

RESTRICTED

Will you state all facts in detail pertaining to atrocities, war crimes, violations of Rules of Land Warfare and human decency at Fukuoka No. 17, the dates thereof, the perpetrators, giving (camp or other place) their names, ranks, units and other identifying information.

A I was a prisoner of war at Fukuoka No. 17 from 10 August 1943 until 15 September 1945. During my internment at this camp I was Senior Medical Officer. On or about December 23, 1943, Cpl James G. Pavloskos of the 4th Marine Regt. who was a prisoner in this camp was turned over to the Japanese by Lt. Senior Grade E. N. LITTLE, USN, for stealing. Cpl Pavloskos was put in the guard house without food or water. He remained alive until 28 Jan 1944, at which time he died of starvation. I saw his dead body after he had died and I would estimate his weight at about 55 lbs. He is normally a man of about 170 lbs.

The second execution of the camp took place 5th month, 31st day, 1944. Pvt. Noah C. Heard, serial No. 20900717 was confined in jail for theft, third offense. During the night of the 30th it was reported by the Japanese guards that this man had escaped. They used other POW's in helping to search for this man and he was located in the latrine of the barracks. This was about midnight. He then returned to the guardhouse. Shortly after his return to the guardhouse the Japanese stated that they had found evidence of this man having broken into a Red Cross warehouse and the office of the Japanese Mess Sergeant. It was stated that he had stolen one parcel of food package. At 5 o'clock in the morning prisoner officers were asked to attend the execution of this man. This execution was witnessed by Lt. John Allan 192d Tank Bn. Pvt. Heard was killed by bayonetting.

The first two executions occurred during the period when Camp No. 17 was commanded by Lt. URI. He was stocky, about 5'8" tall, weight 160 lbs., he conducted himself with a Prussian military air, had many gold teeth, no glasses, no mustache. He was formerly attached to the Fukuoka Headquarters, western military district. That is all I can remember about this man's description.

The next execution occurred on April, 1945, Cpl. Walter Johnson, 20084372, U.S. Army. This man had frequently come to the attention of the Medical department as a mild psychological problem. He had been recognized by the first Japanese Army doctor as such. This Japanese doctor's name is Lt. MURAO. Immediately after the surrender Johnson had started an intensive study of the Japanese language. He was apprehended in the mine about the 1st of April for talking to a Japanese civilian miner, presumably charged with espionage and placed in the guardhouse. He was permitted no ration of food and subjected to severe beatings both day and night.

He died on the 11th of April. During the time he was in the guard-house he received no medical attention. The body exhibited many signs of fractures and evidence of severe beatings. Inspection of the body was made without the sanction of the Japanese. They listed this man officially as having died in the hospital with an abscess.

Fourth American execution. Pvt William N. Knight, 6983666, U.S. Army. He was turned over to the Japanese on or about May 5, 1945 by Lt. E. N. LITTLE, Lieutenant Senior Grade. Knight has been guilty of stealing a bun in the mess hall. He was confined in the guardhouse and subjected to repeated beatings and all the forms of torture that could be devised by the guards on duty. This man died on May 20th. Body was in a state of extreme emaciation. Post mortem autopsy was not permitted. It is felt that this man died of starvation with possibly secondary pneumonia.

- A. In the spring of 1945, a British Private, named Fordly, was on quarter status from malaria. He was placed in guardhouse for having a small piece of zinc in his possession. On the evening of the first day this man was in the guardhouse, I was called from the evening roll call formation supposedly to see a patient in the guardhouse. On going there I found this man dead. The guards were most insistent that it was impossible for him to be dead and I was permitted to examine him superficially in a darkened cell. They refused to turn on the lights. From the general attitude of the Japanese and from what little I could determine from the superficial examination and the previously mentioned condition I think this man died as a result of beating. Men in the guardhouse were beaten with a 2 x 4 about the length of a baseball bat.

These last three executions occurred during the reign of Lt. FUKUHARA. He was about 5 ft. tall, approximately 125 lbs., well built; no glasses, no mustache, had sharp pointed ears, had good teeth, neat dresser, I think he has a scar somewhere on his back which he got from Russian artillery fire in China, spoke very little English, was thought to have a wife and two children. That is all I can remember about this man's description. Under Lt. FUKUHARA there were two to eight men in the guardhouse and these men were subjected to such tortures as could be devised by the guards on duty. The following are examples: Kneeling on a bamboo pole while holding a metal at full extent of the arms, touched frequently with electric wires. Push-ups exercise by the hour. One prisoner would be made to hold a bucket of water over another prisoner's head. On numerous occasions prisoners were made to beat each other in the face. Beatings were administered with large belts and the previously mentioned 2 x 4, and saber case. Some men were forced to have their mouth held open for hours with bamboo splinters wedged between teeth.

