accused gave evidence in relation to this charge. Such evidence was in effect a denial of the charge.



# RECORD OF MILITARY COURT (JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No. 2755, 2752, 2766, 2768

Accused: 2/Lt Surgeon MUKOHATA Sodami  
Sgt Maj OKAWA Hakuei  
Sgt Maj YOSHIOKA Makitaro  
Court, Place, Sgt SAKASHITA Morizo (Not Guilty)  
Date and RABAUL  
Formation: 10, 11, 12 July 46  
8 MD

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
ILL-TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR (1) (Against all accused excluding accused SAKASHITA) in that they at KOMORIYAMA on or about 28 May 1945 cruelly beat Lt R.K. SAKSENA, Jem UJAGAR Singh of 7/8 Punjab Regt and Jem PAKHAR Singh of 5/11 Sikh Regt Indian Prisoners of War.	All accused not guilty of respective charges	Accused MUKOHATA guilty on 3rd Charge only. Accused OKAWA and YOSHIOKA guilty of 2nd Charge only. Accused SAKASHITA not guilty as charged.
(2) Against all accused including accused SAKASHITA) in that they at RABAUL on or about 28 May 1945 ill-treated Lt R.K. SAKSENA PAKHAR SINGH and Jemadar UJAGAR SINGH, Indian Prisoners of War.		
(3) (Against the accused MUKOHATA only) in that he at MINIMISAKI and KOKOPO in 1944 failed to provide Indian Prisoners of War with proper medical care.		

## Precis of Evidence:

- The evidence adduced by the prosecution was documentary contained in written statements made by members of the Indian Army namely Lt R.K. SAKSENA, Jemadar PAKHAR SINGH, Havildar PARTAP SINGH and the interrogations of each of the accused which were reduced to writing and signed by them.
- In regard to the 1st Charge the Prosecution intimated that no evidence would be called and the accused so charged were found "Not Guilty".
- In regard to the 2nd Charge it was alleged that at RABAUL on 23rd May 45 after the evening roll call the accused YOSHIOKA dismissed the officers and NCOs and commenced to issue to the Indian privates Japanese badges of ranks. Lt SAKSENA had been warned of the intention to issue such badges of ranks and he had issued strict orders to his troops that

Sentence and Date:	Accused	MUKOHATA S.	- TO BE IMPRISONED FOR 15 YEARS -	12 July 46
"	"	YOSHIOKA	" " " " 7 " "	12 " "
"	"	OKAWA	" " " " 3 " "	12 " "

Confirmation and by Whom: Lt Gen. V. A. H. Sturdee.

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding &amp; sentence promulgated to the accused on 27 Nov 46

Petition: Petitions lodged 23 July 46 by each convicted accused against findings and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm findings and sentences and dismiss petitions.

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



these badges were not to be worn. The Indian soldiers refused to accept them even though persuasion and threats were used. 2/Lt TAKEDA who appeared to be in charge of the Japanese issued certain orders to the accused YOSHIOKA and this accused commenced to beat and continued beating Sepoy SUCHA SINGH until he fell to the ground in an unconscious condition. After that all ranks were ordered to fall in and the accused YOSHIOKA made them stand to attention for the whole night without food or rest. The accused YOSHIOKA spoke to Lt SAKSENA and asked him why he would not wear the badges and Lt SAKSENA told him they were PW and would wear Indian badges of rank only. The accused then struck him several blows. The Indian troops were then released on the condition that the question of wearing Japanese badges would be discussed among themselves. On 28 May 45 Lt SAKSENA was called out from parade after evening roll call by Lt TAKEDA and was asked why he had not reported as arranged. Lt SAKSENA said he had reported but that he (Lt TAKEDA) was absent. He further said that on 27 May 46 PAKHA SINGH and UJAGAR SINGH had been questioned regarding the badges and they had again refused to wear them. Lt SAKSENA still refused to wear such badges. Thereupon the accused YOSHIOKA, SAKASHITA and OKAWA and other Japanese commenced to beat all the Indians with sticks and to kick them. Lt SAKSENA was struck a severe blow on the head by the accused YOSHIOKA and fell to the ground in an unconscious condition. Lt SAKSENA was unable to leave his hut for about 15 days.

