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For the WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department -- War Department.

United States of America.

In the matter of atrocities committed * Perpetuation of the testimony of
in the Nogoya Area Camp #8 * Mr. Harold L. Thomas (formerly
* Cpl. U.S.Army, ASN 7000415)
* 3537 Wyandotte Street, Baton
* Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish,
* Louisiana.

Taken at: The American Legion Office, 729 Florida Street,
Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Date: January 29, 1947.

In the presence of: George E. Riddlebarger, Special Agent,
112th CIC Detachment, Fourth Army.

Stenographer: Kate G. Keene,
Baton Rouge, La.

Questions by: George E. Riddlebarger, Special Agent, 112th CIC
Detachment, Fourth Army.

Q. State your name and permanent address.

A. Harold Louis Thomas, 3577 Wyandotte Street, Baton Rouge,
Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana.

Q. What is your occupation?

A. Filling station manager.

Q. Were you ever in the service of the United States?

A. Yes. I served in the Army Air Corps enlisting as a Private
at Barksdale Field, Louisiana, on October 9, 1939; assigned
to the 27 Bomb Gp, 17 Bomb Sqdn; discharged 12 June 1946 at
Camp Shelby, Miss., as a Corporal.

Q. In what theater of operations did you serve during World War II?

A. In the Pacific. In the Philippines.

Q. Can you give the date you arrived in the Philippines?

A. It was on November 22nd, 1942.

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Q. Were you ever a prisoner of war?

A. Yes, I was a prisoner of war of the Japanese being taken as a prisoner on Bataan on April 6, 1942.

Q. Where were you first held as a prisoner of war?

A. I was first held at Camp O'Donnal, in the Philippines. I stayed at this camp approximately eight (8) months and was then sent to Billibid prison camp in Manila, P.I. I was held there until July 3, 1944 when I was taken to Japan arriving in Japan approximately September 9, 1944.

Q. Where were you taken on your arrival in Japan?

A. On arrival in Japan I was loaded along with other prisoners into box cars. The doors of these cars were then closed. After riding in these box cars for about a day we arrived at a station located at the foot of a mountain. We were then put on flat cars and taken up the mountain to Camp Toyama.

Q. Where was Camp Toyama located?

A. Camp Toyama was located about 36 kilometers north of Osyka. It was very mountainous area - a metal mining district.

Q. Give a brief description of Camp Toyama.

A. Camp Toyama was approximately 60' x 160' - this area being enclosed by a new wooden fence approximately 12 to 15 feet high. In this enclosure was a barracks for the prisoners, a house for the Japanese guards, one for the Japanese Commander of the prison and a shack where meals were prepared.

Q. Can you give a description of the sanitary conditions inside of Camp Toyama?

A. They were terrible. We had very little water to use to cleanse ourselves or our eating utensils. We were allowed very little water to drink. A few feet from our sleeping quarters were open latrines. There were no sanitary conditions whatever.

Q. Describe your living conditions at Camp Toyama.

A. We were forced to sleep on rigid boards and were each given two small blankets - about the size of our American baby blankets - to use as covering. In order to get some degree of warmth the prisoners laced these small blankets together and then a number of prisoners would sleep close together under this covering. We were given a wooden block for a pillow. Sleeping quarters were about 12 feet long and eighteen inches sleeping space was allotted each man.

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The sleeping quarters were divided into what was called bays. Each bay contained about 12 to 16 men. The sleeping space being only about three feet from the open latrines a terrible odor was present at all times. Vermin constantly crawled from these open latrines into our sleeping quarters and would get on us and into our clothing and it was a constant fight to keep the vermin out of our eyes and ears.

Q. Did you receive adequate clothing in accordance with the climate?

A. No. The clothing we received corresponded to the regular Japanese tropical issue consisting of shorts coming only to the knee, a short sleeve shirt and shoes made of cloth and some kind of rubber webbing. These were not like regular shoes. They had two slits in the toe part - one for the great toe and the other for the rest of the toes. We wore these clothes during all kinds of weather and were only issued one outfit. For underwear each prisoner was issued a regular Japanese loin cloth.

Q. Describe the weather in Camp Toyama area.

A. It was very cold, mostly freezing with snow often four to five feet deep and it would stay that way for weeks at a time. It stayed cold the year round.

Q. Were there any medical supplies available to the prisoners at Camp Toyama?

A. Very little medical supplies. The bandages that were brought by the American prisoners from the Philippines were used over and over again for first one prisoner and then another. They would be washed a little and dried between applications. The only medication was mythalene.

Q. Did you have any doctors in Camp Toyama?

A. Yes. We had one American doctor with an American Army Corpsman for his assistant.

Q. Do you remember the name of the American Doctor and the American Corpsman?

A. No - I do not remember their names at this time.

Q. How many prisoners were in Camp Toyama?

A. There were approximately 250 American prisoners and 160 British prisoners.

Q. Did you ever receive any Red Cross supplies while at Camp Toyama?

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A. Yes - we received some Red Cross supplies which had been stored in Tokoyo. The original Red Cross packages coming in weighed about 48 pounds. Inside of this large package were four small packages. The small packages were distributed at the rate of one for each nine prisoners. Distribution was made about once in every thirty days or at least that was when they were supposed to be distributed. This distribution was often delayed by the Japanese Commander as a punishment for some fancied or real infraction of the rules by the prisoners. At one time it was all of two months before the boxes were distributed. At this time the boxes were only distributed after the American doctor made a special appeal to the Japanese Commander. All prisoners were suffering from starvation, beri-beri and general malnutrition and the American doctor told the Japanese commander that unless the prisoners were given food they would not be able to work in the mines. We were not given any sweets or cigarettes which came in the Red Cross packages. The Japanese guards would go around smoking the cigarettes and eating whatever sweets were in the packages. The Japanese would smoke the cigarettes and eat the sweets in front of the prisoners with a view of tormenting them. These things I saw with my own eyes.

Q. Did you receive any Red Cross clothing at Toyama Camp?

A. No. To my knowledge we did not receive any Red Cross clothing at Camp Toyama.

Q. Were you ever sick and if so state what treatment you received.

A. I was sick - I had beri-beri - and was practically blind because of the beri-beri and malnutrition. I received no treatment but was forced to work in this physical condition.

Q. What food did you receive at Camp Toyama?

A. In addition to the small portion of rice we were served daily we were sometimes allowed to make a stew of weeds which we brought from the mountain side and twice in approximately eleven months we were served a broth made from the bones and intestines of dogs. Each prisoner was supposed to be credited with a certain amount of Japanese money for his work in the mines. This was usually paid off with an issue of Grasshopper Powder. This powder was sprinkled over the rice portion. We were also issued about two tablespoonsful of rice polishings a week.

Q. Did you receive any punishment or torture while confined in Camp Toyama?

A. Yes - I was constantly tortured. Inasmuch as the Japanese believe in mass punishment, whenever one of their rules were broken by a prisoner practically the entire group would receive punishment.

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Very often we were forced to kneel on sharp planks for hours at a time or until the culprit would give himself up rather than have the entire group continue to be punished. Very often the Japanese guards would use a stick approximately 2 x 2 and beat the prisoners over the head, shoulders and particularly aim at the groin region. When a prisoner would fall from these blows the Japanese guards would jump on them with hobnail boots. The guards were never satisfied with beating one in the group but would beat all. I was hit in the mouth with a rifle butt and still have the scar on the inside of my lower lip.