/s/ T.H.H.

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I was confined from Oct 12 to 18, 1944 in the guardhouse. I was not tried and was being punished for submitting a written complaint to the Japanese doctor in which I complained of the Camp Commander forcing sick men to work in the mine. I was told briefly before being confined that by making such complaint in writing I was guilty of influencing group opinion and that such might be interpreted as an effort to cause a riot. This same letter was sent by all officers of the prison medical staff. I was released in the night of the 18th of October prior to the visit of an inspection party which was thought to contain Red Cross representatives. I am sure that is the reason I was released. I do not recall the names, nicknames or descriptions of any of the guards, civilians or military who were in the guardhouse.

The Assistant Camp Commander is SATO, an Adjutant. His rank before the surrender was Cadet Officer and after the surrender promoted to 2nd lieutenant. He was about 5'7" tall, weight 150 lbs., wore glasses, understood and spoke English, clean shaven. Before the war he had worked in Mukden where he was interested in exporting. I can recall nothing more about this man's description.

Sometime in March, 1945 the following men were in the guardhouse: David E Runge, Australian private; James Voelker, American private; and Ray Hawfer, Marine private. These men were forced to kneel for long periods of time on bamboo, barefoot on concrete floors. During these months it was extremely cold that all developed gangrene. During this period of punishment the following surgical treatment were made on these men. On March 10, 1945 it was necessary to amputate both feet of Runge. About the same time it was necessary to amputate all toes of Voelker. Hawfer lost 3 toes. These men were punished for the following reasons: Runge for sabotage, because he was overheard to make a statement in the line to another prisoner that there was no hurry in doing the work. Voelker for being sick and having to lie down shortly after going on duty on the mine. Hawfer for refusing to respond directly to questions asked during the Japanese investigations.

Although international markings for hospital buildings were requested Japanese headquarters denied these requests and during air raids, in the summer of 1945, seriously ill patients had to remain in these buildings. This camp was hit on July 27, 1945. All wood buildings destroyed, fortunately prisoners and medical personnel were able to evacuate all patients from the burning buildings. During the two winters in Camp No. 17 there was no place in camp where workers could get warmth, no method of heating the barracks or hospital building. Irregardless of efforts to promote sanitation in the prisoners' area the Japanese guard detachment permitted uncovered latrines and garbage to exist in their own area making it impossible to control sanitation. Also during the summer epidemic Japanese refused to admit that such conditions existed outside the camp, although one civilian employec in the camp died of acute dysentery. During two years in Camp No. 17 the medical department received only the following Red Cross medicines:

that amount which is issued to be used on 500 men for 3 months. This issue was controlled by Sagagami Hairo of the Japanese Army Medical Department. This man was equivalent to a private first class; about 4'½" tall, weight 120 lbs, no glasses, no mustache, had some gold teeth, walked with a duck waddle, had very short arms and legs, and had dwarflike characteristics. That is all I remember about this man's description. This man was not qualified medically and repeatedly refused to issue sufficient amount of these Red Cross medicines for the treatment of seriously ill patients. Our medical supplies in this camp came from both the Army and the Mitsui Mining hospital. Although the camp reached the total population of 1780, medical supplies were always issued on the basis of 509 and in continually decreasing amount. One example of small amounts the Army issued, reached a limit of 6 rolls of gauze for one month. The Mitsui hospital refused during the year 1944-45 to cooperate with the prison hospital by refusing to X-Ray injured patients and to lend us essential instruments which were not in the camp equipments. During this period I performed 135 major operations without gloves and with inadequate instruments. Some 160 fractures were treated during this period and at no time was plaster of paris available. After the Japanese surrender we took over the camp. We found in the mine some 34 cases of Red Cross medical supplies including surgical equipment which had been issued to the Japanese in 1943.