4. In regard to the 3rd Charge it was alleged that the accused MUKOHATA was the Japanese medical officer for Indian PW in camps at MINIMISAKI and KOKOPO in 1944. On one occasion when Indian PW were moving from MINIMISAKI to KOKOPO a distance of 6 miles, there were 40 Indians suffering from ulcers and beri beri. Lt SAKSENA requested the accused MUKOHATA to provide transport for these patients but it was refused. The accused MUKOHATA came to see the patients. He was carrying a bamboo stick and he beat them with the stick saying that if they could not walk that distance he would shoot them. It took the patients approximately 7 hours to cover the distance and on their arrival they were ordered to return and carry rations. The carrying of rations continued for about a week. As a result of this heavy work at least one Indian died. Lt SAKSENA treated patients as best he could with medicine in his possession. From that time no medicine was supplied until the date of the Japanese surrender. Repeated applications were made to the accused MUKOHATA by Lt SAKSENA, but he was told everything was for the Japanese fighting soldiers. Lt SAKSENA asked to be paraded to a superior officer. The accused MUKOHATA said "For you we are everything". "You surrendered at SINGAPORE unconditionally". "It is our will to treat you as we like and if you say a single word more we will skin you and your men".

5. Each of the accused gave evidence in his defence.

The defence of the accused OKAWA and YOSHIOKA to the 2nd Charge was in substance as follows:-

- (a) The accused OKAWA admitted there was trouble in regard to the attempt to issue Japanese rank badges. He stated that 2/Lt TAKEDA ordered the accused YOSHIOKA to strike the Indian officers. He slapped them with his hand and then 2/Lt TAKEDA struck them with his sword scabbard for about 3 or 4 minutes. He denied that although he was present at the scene he did not take part in the beatings.
- (b) The accused YOSHIOKA admitted slapping the Indian officers pursuant to orders of Lt TAKEDA. The slapping occurred as a result of the attempt to issue Japanese badges of rank. The attitude of the Indian officers was very arrogant and disobedient when asked why they would not wear the badges. Because 2/Lt TAKEDA considered the slapping carried out by the accused YOSHIOKA was not severe enough he struck the Indians with his sword scabbard.



6. The defence of the accused MUKOHATA to the 3rd Charge was in substance as follows:-

He admitted that there was a shortage of medical supplies and because Indians had informed him that Lt SAKSENA was using the medicines to treat Indians who were his favourites he (the accused) had withdrawn all medical supplies and issued them as required. The supply shortage consisted of anti malarial drugs and antiseptics. He contended that he gave Indians the same medical attention as the Japanese received. He admitted however that a very large number of Indians died whilst under his charge.



RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

AWC No. 2768

Accused: Sgt SAKASHITA Morizo

Aust W.C. List Ser No.

Court, Place, Date and Formation: Rabaul  
8 July 48  
8 MD.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
ILL-TREATMENT of a prisoner of war at KOMORIYAMA in Feb 1945 cruelly beat Sweeper MAUGLI of 5/11 Sikh Regt an Indian PW.	Not guilty	Guilty

Precis of Evidence: 1. The evidence for the prosecution was documentary and consisted of a written statement made by PAKHAR SINGH and the interrogation of the accused reduced to writing and signed by him. The substance of the evidence was as follows :- Sweeper MAUGLI was a PW in Japanese hands at KOMORIYAMA. About the middle of Feb 45 MAUGLI was suffering from ulcers and was ordered by the accused to carry out fatigue duty in a garden. MAUGLI said it was the order of Lt TAKEDA and MAUGLI was taken before the Japanese officer by the accused. The Indian told TAKEDA he was unable to work on account of the ulcers. The Japanese officer and the accused both beat the Indian until he fell to the ground in an unconscious condition. The beating also caused the ulcers to bleed freely. When he regained consciousness MAUGLI was sent on fatigue. At this time he could hardly walk and a few days later the ulcers were in such a bad condition he was unable to walk. He was then excused from fatigues but he was not given (P.T.O.)

Sentence and Date: To be imprisoned for 2 years - 8 Jul 46.

Confirmation and by Whom: Lt-Gen. V. A. H. Sturdee.

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to accused on 27 Nov 46

Petition: Petition lodged 19 Jul 46 against finding and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm finding and sentence and dismiss petition.

Action on Petition: Dismissed

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....



any medicine. He died on 1 Mar 45.

2. The accused gave evidence in his defence. He denied the charge. He admitted that he knew an Indian named "HANGLY" who was very old and employed in the house of the Section Commander as a sweeper and doing minor jobs. The Indian was never employed under him on gardening work as he was too old and too sick. He heard that HANGLY died but as the Indian was never under his control he was not interested.