Q. Give an account of any punishment or torture which you received while a prisoner of war at Camp Toyama.

A. At one time I was stripped naked and made to stand in the snow for approximately 24 hours. It was terribly cold and every time I would freeze the Japanese guard would take water from a mountain stream near the camp and pour it on me to revive me. After that I was taken in and hung on a ladder. The ladder was made of 2 x 2s and I was hung head down with my arms and legs tied behind. A hollow pipe was placed between my tied legs and the rung of the ladder. A Japanese guard would then strike the hollow pipe and the vibration of the pipe against the ladder would cause terrible pains in my legs as well as my whole body. I hung there until I became unconscious. After I was revived they would put their knees in the small of my back and torture me with cigarette butts. At one time I was struck in the back with a bayonet and I still carry the scar from that. In addition I still have nineteen (19) scars on my back from beatings I received. Another torture I went through was having a single manacle, with steel teeth on the inside, placed on my wrist. To this was attached a leather thong which the Japanese guard would pull thus causing the steel teeth to bite into my flesh.

Q. Can you name or describe the Japanese Commander of Camp Toyama?

A. I do not know the name of the Japanese Commander of Camp Toyama. The American prisoners nicknamed him "The Wolf." He was approximately five feet six inches tall, slim build with regular Japanese features. He had a very good military bearing. Did not wear glasses and had one gold tooth in the front of his mouth. Was an athletic, energetic type person. He had been a track man and had run in some of the Japanese races. He was rather handsome for a Japanese - was rather light complected for a Japanese and wore his hair cropped. Had a rather slight American appearance about the mouth. He had an angular jaw with rounded chin and his teeth were even and well kept. His eyes were slanted like the regular Japanese type. I would say he weighed between 155 to 160 pounds; had narrow hips in comparison with his shoulders and was very straight from the rump

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to the shoulders. Took quick steps and had very good muscular control. He spoke broken English but somehow gave the impression he knew more about the English language than he acknowledged.

Q. Can you relate any instances of torture which you saw administered by "The Wolf?"

A. The first instance I can relate is that of an American Indian by the name of Jones. I believe he was originally from an Indian Reservation in the State of Oklahoma. After working for a day in the mines were were supposed to line up and be counted off. It was necessary to stand at attention during this counting off. This meant you could not even wiggle a finger. It usually took about forty (40) minutes to go through this routine. One day this Indian Jones was very sick and practically exhausted and while the counting was in progress Jones was seen by The Wolf to slightly move an arm. The Wolf had a leather quirt and he immediately started beating Jones about the head and shoulders and to kick him in the groin. He then knocked Jones down and jumped on him. The Wolf had the Japanese guards pick Jones up and continue beating him with the Japanese guards using their rifle butts and the boy was beaten almost to death. Our American doctor intervened and tried to have the beating stopped. He was promptly pushed away by the Japanese guards and the beating continued. Finally the American doctor told The Wolf he was going to kill the man. Finally the beating stopped and when the American doctor tried to do something for Jones he was told by The Wolf to wait until bango was over. Jones lay at our feet merely breathing and completely covered with blood until bango was over. Then we picked him up and did what little we could. Jones was further deprived of his food ration for three or four days and existed only on what little the other prisoners could slip him.

I also saw when the Japanese tortured two other men. One was a member of the Marine Corps and the other was in the Navy. I only remember the name of the Navy man and that was Pierce. These two men were in a semi-dark hallway and did not see a Japanese guard and therefore did not bow. For this they were taken out and stood against a wall and forced to beat each other with their fists and open palms. Not being satisfied that they were hitting each other hard enough the Japanese guard took them to the Japanese Commander. I was looking through an open window and saw the Japanese Commander take a rope from behind his desk, double it three or four times, and beat both these men with this rope. He also kicked them in the groin, stomach and face. He then gave orders to the Japanese guards to take the men outside. As the first man went out the Japanese commander put his foot in the small of his back and kicked him into the snow, following and kicking him repeatedly. He then went back into the office and did the same to the other man. He then had the clothes removed from these American boys

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and made them kneel on the sharp edge of 2x4s for three or four hours, thus cutting their flesh. The boys were then moved into the brig which was approximately two yards wide by four yards long. The boys were kept in a standing position and the Japanese guards would throw water on them through the window. They could not lie down and were kept standing for two days and two nights. These boys were absolutely naked and the temperature was freezing. After three or four days they were allowed to lie down but their feet were frozen and their toes dropped off. The entire time of torture was 14 days. On About the 6th day the American doctor appealed for food for these men and they were then allowed about 1/2 the regular ration for the balance of the 14 days. Finally due to appeals of the American doctor they were released. However one boy lost all ten toes and the other lost three on one foot and two on the other. These boys were forced to go back to work in the mines but the boy who had lost all of his toes could not stand long enough for this so he was allowed to work around the camp; the other boy was kept working in the mines even though his toes were still dropping off. Torture by the Japanese commander was going on continuously but these instances stand out in my mind as some of the worst.

Q. Did you ever see the Japanese commander actually murder anyone outright?

A. No, but I know he was the direct means of one boy dying. This boy tried to escape. He was caught and after a terrible beating by the Japanese guards and the Japanese commander he was locked in a room without food. We could hear him moaning for four days and nights and after that we heard no more moans. I was told the boy died and his body was placed in a box and carried off to the incinerator and burned. It was through the direct actions and orders of this Japanese commander that this boy died. I would say that at the time the boy tried to escape he was mentally ill due to malnutrition.

I have related only a few of the atrocities committed by this Japanese Commander. They were so numerous it is hard to remember them all.

Q. Do you recall any other Japanese guard or personnel who committed atrocities?

A. I recall one who we called "The Bull." He was approximately 5 feet two inches - rather short - weighing about 175 to 180 pounds. He had coarse features with negroid lips, outstanding large ears and had a regular gorilla round shoulder carriage. He also had a number of gold fillings in his teeth. Seemed to have a rather odd shaped head and moved with a lumbering walk. He was the head guard and called the "gunzo." It appeared the other guards were afraid of him. He had large ears, shaved hair. However appeared to be a rather

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hairy creature with a heavy growth on his legs. He was a jui-jitsu artist and believed in litting with the side of his hand across the neck and using other jui-jitsu tactics. He seemed to get a great deal of pleasure out of kicking and stomping the American prisoners. He was a great show-off. He would beat the prisoners to the ground and then stand on a box and give them a lecture in the Japanese language. If he gathered an audience he would continue the beatings and the lectures. He would come down to the mines and when we were through work for the day, and weak from labor and beri-beri, he would run us back to camp up the mountain and anyone who fell was given a good beating.

Q. Did you ever see him kill anyone?

A. No. I did see him beat men to the point of death. He was what I would call a sadist. There were two other Japanese guards at this Camp Toyama known as "Murderer" and "Trigger Happy." These were so named for killing Americans while in the Philippines. However I saw no atrocities committed by these guards while at Camp Toyama?

Q. What type of work were you doing while you were a prisoner at Camp Toyama?

A. I did the general mine labor work, working in open mines extracting lead and zinc. I also had to carry heavy boulders to make fills and had to work in the muck which was brought up from the mines. We worked from sun up to sun down. Were given a ball of rice about the size of a baseball at noon and were allowed fifteen minutes to eat and rest and then put back to work. We were allowed a drink at the noon hour and no more water until we were through for the day. We worked with guards standing over us with clubs and if at any time we let up we were given a beating. Due to the flimsy kind of shoes we were constantly having our feet cut and bleeding from the sharp stones in the mines. We were also forced to push cars loaded with this muck from the mines. The cars weighed about four tons and had to be pushed by only two men for a distance of anywhere from 100 to 200 yards. We also had to carry large pieces of lumber - each man carrying more than is ordinarily carried by three or four men and with inadequate clothing our shoulders were often cut by this lumber. We also had to carry litters filled with rocks. These were carried by two men and if we did not carry them fast enough we were severely beaten. Our clothing was in such a state we were practically naked and the muck from the mines would be all over us but we had to let it dry

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and scrape it off as we were not allowed enough water to bathe. We were often choked with some sort of orange dust, that is, orange colored dust, which was also in the mines and this dust also had a chemical reaction which caused our feet to be burned. I also had to use a sort of acid to separate the various metals and I still have evidence of burns caused by this acid on my hands and feet. Because the chemical action of this acid caused our clothing to rot and fall to pieces we were also given beatings. The mines were very cold and we had no means of heating whatever. There was allowed only a small smudge pot in the middle of the camp and five pieces of charcoal per night were allotted.

