

SPOKANE AIR FORCE BASE
Bong, Washington

17 November 1949

A F F I D A V I T

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Robert A. Ross continuously for 15 years, since 1934, at which we attended high school together. During this period, and until recently, Robert was a normal, alert, active youth with many varied interests and a noticeable talent in music. He participated actively in many sports and excelled in several. He always presented a cool, calm appearance and was gifted with a greater degree of common sense than is the fortune of most of us.


He has always had an extremely strong sense of responsibility and a high moral character. He always exhibited a gracious, courteous manner and was more than socially acceptable.

Since his release from confinement in a Japanese prison camp and his subsequent return from the war Bob has acquired an additional characteristic. In place of his cool, self confident manner and his easy, tranquil acceptance of almost any circumstance he seems uncertain, unsure and hesitant. His confidence, both in himself and his ability seems shaken. Prior to the war one of Bob's prime qualities was his cheerful, easy-going, unassuming attitude; this has been replaced by a faltering, undecisive manner which is totally unlike his former self and an extreme detriment to his future as a wage earner.

In contrast to those pre-war days, when Bob was a much sought after person by several employers, he no longer inspires confidence, neither in his employers, fellow employees nor himself. This results in a level of efficiency far below his ability and a great deal below that which former employers have learned to expect.

ARDUOUS In my opinion it is the war, and Bob's long confinement without sufficient nourishment and inadequate protection from the rigors of the elements, and the bestial treatment of his Japanese Guards that brought about his present condition. This, coupled with the extremely arduous working conditions, the killingly long hours and the lack of proper medical care only served to increase Bob's vulnerability and make him more susceptible to succumb to this brutal treatment. I feel sure that it was only Bob's love for his family and his intensive desire to see them again that girded his strength and prevented such a circumstance as has happened now from occurring earlier. The mental relief and the subsequent relaxing after seeing his family paved the way for the present situation.

Bob, prior to the war, was an absolutely normal being, likeable, courteous, gracious and talented, even as we aspire for our own sons.



ROBERT H. LUMLEY
Captain, USAF

Subscribed and sworn to before me at Spokane Air Force Base, Bong, Washington this 19th day of November 1949.



LAWRENCE C. MCGEE
Captain, USAF
Adjutant