

TO WIT:

I, F-40841 Rfn. Earl Gilbert MOSSMAN of No. 7 District Depot, C.A., formerly of the Royal Rifles of Canada (C.A.), a soldier in the Canadian Army (Active), make oath and say:

1. That I was taken a prisoner of war at Hong Kong on 25 Dec 41 and was interned in the following camps:

- (a) North Point Camp - 28 Dec 41 to 26 Sep 42
- (b) Camp Shamshuipo - 26 Sep 42 to 23 Jan 43
- (c) Ormine Camp - 23 Jan 43 to 15 Jul 45
- (d) Ormine Camp Hospital 15 Jul 45 to 4 Sep 45

2. I have examined Appendix "A" attached, and recognize the following guards who worked at Camp Ormine:

(a) Airforce Kid - He is seated second from the left of the second row. In the spring of 1943, as far as I can remember, the Airforce Kid ordered me to work a little faster cutting bushes in a garden near the camp and I told him to go to hell, where upon he hit me over the head with a garden hoe. It almost knocked me out. I kept on working after he hit me with the hoe. Sgt. George Kautz?, of the Winnipeg Grenadiers saw this incident. Other P.O.W.'s saw this incident but I do not recall their names. In the fall of 1943 I managed to obtain a package of cigarettes from a Japanese civilian who was in charge of a work party and the Airforce Kid discovered that I had them, whereupon he paraded me before the Camp Commandant, and I was asked where I got the cigarettes, and I answered that I picked them up along the road. I was then sent to Detention Barracks where I remained for 3 days on half rations, which consisted of half a bowl of rice per meal and no soup. In July of 1945, at Ormine, the Airforce Kid struck a P.O.W. in the face because the P.O.W. had failed to salute him. He struck him in the face by slapping him. I cannot remember the name of the P.O.W. who was hit by the Airforce Kid on this occasion.

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2. (b) Shep's Friend - he is third from the left of the second row. In the fall of 1944 Sgt, Shepherd of the Royal Rifles of Canada reported an all correct parade when one of the P.O.W of his parade, Pte. Cox, was sick in the M.I.R. The Japanese guard, nicknamed "Shep's Friend", discovered that Sgt. Shepherd had one man missing from his parade, whereupon he took a bayonet and tried to kill Sgt. Shepherd, but Sgt. Shepherd dodged the bayonet and it went through his left arm. I did not see this incident but was informed about it the same day it happened. Rfn. John MacPherson of the Royal Rifles of Canada informed me of this incident. This happened at Ormine. After Sgt. Shepherd had been bayoneted in the arm he struck the Japanese Guard with his fist in the eye and gave him a black eye. Sgt. Shepherd was paraded before the Camp Commandant and given 21 days in the Guard Room and from what I heard he was kept on half rations and had to work on his shift in the coal mine with the other members of the crew. There was usually about 40 men in Sgt. Shepherd's crew. I do not remember the names of the men in that crew.

(c) Baby Face - who is No. 4 from the left of the second row in Appendix "A". He was a reasonably good Jap. I never saw him strike anyone or commit any irregular acts.

(d) Camp Sgt. - He is seated sixth from the left of the second row in Appendix "A". He was a good Jap.

(e) Whiskers - He is 2nd from the right of the 2nd row. He was in charge of making the P.O.W. clean the huts and toilets and he made me clean the toilets, which were most filthy, while I had a temperature of 102. On 3 occasions he slapped me in the face but he did not hurt me physically although it hurt my feelings.

John MacPherson

740841 E. J. Grossman

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(f) Brown Bomber - He is 2nd from the right of the 3rd row of Appendix "A". I do not remember the names of the P.O.W. whom the Brown Bomber may have slapped or hit in the face. I have been informed by P.O.W., whose names I do not know or cannot remember, that it was his practice to go about the huts slapping and punching various P.O.W. and in particular walking into the Mess Hall on one occasion, lining up 10 P.O.W. and taking a crack at each one by hitting them in the face to see how many P.O.W. he could knock out with one blow, but I cannot remember any further information regarding the Brown Bomber.

3. One Canadian soldier who was either in the Winnipeg Rifles or the Royal Rifles of Canada, and whose name was Pte. or Rfn. George MURRAY became very sick at Ormine Camp with dysentery in the latter part of March, 1943, and when he would report to the M.I.R., which he did almost every morning, the Japanese Sergeant, whose name was "Yougdol" who was 6 feet tall, weight 180 to 185 lbs, dark hair and wore glasses, would turn him away telling him there was nothing wrong with him and that he was fit to work. Sgt. Roberts of the British Army was also working in the M.I.R. at this time. I do not know if Sgt. Roberts had anything to do with turning Murray away. The Japanese Sergeant was in charge of the M.I.R. and he would be responsible for turning Murray away. Murray kept going to the M.I.R. for a period of about 2 months daily and was invariably turned away each time he went by the Japanese Sergeant "Yougdol". Rfn. or Pte. Murray had been working for over a period of 2 months whilst in a very sick condition and in the spring of March, 1943 whilst he was shovelling ground from a bank which was about 15 minutes walk from the camp, a Japanese Guard who was known as "Ears" -- about 5'9" tall, weight 150 to 155 lbs, dark complexion -- instructed Murray to remain in the hut at about noon one day in March or April 1943.

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During that afternoon one of the P.O.W. from the Royal Rifles of Canada, whose name I do not know, returned to the hut in which Murray was staying in order to pick up some things he wanted and he came running back to the Working Party in which I was working and reported to C.S.M. Lawrence of the British Army that Murray was dead. On that particular day there were about 14 or 15 P.O.W. on the Working Party. I forget the names of the P.O.W. in the Working Party, but C.S.M. Lawrence who was in charge of the party reported that Murray was dead in the hut to the Japanese Guard "Ears"; whereupon the Medical Authorities in the Camp were notified and the Japanese M.O., whose name I do not know, and Sgt. Churchman of the British Army, both who worked in the M.I.R. came to the hut in which Murray was lying and pronounced him dead. Murray was burried the next day at Camp Ormine. Rfn. Calder of the Royal Rifles of Canada whose home, I believe, is around Toronto, would be a possible witness to the above incident. Rfn. Edward Bolton of the Royal Rifles of Canada also witnessed the above incident.

4. L/Cpl. John MacPherson of the Royal Rifles of Canada and myself were working in a mine at Ormine some time in 1944 when we heard a crash which sounded like the top of a mine falling in. We returned to the scene of the crash and MacPherson told me that 2 of his friends were under the rocks which had fallen and were probably dead. I went forward to get some help to remove the rocks and after we removed the same we found the 2 P.O.W. One was dead; the other lived long enough for us to get him out of the mine. I do not know the names of these two P.O.W. but Rfn. John MacPherson does. There were not props under this particular piece of the mine which fell through and I believe the incident could have been avoided if the necessary props had been installed. A Japanese civilian whose nickmane was "Hitler" was in charge of the mine at this time. He was about 5'10" tall and weighted about 135 lbs.

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J. MacPherson, Capt

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This deposition, consisting of 5 pages,
Sworn before me at Saint John, in the
Province of New Brunswick, this 21st
day of January, 1946.

Fyssh Cure Gilbert Crossman
signature

Rank or Rating

J. G. Van Horne

J.G. VAN HORNE Captain,
Commissioner for taking affidavits to
be read in the Supreme Court of
New Brunswick.

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