- Q. Were there any other instances of cruelty at Camp Toyama that you would like to elaborate on?
- A. There were a great many more instances but it would take too long for me to elaborate on these.
- Q. Could you positively identify the Japanese commander of Camp Toyama, or any of the Japanese personnel if confronted by them in person?
- A. Yes. Very definitely I could identify the Japanese Commander and all of the personnel at Camp Toyama while I was a prisoner of war there, and if the United States Government wishes me to, I will be glad to return to Japan and appear before the War Crimes Tribunal.
- Q. Was this Camp Toyama within the Negeya Area Camp No. 8?
- A. To my knowledge it would be in the same area.
- Q. That is all. Thank you.

Harold Louis Thomas

Harold Louis Thomas.

STATE OF LOUISIANA)
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE) SS

I, Harold Louis Thomas, of lawful age, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation

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A F F I D A V I T

Perpetuation of the Testimony
of NOLIN LEE WELLMAN, 142 South
Logan Avenue, Danville, Illinois.

In the Matter of Atrocities
committed at Prisoner of War
Camp No. 8, Nagoya Area, Japan.

I, Nolin Lee Wellman, being first duly sworn upon my oath, depose and say that:

My full name is NOLIN LEE WELLMAN and I am twenty-eight years of age. My permanent address is 142 South Logan Avenue, Danville, Illinois. I enlisted in the United States Army on 17 February 1939 and was discharged on 20 March 1946. On 10 June 1946 I reenlisted in the United States Army Air Corps for a period of three years. My serial number is RA 6 290 628.

In December 1941 I was stationed at Clark Field, Philippine Islands with the 93rd Bombardment Squadron, 19th Bombardment Group. I was captured on Mindinao by the Japanese forces on 10 May 1942 and left Mindinao on 6 June 1944. Then I was placed on a boat and transported to Japan, arriving thereat on 4 September 1944. I was imprisoned at Prisoner of War Camp No. 8, Nagoya Area, Japan and remained there until 1 June 1945 when I was sent to Prisoner of War Camp No. 11, Toyama, Japan. I was liberated by the American forces on 6 September 1945 and arrived in San Francisco, California on 25 September 1945.

The Japanese Commandant of the Nagoya Camp No. 8 was a First Lieutenant in the Japanese Army, but I don't remember his name, and although he never beat up any Americans that I know of, still he did not stop any of his guards from beating us. He was about five feet five inches tall, slender build, wore glasses and looked typically Japanese. He spoke no English that I know of.

The two biggest troubles that I remember were the lack of food and fuel and lack of medical attention. During the winters of 1944 and 1945, we lost nineteen men, most of them suffering from Pneumonia and Tuberculosis. The Japs had a medical Corporal who was especially cruel and would beat up the patients with the least excuse and make them work when they were practically dead. I do not remember his name and not much of his description, except that he was slightly larger than the normal Jap and much more overbearing. I saw him beat up an American Marine Corporal (Vance Walsh, Des Moines, Iowa) and broke a front tooth out for him.

The only real beating I ever received was from a Jap called "Three-fingered Jack", who was a short, bow-legged man, wore glasses and had two fingers missing from the left hand. That beating was for trying to bring wood in for a fire in the worst part of the winter, and when they caught me, they took the wood and beat me on the head and shoulders with it. This same Jap was in the habit of taking a garrison belt and beating Americans in the face with it, sometimes even with the buckle.

Also, three men (Abner L. Harrold, Edmond Oklahoma; First Sergeant Kristopolvis, address unknown; and another fellow whose name I do not remember) were stripped and beat on with salt-water-soaked ropes and hung up by the thumbs for two or three days for stealing some Japanese Saki. For the most part, about the same guards did most of the beating.

These are about all of the particulars that I can recall at this time, but more than likely if I were confronted with some of the guards, I could say more.

Nolin Lee Wellman
NOLIN LEE WELLMAN

Subscribed and sworn to before me this second day of April 1947, at March Field, California.

Frank D. Morgan
FRANK D. MORGAN
Captain, Air Corps
Summary Court - AW 114

IN THE MATTER OF WAR CRIMES COMMITTED BY
 JAPANESE NATIONALS AND IN THE MATTER OF
 THE ILL-TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR AT
TOYAMA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP.

R 22

WALTER NORMAN RILEY make oath and says:-

I am a medical practitioner and hold the degrees - M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.(Lond). My permanent home address is now No. 649, Leeds Road, Bradford, and I am the assistant to Dr. David Black.

I have been qualified as a doctor since July, 1937.

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On the 19th March, 1940 I volunteered for service with the Royal Air Force and was called up on the 28th January, 1941. I was granted a Commission as Flying Officer.

I left Nagoya Prisoner of War Camp on the 10th May, 1945 and proceeded by ordinary passenger train, along with 300 British prisoners of war to Toyama Prisoner of War Camp, Toyama, Japan.

I produce the nominal roll of the prisoners who went on this journey.

We travelled in ordinary passenger coaches, and we were very overcrowded. The journey took several hours.

I was the only officer at Toyama. This camp, I was informed was originally a summer camp for missionaries. This camp was built on the outskirts of the Town, adjacent to a Factory. It was of solid construction, and had been fitted up to accommodate prisoners of war on much the same lines as the other camp at Nagoya. The usual sleeping arrangements were provided, but the men were accommodated in smaller rooms, on the average between 25 to 30 men per room. The camp was built of brick.

The food and clothing to all intents and purposes were exactly the same as at Nagoya. We had slightly more supplies of fresh fish, but less fresh vegetables.

The sanitation was better in that the lavatories were tiled, and easy to keep clean. The same system of septic tanks had been adopted, but these were well protected by concrete and were not offensive during the summer time. Regarding the issues of soap, we got the same issues as we did at Nagoya.

On the whole the position regarding medical supplies was very similar to that at Nagoya. The only Red Cross medical supplies available were those brought by us from Nagoya.

Whilst at this Camp we received no Red Cross Food parcels.

As indicated previously, the Camp was immediately adjacent to a factory. This was the Tateyama Heavy Industry Co., and was engaged in the manufacture of small steam rollers which apparently were used in the preparation of aerodromes. The work at this factory was lighter than that at Nagoya Factory. The men found things much easier because they did not have to go through the daily strenuous journey. The hours of work were from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. with one day's holiday every fortnight. The men were well treated by the civilians employees at the Factory. They were able to take their mid-day meals in the Camp.

Regarding the safety of the prisoners, one air raid shelter about eight yards long was constructed, in the form of a trench protected by a wooden roof covered with earth. It was quite inadequate to take all the men, and was only a protection against blast and splinters. I complained about this, but nothing was done

about it, nor were any more shelters constructed.

Toyama received a very heavy incendiary raid on the 1st August, 1945 as a result of which, according to American reports, seen later, fully 75% of the City was completely destroyed. The Camp was NOT hit, and probably owed its immunity to the fact that the Camp and the factory were separated from the rest of the town by a rice field. During the raid the prisoners were paraded in the Camp Square, and after about one hour were marched out into the rice fields, carrying their small 'kit' and blankets.