During the period in Camp 17 there were 3 Japanese doctors assigned to the camp. The first, Lt. MURAO, was most cooperative, and during his period there forced Mitsui Mining Company to build the hospital buildings and furnish us some Japanese medical instruments. This man was relieved because of his cooperation with prisoners in the hospital staff. The second doctor, Cadet officer HOSHIKO, cooperated by obtaining lighter work assignments for men who were suffering from deficiency disease, thereby being instrumental in saving a number of lives. This man was relieved from duty because he refused to sanction the sending of sick men to work by Camp Commander. [The third doctor Lt. TAKAHAMA made no effort to cooperate. At the time of the surrender this officer completely revised the death list by changing causes of death, eliminating executions, deficiency disease, and injury as the cause of death. All deceased being listed as having died of pneumonia or another common disease.

Lt. TAKAHAMA was about 45 years old, about 5'5" tall, weight 135 lbs., wore graying mustache, had gray hair, wore glasses occasionally, had protruding teeth. That is all I can remember about this man's description.

Repeatedly prisoners were punished physically by civilian miners. This punishment was frequently instigated and always encouraged by YAMAGUCHI, rated as a two-stripe over-man in the mine. This man was originally employed as an interpreter, had been educated in California schools and always tried to impress new details with his friendliness.

but when punishing prisoners or turning prisoners over to the Army for punishment he refused to speak English to the prisoners. This man was active during the entire two years and particularly during the past year he was interested in seeing that Americans were punished for every slightest infractions of rules. He continually beat the prisoners to see if any man would deny being an American. This individual was about 25 years old, about 5'6" tall, weight 130 lbs., had no obvious physical defects and it is difficult to understand how he had remained out of the Army, no glasses, no mustache. That is all I can remember about this man's description.

"I have nothing further to relate.

/s/ Thos. H. Hewlett  
THOS. H. LEWETT

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2 day of October, 1945.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ John D. Schwenker  
JOHN D. SCHWENKER, 1st Lt., FA  
Investigating Officer  
War Crimes Investigating Detachment

/s/ Everett Checket  
EVERETT CHECKET  
Maj. Inf.

R E S T R I C T E D

Herlett, Thos. H.  
(Name)

Maj.  
(Rank)

ASN C-986246

after being duly sworn at 29 Replacement Depot  
on 1 Oct. 1945, testified as follows:

- Q. How old are you?  
A. 31.
- Q. Were you captured by the Japanese and made a prisoner of war? If so, when and where?  
A. Corregidor 6 May 1942
- Q. At the time of your capture of what unit were you a member?  
A. Fort Mills Station Hosp.
- Q. By what Japanese unit were you captured?  
A. Army
- Q. Do you expect to be repatriated, and if so, to what country?  
A. U.S.A.
- Q. What will your complete address be after your repatriation?  
A. c/o Dr. William H. Garner, 919 East Spring St., New Albany, Ind.
- Q. Will you state the name and locations of the camps at which you were held as a prisoner of war and the dates you were confined at each camp?
- | <u>Compound<br/>or Camp</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Dates</u>              |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| A. Camp #9.                 | Corregidor      | 6 May '42 - 8 June '43    |
| Billibid                    | P.I.            | 8 June '43 - 30 June '43  |
| Cabanatuan                  | P.I.            | 30 June '43 - 23 July '43 |
| Fukuoka #17                 | Japan           | 10 Aug '43 - 15 Sept '45  |
- Q. Do you know, or have you reason to believe, that the Imperial Japanese Army failed to treat prisoners of war with humanity or otherwise committed atrocities and war crime against them?  
A. Yes.

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/s/ T.H.H.

When completed this document  
must be classified as RESTRICTED

DATE: Sept. 30 1945

1. YOUR NAME: HERBERT JAMES MUIR  
Last First Middle
  
2. RANK: Major SERIAL NO. 0-33624  
(if civilian, write in word "Civilian") (Armed Forces personnel only)  
PERMANENT 1/0 Dr. William H. Garner
  
3. HOME ADDRESS 919 East Spruce St. New Albany Ind.  
Street No. City State
  
4. AT WHAT ENEMY CAMPS AND HOSPITALS WERE YOU CONFINED AND WHEN WERE YOU AT EACH. (If never a prisoner of war or internee, then state principal places you have been from time to time while overseas.)  
  
P.I. Camp #9, Corridor - May 6, 1942 - June, 1943  
P.I. Bilibid - June 8, 1943 - June 30, 1943  
P.I. Cabantuan - June 30, 1943 - July 23, 1943  
  
Japan - Fukuoka #17 - Aug 10, 1943 - Sept 15, 1945
  
5. DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT ANY ATROCITIES AGAINST, OR MISTREATMENT OF AMERICANS, PRISONERS OF WAR, CIVILIAN INTERNEES, OR THE CIVILIAN POPULATION FOR WHICH YOU THINK THE PERPETRATORS SHOULD BE PUNISHED, (Answer by stating YES or NO in the spaces provided below.)
 