Regarding the treatment of the prisoners, this was better than at the other camp, although there were a few minor incidents. The same Japanese Camp Commandant was there - i.e. Lieutenant Tanaka. The disciplinary N.C.O. was Corporal Yamazaki. This man always treated the prisoners extremely well, and it was largely due to his good offices that life at Toyama went on fairly smoothly.

The Camp regulations were the same as at Nagoya.

On the 15th August, 1945, the men went to the factory as usual in the morning. After their mid-day meal, they were all paraded on the parade ground, which was situated at the opposite end of the Camp to the Japanese Administrative buildings. At the same time, the Japanese Staff were all paraded in their office to listen to the radio. It was learned later that the Emperor of Japan had that time made his speech announcing the capitulation. The men never returned to work at the Factory, and after about three days the Japanese Armed Guard was withdrawn from the Camp. No official announcement was made to us until the 25th August, 1945, but I was told in confidence by one of the Japanese, about 4 p.m. on the 15th August, 1945.

On the evening of the 15th August, 1945, the Camp Commandant packed his bags and departed, and his place was taken by the Camp Commander of another Camp, occupied by Americans and situated about three miles away. He was a Japanese Lieutenant, name not known.

On the 25th August, 1945, this man officially informed me that the War was over, and that I was to be responsible for the maintenance of discipline. Five Japanese rifles and 150 rounds of ammunition were issued to me.

Subsequently we received supplies of food, clothing, medicines by parachute, from the American Forces.

We evacuated the Camp on September, 5th, 1945 and travelled overnight by train to Arai, where we were taken on board an American Red Cross Ship.

I arrived in England on the 19th October, 1945, and was demobilised about the middle of April, 1946.

Statement taken at the Town Hall, Bradford, and completed after various interviews at 5-30 p.m. on the 17th July, 1946 by Detective Sergeant Tyas, Bradford City Police.

William Potts

SWORN at Bradford in the County of York this 23rd day of July, 1946.

Annie Potts

Justice of the Peace acting in and
for the City of Bradford.

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IN THE MATTER OF WAR CRIMES COMMITTED BY
 JAPANESE NATIONALS AND IN THE MATTER OF
 THE ILL-TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR AT
NAGOYA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP.

WALTER NORMAN RILEY make oath and says:-

I am a medical practitioner and hold the degrees - M.R.C.S.
 L.R.C.P.(Lond). My permanent home address is now No. 649, Leeds
 Road, Bradford, and I am the assistant to Dr. David Black.

I have been qualified as a doctor since July, 1937.

On the 19th March, 1940 I volunteered for Service with
 the Royal Air Force and was called up on the 28th January, 1941.
 I was granted a Commission as Flying Officer.

After service in England I sailed from England on the 8th
 December, 1941 and proceeded to Java. I served in Java, then
 Sumatra, again Java, and was made a prisoner on the 8th March,
 1942 by the Japanese, due to the capitulation of the Allied
 Forces in the East Indies.

I have been a prisoner at eight camps under the Japanese,
 four in Java, one in Singapore, and at three in Japan. I
 was not the senior medical officer at any of these camps, with
 the exception of two, i.e. first at Nagoya 8B, Prisoner of War
 Camp, from 15th January, 1944 to 10th May, 1945, and from 10th
 May, 1945 to 5th September, 1945 at Toyama - British Prisoner
 of War Camp.

I arrived at Nagoya on the 15th January, 1944, having
 travelled alone under escort from Osaka Prisoner of War Camp.
 A few days before I arrived there, four hundred British Prisoners
 of War had been sent to Nagoya from Hong Kong. There was no
 officer in charge of these men at all, and I was put in charge
 by the Japanese in a purely medical capacity.

I had not previously been at this Camp, nor did I know
 any of the British personnel there. This was a new camp, which
 had just been completed.

This camp was built on the side of a steep hill, and was
 constructed solely of wood. It was not well constructed, the
 place was very flimsy, and quite inadequate for keeping out the
 cold. The sides of the buildings were of three ply type of
 wood, and the roofs were of some wooden composition material.
 The floors were of earth.

At first there were two large huts, each for the accommodation
 of two hundred men, subsequently a third one was built to accom-
 modate two hundred Americans who arrived in August, 1944.

These huts were arranged in two tiers. The first tier was
 about two foot from the ground; the second tier, reached by means
 of ladders, was about five feet higher than the lowest one. It
 was not possible to stand up properly in either tier. The
 prisoners were not supplied with beds, but were given straw mats,
 approximately six feet by three feet - one mat for each prisoner.
 For the pillow we had a canvas container filled with rice husks.
 For the first winter the men were there each prisoner was supplied
 with five blankets, but the second winter it was cut down to three.
 There was not so much snow at this place as it was near the Coast,
 but we had heavy frosts in winter, and it was then very cold.

The Japanese Officer in charge, i.e. the Camp Commandant,
 was named Lieutenant Tanaka. From what I could ascertain about
 this man, he was a University graduate; he spoke perfect English,
 and his home was in Osaka. He was 26 years of age, fairly tall
 for a Japanese, about 5' 9" in height.

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W.H.

At first the impression gained of this man was good, but as time went on, his true character became apparent. He was always issuing petty instructions and mass punishments. He would not allow the prisoners to wear greatcoats until the 1st of January, although the month of December was cold. He was disliked by his own Japanese staff.

My main complaint against him was on account of his attitude towards sick personnel. He always insisted that full working parties were sent out, irrespective of the number of men, who were unfit for work. This was a very difficult task so far as I was concerned. The number of sick personnel allowed was being continually limited, irrespective of occasional epidemics. Once the figure for the permitted sick was fixed, I do not know now this figure, but it was gradually lessened on his instructions. I had to parade the sick men before the Japanese Medical Orderly, who varied from time to time. Each evening after the daily sick parade any new patients whom I wished to keep in camp the following day had to be paraded before this man. The patients and myself would frequently be kept standing for half an hour awaiting his pleasure. Although I took particular care to select only those patients who were genuinely unfit for any type of work, it was seldom that permission was granted for all the men to remain in camp, usually there would not more than five new patients of this kind. For every patient who received permission to remain in camp on the following day one old patient had to be sent out to the factory to take his place in the working party. This meant that I had to be continually selecting sick men to put on the Working Party List. This put me in a terrible position. As far as I can gather these arrangements were followed on orders from Higher Authority.

The prisoners were engaged upon work in a heavy industry factory; this factory was situated in the City of Nagoya about twenty minutes travelling distance away from the camp by train. The factory was engaged in the manufacture of heavy locomotive engines. I was given an opportunity on one occasion of visiting this factory. I was invited by the then Japanese Medical Orderly - Sgt. Haiashi, but I later learned that much of the power at the factory had been turned off during my visit. The hours of work were approximately 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. day shift. In the middle of the morning they had a break of ten minutes, this was repeated in the afternoons. Work was carried on every day, including Sunday, and the men received one day's holiday every fortnight, this usually fell upon a Wednesday.

The type of work at the factory varied; the men were divided up into seven working parties, the personnel in each party varied. The largest party was engaged in the Moulding shop, and this work was of an extremely heavy nature. Party No. 7 was composed of men who, under normal circumstances, would have never been allowed to do any work at all. Most of the men on No. 7 Party suffered from malnutrition diseases, beri beri etc. The party was first formed by the Camp Commandant as a 'wangle' to reduce the Camp official sick figures. Their work consisted of sweeping, carrying pieces of scrap metal, making string, sorting nails &c. This factory was run by civilians. Each workshop had its own civilian leader or hanscho. Unfortunately, there were also semi military escorts, who conducted the men to and from the factory. These men were called gunzuko. They were recruited from ex-soldiers, who had received a war injury of an incapacitating nature. The gunzuko in charge of No. 7 Party was named Tanaka (the same name as the Camp Commandant, but no relation). (He is shown on extreme right of the back row on the attached photograph - standing, as it appears on the photograph). This man was particularly cruel to the men in No. 7 party. He refused to allow them to sit down and kept them on the move the whole time. I understand that the civilian personnel at the factory treated the men fairly well on the whole.

Prior to the men's departure from the Camp to the factory they had to parade for roll call, and afterwards to march down to the railway station. They would often have to wait half an hour for the train. During this time, they were obliged to stand in ranks and were not allowed to move about to keep warm. I remember an incident on this parade, it was an American. He asked permission to leave the ranks to void urine, and this was refused. He was in agony, so broke the ranks and voided urine against a wall. The gunzuko Tanaka was in charge, and he made the American (whose name I do not remember) lick up the urine off the ground.

These men had to travel in an electric train, accompanied by gunzuko and Japanese civilians known as 'Stickmen'. A daily incident occurred as the men were entering and leaving this train. The stickmen used to push the prisoners into the carriages, and the last man to enter or leave the train as the case may be, received a beating from these 'Stickmen'. I complained many times to the Camp Commandant about this, but without result.

On one occasion there was an air raid on Nagoya, and this was during the time the men were on the train. The prisoners were locked in the train and all the guards &c., left the train to take cover. The train however, was not hit.

I produce a copy of a letter dated 22nd March, 1944 which I addressed to the Japanese Camp Commandant at the Camp, and this deals particularly with the dietary deficiencies.

The prisoners were issued with second hand Japanese soldier's clothing. For the winter the same clothing was used, with the addition of an inner lining of ribbed thicker material. They were also issued with greatcoats, some of these were second hand Japanese issue, others were captured British garments. Each man was issued with two pairs of long under pants as used by the Japanese Army, and two pairs of thin white cotton socks. Footwear was always a problem because of the difficulty in obtaining repair materials; a certain number of American boots were issued from time to time, but the number issued was nothing like adequate to supply the deficiencies. For use in the Camp, each man was supplied with a pair of Japanese wooden clogs.

Regarding hygiene and sanitation. Personal hygiene. A small issue of soap was made to each man about once a month, this was distributed either in the form of bar soap or powder. Men who were performing particularly dirty work in the factory were allowed a little extra soap powder by the Factory authorities for the purpose of cleaning their hands, a regular issue of tooth powder was made. The bathing facilities at the camp were very good. Each man received a hot bath once a week, and in the summer in addition to the weekly hot bath each man was allowed a cold shower in the evening. The bathroom was spacious, and contained one large bath (communal) and about 12 showers. Wash basins, supplied with cold running water, were attached to the barrack room, the facilities for drying and airing clothing were totally inadequate. Requests were repeatedly made for increased facilities for airing blankets, but without avail. In the summer time and to a less extent during the winter, the Camp was grossly infected with fleas. These interfered with the men's sleep to a very great extent. During the night, the latrines, where at that time the only light was available, was full of men stripped, picking the fleas off their night clothes. A small amount of insecticide powder was supplied from time to time, but the effect of this appeared only to irritate the fleas and make them more lively. I asked for chemical sprays, but these were not allowed. The latrines were situated immediately adjacent to the Barracks rooms. Each consisted of a large concrete tank, defaecation was performed through a hole in the wooden floor of separate small cubicles, these tanks were periodically emptied by a man who came with a bullock cart loaded with wooden tubs.

The stench from these tanks was unbearable throughout the summer, during which period the camp became infested with large flies which bred in the septic tank. During an earthquake the fluid in the tanks used to spill over in large quantities flooding into the Barrack Rooms.

Medical supplies were issued from three sources. 1. The Japanese Army; 2. The Factory; 3. The Red Cross. Certain things were in reasonable supply, but a number of drugs which were required were not obtainable. Japanese medicines are of very inferior quality and strength. The first consignment of American medicines was received in April, 1944. This included a fairly large consignment of multiple vitamin preparations, and lasted about four or five months, but had to be used sparingly because we did not know when to expect the next lot. The second consignment was received in January, 1945, and consisted of five large boxes of drugs of all descriptions. The administration of the Red Cross supplies was not left entirely in my hands. Treatment was often given against my wishes by the Japanese medical orderly, and quantities of Red Cross medicines continually disappeared from the stock.

Owing to the distance of Nagoya from the Prisoner of War Camp Hospital which had been set up by the Japanese in Osaka, it was never possible to transfer any serious cases. The first Japanese orderly, Sgt. Haiashi, was co-operative and did his best to meet our requirements. On one occasion he arranged for us to have the use of the small operating theatre at the Factory, where we were able to perform two appendicectomy operations, and others of a more minor nature. After this man's departure it was impossible to get anything done. I can remember one particular patient, his name was John Erskine Yule Walker, a Lance Corporal in the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps. This man suffered for several months from a sub-acute intestinal obstruction. He was seen by the Japanese civilian doctor employed by the Factory and also by Nosu Chewi, the Japanese Military medical officer in medical charge of the Osaka Prisoner of War Camps. These two doctors agreed that an operation was very necessary, but no facilities were provided. The patient was eventually evacuated in an American Army plane. Generally speaking we did not receive either the assistance or the co-operation which we ought to have done in the medical cases, the obstruction was generally placed in our way by the Camp Commandant, although some of the Japanese medical orderlies tried to do their best for us, particularly Sgt. Haiashi.

Sgt. Haiashi's successor was Sgt. Yamanaka. He was sent to the Camp with the express purpose of reducing the sick figures, and increasing the working party strength. His method of doing this was to periodically parade all the sick men and pick out at random individuals for work in the factory. On one occasion he used violence to me as a result of a misunderstanding in the sending of a sick man to the factory. He was particularly detested by the British prisoners. He had no medical qualifications for making his decisions.

About 100 pairs of boots and about 300 blankets, and sufficient pyjamas to issue one pair per man were received in February, 1944. In April, 1944 each man received one American Red Cross Food parcel, in addition to the Food parcels we received a small supply of toilet articles, e.g. soap, razor blades, toilet paper, etc. The next Red Cross supplies arrived in November, 1944 and the first distribution was made at Christmas. Altogether each man received three parcels, a number of parcels were distributed to the sick and a further number were used in the cookhouse. From this batch of parcels, which numbered about 1950, approximately 20 were unaccounted for. From investigations made at the time I am of the opinion that these were used by the Japanese. I should

say that the Japanese responsible was probably Cpl. Meesno, as he was the Camp Quartermaster, and had access to the Store where the parcels were kept, but I have no proof of this.

During air raids which were frequent and heavy, all men working in the factory were sent back to Camp. By the time the men had reached the local railway station the bombers were usually overhead. The men had to march up the road for about two miles. I drew the attention of the Camp Commandant to the risk of such a large body of men in Japanese uniform being observed from the air, but this procedure continued to be followed. On one occasion just after the men had entered the Camp one bomber flew low and dropped a stick of bombs across the Camp. One Japanese was killed and one prisoner slightly injured. Extensive damage was done to the Camp buildings, but fortunately all bombs landed outside the boundaries of the camp. During the autumn of 1944 when air raids became more frequent, the construction of the trench shelters within the barrack room was commenced.