(a) Killings or executions -----	<u>yes</u>
(b) Torture, beatings or other cruelties -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(c) Imprisonment under improper conditions -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(d) Massacres, wholesale looting or burning of towns -----	<u>no</u> yes or no
(e) Use of prisoners of war on enemy military works or operations -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(f) Exposure of prisoners of war to danger of gunfire, bombing, torpedoing, or other hazards of war -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(g) Transportation of prisoners of war under improper conditions -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(h) Public exhibition or exposure to ridicule of prisoners of war -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(i) Failure to provide prisoners of war with proper medical care, food or quarters -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(j) Collective punishment of a group for offense of others -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no
(k) Any other atrocities not specifically mentioned above for which you think the guilty persons should be punished -----	<u>yes</u> yes or no

IF ANY QUESTION IS ANSWERED YES, THEN STATE THE FACTS BRIEFLY ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS SHEET

Incl #3 (2 pages)

C V L R

## DETAILS OF ATROCITIES

KIND OF CRIME	WHERE IT OCCURRED	WHO WAS THE VICTIM (include name, nation- ality & whether military personnel or not)	STATE IF YOU SAW IT YOURSELF, IF YOU DID NOT SEE IT, WHO TOLD YOU ABOUT IT.
1 (A)	Executions Camp 17	(1) Heard, Noah C., U.S. Army (2) Pavlokos, James G. U.S.M.C. (3) Johnson, Walter, U.S. Army (4) Knight, Wm.W. U.S. Army	(1) Boycotted All others by starving and beating bodies view- ed only.
(B)	Tortures and Beatings routine going on daily in camp jail. I was confined there and subject to beatings Oct. 12-18, 1944.		
2. (L)	Prisoners were forced to repair hosey ordinance, Camp #9 Corregidor. This constituted employment of detail for 1 year following surrender.		
(F)	En route to Japan. Ship one which I travelled.		
(G)	Carried manganese ore. contained no markings as prison ship. Work details of Camp #17, Orote, would be searched to work during air activity over the city, on several instances they were forced to lie on ground in front of Jap headquarters during air attack. Hospital bldgs, housing seriously ill patients could not be marked with Red Cross. These patients were unable to seek cover, 6 wards suffered 2 direct incendiary hit July 27, 1945. Patients were evacuated during fire and attack.		
3. (H)	Routine exposure of prisoners under punishment in front of Camp 17 Guard house, were civilians and other prisoners could see tortures.		
(I)	During 2 yrs. in Camp 17, Med. Dept only received about 3 cans. Red Cross Medicine for 500 men. Camp Pop. 17-1800 This was issued by Inami, Heito, in inadequate amounts for serious cases. Both Army and Mitsui Mine Hospital refused to obtain certain essential instruments or put our patients be X-rayed, latter during past 9 months.		
4. (J)	On one occasion entire Camp 17 made to go 9 hrs. without food because of a theft. Sept. 1944, Paj. Bravos was publicly stripped of his back tied confined because of minor thefts in camp.		

The above occurred under command of Lt. Wri, Lt. Tokohara.  
Yazouchi, was civilian responsible for punishment adminis-  
tered to men in mind.



HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY BEEN QUESTIONED BY ANY MILITARY OR NAVAL AUTHORITIES ABOUT ATROCITIES OF MISTREATMENT, \_\_\_\_\_ IF YES, BY WHOM, WHEN WHERE  
yes or no

Not officially

DID YOU MAKE A SIGNED STATEMENT, No  
yes or no

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ William H. Brown

WILLIAM H. BROWN

Capt., Inf.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

/s/ Thos. H. Hewlett

Sign your name here

/s/ Everett Checket

EVERETT CHECKET

Maj. Inf.

C E R T I F I C A T E

May 16, 1946

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached document is a true copy of an affidavit purporting to be sworn and subscribed to by \_\_\_\_\_

Thomas H. Hewlett, Major, O-386246

at 29th Replacement Depot, Luzon, P.I.

on the 2nd day of October 1945.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that it was copied from an original in my custody as Chief, Criminal Registry Division, Legal Section, GHQ, SCAP, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ Charles A. Reinhard  
CHARLES A. REINHARD  
Lt. Col., F.A.  
Chief of Criminal Registry  
Division, Legal Section