Corporal punishment is a standard method of dealing with delinquents in the Japanese Forces. For minor offences, this usually takes the form of face slapping. This method of punishment was frequently adopted towards the prisoners, and face slapping and minor beatings up was a common everyday occurrence. I remember one particular incident, and that was concerning a Portuguese civilian named A.F. Joaquinho, who had been attached to the Hong Kong Draft. This man committed some minor offence whilst at work at the factory, and he was punished by being made to stand close to a hot furnace. As a result of this he received very severe burns to the fronts of both legs. The Gunzuko who ordered this punishment and saw that it was carried out was nicknamed 'Speedo'. (I do not remember his proper name, but he is indicated on the photograph). I took this matter up with the Camp Commandant, but nothing was done about it, and he was under care medically for several weeks.

There was another incident at this Camp, but I was not a witness, having left the Camp prior to it occurring, and learned about it later. This was concerning an American prisoner, whose name I do not know recall. This man broke out of the Barrack Room one night in order to steal food from the cookhouse. He hid in the cookhouse on a shelf at the back of some vegetables, and on the following day could not be found. All the men were confined to Barracks whilst search parties went out to look for him. When eventually the cookhouse staff were allowed to go into the cookhouse to prepare a meal, one of the men found him. He had tried to commit suicide by cutting himself with a knife, but unsuccessfully. The Japanese charged him with attempting to escape, and he was sentenced to 30 days in solitary confinement on a diet of water and half a cup of rice a day. In spite of the efforts of the American doctor - Dr. Elack Schultz, this diet was not increased, and the man died of starvation after 21 days. Dr. Schultz lives at 1105 Boynton Avenue, Bronx, New York.

I had to treat many cases of scalp wounds amongst the prisoners, due to being struck on the head by stickmen.

On a number of occasions the Japanese forced British N.C.O.'s to strike other ranks. Strong representations were made to the Camp Commandant on this matter, and it was explained that this might lead to Court martial of the N.C.O. after the war. But, as usual, nothing was done about it.

On the whole, the civilians at the factory treated the prisoners well. Many of them used to bring small parcels of food such as rice or beans which they gave to individual prisoners whom they considered to be working well.

Journeys by sea were indescribably bad. The ships were grossly overcrowded, and no opportunity was allowed for exercise, with the

exception of about ten minutes drill whenever the ship put into a port. The sanitary arrangements were inadequate, and there was a continual queue the whole day long for the latrines. In a journey from Singapore to Japan lasting 30 days, we were only allowed two washdowns with a sea hose, and one wash in fresh water. For this, one bucket was provided for five men.

Railway journeys from camp to camp were on the whole quite good, though overcrowded.

I produce a copy of Camp Regulations. I also produce a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Osaka Prisoners of War Camp. This was applicable to Nagoya which formed a sub-Camp of the Osaka Administrative district.

In May and in July, 1944, the Camp was visited by Representative of the International Red Cross. A very special show was, of course, put on for their benefit. This included the temporary stocking of the Canteen, which had hitherto been empty. A lorry arrived laden with goods which included canned milk, bottled beer, biscuits, and tinned fruit. Within ten minutes of the departure of the Visiting Party the lorry returned and took all the supplies away.

A nominal roll of the Camp is appended. I choose a number where I know their regiments:-

Pte. Bright, R.E.	R.A.M.C.
Staff Sgt. Webb, J.	R.A.M.C. (Not on Nominal Roll)
Leading Sick B.A. Shippides, K.	R.N.
W.O. Ashman, C.R.	Army Educational Corps.
Colour Sgt. Bayly, T.	Middlesex Regt.
Warrant Officer Coates, W.H.E.	Hong Kong R.N.V.R. c/o British American Tobacco Co. (China) Ltd.,
B.S.M. Oswald, J.L.G.	Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps.
Pte. Samuel, P.E.H.	- do -
	(Son of Viscount Samuel)

I produced a photograph which I obtained from one of the Japanese, and their names are shown on the reverse side of the photograph.

The date of the photograph was about February, 1944.

Shown on the photograph is No. 1. Hara. Assistant Quarter Master. This man was very friendly and gave me assistance in many respects. He gave me information before every organised camp search, and also informed me just before each visit by the Red Cross Representatives. We were thus able to get organised and to formulate any complaints which we might wish to make.

Camp Regulations. I produce a copy thereof.

The documents referred to in this affidavit, copies produced are as follows:-

Photograph.

Laws Governing Prisoners of War.

Rules and Regulations of Osaka Prisoners of War Camp.

Medical Report on the Health of Prisoners of War.

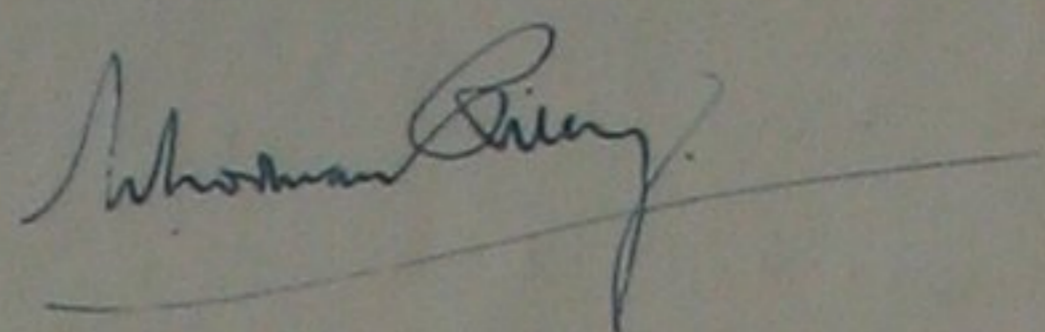
-do- Appendix 1.

-do- Appendix 2.

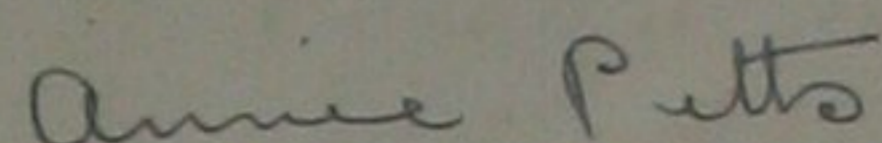
I left this Prisoner of War Camp on the 10th May, 1945, being

transferred to Toyama Prisoner of War Camp, Toyama, Japan.

Statement taken at Town Hall, Bradford and completed after various interviews at 5-30 p.m. on the 17th July, 1946 by Detective Sergeant Tyas, Bradford City Police.



SWORN at Bradford in the County of York this 23rd day of July, 1946.



Justice of the Peace acting in and for
the City of Bradford.

ADVANCE ECHELON
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
Civil Censorship Detachment
APO 500

Date: 6 September 1945

JA/TOK- 3

From: Sgt. J.H. Muttock 7887428 (RAPC) (lately POW No. 163. Nagoya Area POW. Camp No. 8, Toyama, Japan.	To: Mr. and Mrs. H. Muttock, "Privett House," 65 Unicorn St., Portsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire, England
Date of letter (or postmark): <p style="text-align: center;">31 August 1945</p>	Language: <p style="text-align: center;">English</p>
Comment by: <p style="text-align: center;">Lt. A. Lezak</p>	Disposition: Passed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Held Deleted Condemned Returned Photographed

- Advance Ech.
Distribution
- C/S
 - G-1
 - G-2
 - G-4
 - AG
 - Ch. Eng.
 - Ch. Sig. Off.
 - Ch. Surg.
 - JAG
 - Nav. Lia.
 - PWB
 - PRO
 - MGS
 - Fin. Off.
 - Pub. Hlth.
 - OCCIO
 - CIC
 - CIS-ops
 - 8th Army
 - 6th Army
 - CCD
 - ASF

COMMENT

**PRISONERS OF WAR: Brutality of Japanese Camp
Commandant**

"In this place we have been fortunate in that the camp staff, with the exception of the Camp Commandant, were not too bad. Unfortunately the C.C. came from the old camp and took over this one. He was a pukka "Pig's Orphan"! I could carry on with that thing as my subject for a considerable time without repetition but I'll let this following suffice. Chalked on the camp yard wall in large letters:-

W A N T E D

For the murder of 20 Allied service men and
the attempted murder of 582 allied service men

DESCRIPTION

Lt. Tanaka, Imperial Jap. Army
Pig on Hind-Legs wearing Jack Boots!

.....Here is an example. Camp #7 about a mile from us where the Nips have been having "High Jinks" right up to the "Great Day." I think the collapse must have caught them napping. (This camp contains 150 Yanks incidentally.) Anyway, to cut a long story short the "Chief of the Inquisition" was taking a bath when one of the lads put the business end of a home-made electric water heater in the bath and plugged in, thus electrocuting the "Nasty Nip!" Pretty good work what?"

CCD
Distribution

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ADVANCE ECHELON
 GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
 UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
 Civil Censorship Detachment
 APO 500

Date: 6 Sept 45

JA/TOK- 8

From: <p style="text-align: center;">"Maurice" (Recovered POW from Nagoya Area Camp No. 8)</p>	To: <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. T. Pendergast, 40 Askern Road, Carcroft, Doncaster, Yorkshire, England</p>						
Date of letter (or postmark): <p style="text-align: center;">1 Sept. 45</p>	Language: <p style="text-align: center;">English</p>						
Comment by: <p style="text-align: center;">Lt. A. Lezak</p>	Disposition: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Passed</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Held</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deleted</td> <td>Condemned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Returned</td> <td>Photographed</td> </tr> </table>	Passed	Held	Deleted	Condemned	Returned	Photographed
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- Advance Ech.
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 - G-2
 - G-4
 - AG
 - Ch. Eng.
 - Ch. Sig. Off.
 - Ch. Surg.
 - JAG
 - Nav. Lia.
 - PWB
 - PRO
 - MGS
 - Fin. Off.
 - Pub. Hlth.
 - OCCIO
 - CIC
 - CIS-ops
 - 8th Army
 - 6th Army
 - CCD
 - ASF

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: Treatment by Japanese

"But it was not until the 21/8/45 that we were officially informed that the war was over. You can imagine our feelings, it seemed too much to believe, the end of being chased, slapped & starved by a horde of uncouth, little sadistic animals which is what the Nips are, all tourist authoris' books to the contrary. I'll tell you tales which you will not believe, tales which I can hardly believe myself now that it is all over.....During the last 3 months of the war we were living on 1½ lbs. rice or rice & beans latterly (this weight includes stones & dirt which was considerable), & two or three ounces of vegetables per day. Once a week we had a special treat of 2 buckets of fish heads & tails between 300 men. One special treat we had was a few bones which we boiled into 3 stews & then topped off by eating & enjoying the bones."

- CCD
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PERPETUATION OF TESTIMONY OF
ORMAN G. JACQUES
(Formerly Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps)
Los Angeles, California

My name is ORMAN G. JACQUES. My permanent home address is 1454 West Third Street, Los Angeles 13, California. I am now thirty-three years old. I was formerly a Technical Sergeant, Serial Number 19051319, 30th Bomb Squadron, 19th Bomb Group, Heavy. I enlisted January 11, 1941, went overseas October 4, 1941, and returned to the States September 5, 1945. I was discharged December 24, 1945.

I was captured at Sumalao, Mindanao, P. I., on May 10, 1942, by the Japanese Occupational Infantry.

The first camp I was in was Malaybalay, Mindanao, on May 11, 1942, up to October 18, 1942. From there we were sent to Davao Penal Colony and remained from October 20, 1942, to June 6, 1944. We then went to Bilibid Prison June 6, 1944, and remained until July 2, 1944. From there we were sent to Japan arriving there July 14 and remaining until September 2, 1944. We next went to Camp Yokaichi, under the Osaka Prefecture and were there until June 1, 1945. On June 1, 1945, we arrived at Camp Toyana and remained until September 2, 1945, which was the date of our liberation.

The first incident was at Davao Penal Colony, working in the rice paddies located about four kilometers from the prison camp central. We went out at six in the morning on an electric dinky to plow with carabao in the rice paddies. During this time we had to go out and catch our own carabao which were half wild. During this time we were cursed by the Nip guards and told to hurry up. This particular day I was ploughing this field I had a carabao that did not want to work. The Jap guard was in a foul humor and I was doing my best to get the carabao to work as we had only a certain time allowed to finish each paddy. The carabao lay down in the middle of the paddy and turned over and I did my best to get him up with various American and Jap cuss words, all to no avail, which made me the last one to finish, approximately ten minutes after the allowed time. I took the harness and released the plough and was carrying it when the Jap guard ordered me to come to him and kneel. I walked slowly toward him and as I drew near he knocked me in the mouth with a rifle butt knocking out eight teeth on the left side of my mouth. Upon returning to the camp I made a complaint to the American Commander who sent this report to the Jap Commander, and the only reply was "so sorry". All guards were from the Island of Formosa and larger than the average Jap. This one in particular was quite a large man, approximately five feet ten inches, weighing about 180 pounds. He had the nickname of the "Bull". Shortly after the above incident I was transferred to a work detail at Lasang Air Field. During the remainder of my internment I did not encounter this man again.

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On departure from Manila to Japan the Japs in direct confliction to the Geneva Conference regulations, changed the serial numbers on the ships in the convoy which led to several ships being torpedoed by American submarines. We were fired at twice, the torpedo narrowly missing the ship. During this trip we were confined in a hold two decks below with two meals a day consisting of one small bowl of rice at each meal. We were allowed one canteen of water which was hardly sufficient under these conditions. One man died and the Japs were courteous enough to award him a burial at sea. There were 1400 of us in these two small holds and on arrival in Japan all the men had suffered much from malnutrition and were hardly in condition to work, but were immediately put to work in a copper factory at Yakaichi, Japan. This camp consisted of British, Dutch and American prisoners of war. We were appointed to different details and were informed by the civilian guards that due to American progress in the war we were to have the worst jobs. I was on a detail called Koka Ika, which consisted of work handling sulphuric acid and vats of copper dust thinner than the average talcum powder. In one month's time, out of a detail of twenty men, only one of the original members was still working on this job, the rest had gone to the hospital. The only way to get admitted to the hospital was to be carried in feet first. I was admitted due to a severe case of pleurisy, due to an acid tank blowing up, searing my mouth and lungs. While in the hospital, due to not working, we were put on half rations. Several men apparently in fair health, died of this malnutrition due to complications such as pneumonia and severe cases of beri beri as well as tuberculosis. Upon my release from the hospital I once more resumed the heavy duty chow status which was hardly sufficient to work sixteen hours a day. This consisted of a bowl of rice, dehydrated radish soup, a bowl of barley at dinner and a bowl of rice at supper. Sometimes soup and sometimes not. This not only was the meal for one day but was permanent throughout our stay. If you complained of the food you were taken either out into the hallway of the barracks or into the courtyard and given a first Jap military punishment which consisted of being slapped heavily about the face and body, sometimes with the hands or the heavy belts worn by the Jap non-coms or officers, or be made to stand at attention, Jap military style, which is a rigid position with hands pressed tightly to the side, chin in, staring straight ahead. The shortest period of this punishment usually was of ten hours to twenty-four hours. It occurred quite often especially among the American prisoners of war and soon became a common occurrence.

When we were transferred to Toyama Prison camp the Japs had a first rule that certain amounts of men would be hospitalized regardless of their state of health. During this time several of us were released from the hospital with the full knowledge of the Japs that we were critically ill, some suffering from severe cases of beri beri, malnutrition and others, including myself, from tuberculosis. In the last six months of the war the Japs became very severe in their labor demands upon us. Working hours being from five in the morning to nine at night. These different factories in which we were employed, became targets of the American Air Forces. Via the grapevine we heard that Toyama and Yokaichi factories had been practically wiped off the face of the earth with numerous American casualties. This factory was bombed by B-29's and later strafed by American attack ships. On approximately July 15, our camp at Toyama was bombed by American B-29's, causing walls and sections of the factory to cave

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in severely injuring several prisoners of war. During these raids the Japs forbade us to find covering. They had fox holes and underground caves for their own convenience. We remained at our jobs to seek what covering we could during the attack. On August 10, 1944, at Toyama, bombing was carried on about one and a half kilometers from our compound. The bombing lasted from one A.M. in the morning until five A. M. The town of 80,000 people was wiped out completely. The factory was demolished, nine bombs lighting inside our compound but through an act of God there were no Americans injured. These bombs set fire to our meagre barracks and were put out through the courage and quick thinking of the American prisoners of war. The Japs were in a frantic state. In line with this story, on August 16, when the first American fliers visited our camp, we were informed that the bombing group in the Toyama operation did not know of our existence there. They were under orders to bomb every standing building and strafe any moving thing. The following day after this attack, with the Jap's full knowledge and complete ignorance on our part, we were sent to work to confiscate what materials could be salvaged from the damaged factory. During this time American Navy planes from the carrier Beulah Woods, were within thirty minutes of our camp with orders to destroy any buildings left standing and all living personnel. This task was not carried out due to a radio message from American Headquarters that the war was over, the Japs had surrendered. If this operation had been carried out, not one of the 350 members of our camp would have remained alive.

Davao Penal Colony #2. This camp was surrounded by various fruit and avocado trees and when we first went to work there we were told that if we farmed these fields and planted vegetables, we would get the bulk for our camp. The Japs lied as the majority went to their own troops and we received only culls from the various crops. Any man caught trying to take a potatoe or any of the fruit was severely punished by the Japs. In this camp the buildings were of the same type as those provided for the Jap workers with nothing to indicate that they were occupied by American prisoners of war.

Conditions inside the camp were of a slave labor type. Three latrines to 2500 men, three wells to bathe from which would go dry at different seasons of the year. Our shoes were taken away from us and we were forced to work in the jungles and swamps barefooted. Our only clothing consisted of either a "G" string or a pair of shorts. A small box of rice was carried from the camp for our noonday meal.

At Davao a Sergeant Blades and two other American prisoners of war, an enlisted man and an officer, were taken to the Japanese Headquarters to be interrogated on a subject they knew nothing of. They were forced to stand barefooted in a tub of water, and while being questioned were probed in the back and various parts of the body with an electric shocker. This ordeal lasted twenty hours. All men upon release back to camp were confied to an American hospital within the fence, in a very severe condition.

At Yokaichi our camp was situated on the edge of the ocean. A severe hurricane arose in the fall of 1944, causing the latrine to collapse which had not been emptied for several months, causing this debris to flow

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throughout the barracks to a depth of three feet. This storm lasted for three days, during which time, due to our lack of clothing, men were subjected to many ailments with pneumonia resulting in many cases. The litter from the latrine was strewn throughout the barracks for a period of a week before it was removed.

On the ship coming up to Japan from the Philippines, one man while below deck, was noticed by a Japanese guard to be playing cards with himself. He had six cards in his possession at the time. He was taken on deck, accused of gambling, forced to get down on his knees on the tarpaulin covering the hold, and slapped with a heavy belt by the sergeant of the guard until he was unconscious. Upon returning to the hold the flesh had been gouged from his knees to a depth of one inch, causing I believe, permanent paralysis of knees. This man's name was Blackie. The commander of the ship was First Lieutenant Sobota. This man could have prevented in many ways these different humiliations and punishments. He was responsible for putting us on a two meal diet during this trip. Several of the men were forced to work in the boiler room and many were forced to work feeding coal from the bunkers to the boiler room. Compensation for this extra labor was the left over rice and pickled seaweed from the Jap mess. Many died within a week's time from severe labor conditions.

Following is a list of men who died in camps, the dates of their death and the cause:

McGinty, Thomas J., 12-17-44. Died as a direct result of forced labor under the supervision of "Bull Dog".

Myers, Ernest, 1-26-45 on the Koka Ika detail.

Bartrom, John R., 1-31-45, an Englishman on the same detail as above.

Tobak, Avend, 2-3-45. This man was beaten to death by the Jap guard called the Ferrett. This was at Yokaichi.

Appel, Paulus, 2-15-45. Died of pneumonia. Very little treatment was given this man and he worked up to the day of his death.

Ramey, Robert, 2-23-45. Died of tuberculosis due to utter negligence of the Jap medical staff. An American doctor by the name of Belinky in this camp made daily pleas to the Jap officers for various medical supplies, to no avail.

Richardson, William, 3-2-45. Pneumonia.

Hardy, Timothy, 3-1-45. Malnutrition bringing on pneumonia.

Brumley, Chester, 3-9-45. Koka Ika detail. This man worked up to the day he died of a lung infection. The men wore silk masks on this detail which were no protection whatsoever.

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Gerlitz, Harry, 3-11-45. Pneumonia

Rumsey, Robert, 3-12-45. Koka Ika detail.

Harrison, Cletis, 3-14-45. Pneumonia after exposure and punishment in dead of winter by Jap guards. This man was forced to stand at attention for a period of forty-eight hours in severe winter conditions with heavy snow on the ground and with very little clothing. The camp commander was responsible for this.

Dalton, Thomas, 3-14-45. Koka Ika detail. The day before Dalton died the civilian guards on the detail came over to see him and he said, "I know I am going to die today. I am very sick. Your day will come, you yellow bastards and you will live to see the day when retribution will descend upon you." Upon hearing this their faces fell and they immediately left. Dalton died the next morning.

Edwards, Benjamin, 3-24-45. English. This man died as the result of severe beatings at the hands of the Jap guards.

Driver, Frank, 3-25-45. Koka Ika detail. This man was forced to work in an undershirt and a pair of shorts with rags wrapped around his feet as we did not have shoes. This was in the winter and as a result the man died of pneumonia.

Hurlburt, Caspar, 4-14-45. On a detail at this factory, due to Japanese negligence, the sea had undermined the narrow gauge railway track in certain sections, and in direct conflict to factory regulations, the civilian guard accompanying the men on this detail, had them sitting on the electric dinky pulling the coal cars behind. As they hit this section of the track the cars overturned, throwing the men onto the rocks below. Several were severely injured and Caspar Hurlburt was pinned under the dinky. He was removed to the hospital suffering from a crushed chest, pelvis injuries, and severe internal injuries. He died the following morning.

Barsje, Jack, 2-21-45. Pneumonia.

During the time these deaths occurred, the bodies were stacked on the floor of the latrine and in order to get to the washbasin you had to step over them. The bodies remained there for a period of a week and then were cremated.

We were forced to learn the Japanese language and to bow before their shrines and idols every day to bring good luck to the Japanese.

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Orman G. Jacques
ORMAN G. JACQUES

STATE OF CALIFORNIA) SS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I ORMAN G. JACQUES, of lawful age, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing statement consisting of five pages, and that it is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Orman G. Jacques

Subscribed and Sworn to before me at
this 10th day of September, 1946

San Fernando, California

Curtis R. Hartley
(Notary Public)

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUG. 13, 1950

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