RESTRICTED

Classification changed from “Confidential” to “Restricted” by order of the Secretary of WAR by Claude A. Muggy CWO, USA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA :

 : SS

County of Los Angeles :

JOSEPH JESSE BUSH, Sergeant, ASN 6565492, permanent home address 827 “O” Street, Fresno, California, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

I entered the service on 6 March 1937 and was taken prisoner by the Japanese Imperial Army on 9 April 1942 at Bataan, while assigned to Hq and Hq Sqdrn 24th Pursuit Group. I remained a prisoner until 4 September 1945 on which date I was released after the surrender of the Japanese Army.

On or about 1 May 1945 I was a member of a detail of about 20 allied prisoners, including Dutch and American, who were struck from 5 to 7 times apiece across the back and thighs with a 3/4'” steel reinforcing rod by a Japanese civilian guard named Yagi Yoshika. We were out on a salvage detail and this Yoshika had given his coat to one of the Dutch soldiers to hold for him, the soldier left the coat about 100 yards away from Yoshika and when Yoshika found it unguarded he beat all of us. This was the cause of the incident. As a result of the beating, one of the soldiers could hardly walk for about a month. I cannot remember at the present time any of the names of the men involved in this beating. There were various other times that this civilian guard, Yoshika, took it upon himself to beat the allied prisoners upon the slightest provocation. The name and address of Yagi Yoshika in his own handwriting is herewith attached as an exhibit. It is also to be noted that Yoshika placed another name on the same exhibit, that of Teruya Nobaru. I do not personally know whether Nobaru had been involved in any of these beatings.

One Cpl. Campbell was also a member of this detail, but I do not know his present address, permanent address of to what outfit he was attached.

The foregoing testimony is all that I am now able to remember.

Joseph J. Bush

JOSEPH JESSE BUSH

Birmingham General Hospital

Van Nuys, California

Sgt. ASN 6565492

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of Nov 1945.

Birmingham General Hospital

Van Nuys, California

Robert M. Musick

ROBERT M. MUSICK

CAPT. M.A.C.

ASST ADJUTANT

Interviewed by Frank N. McGee, Agent, SIC

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On or about 3 March 1945, while I was a prisoner of the Japanese at Fukuoka, Japan, Camp # 4, Moji, Kyushu, I witnessed the beating of one Sgt. Bray who was attached to the 194th Tank Corps. Bray had gone to the air raid tunnel when he was not supposed to and one of the Japanese guards whom I knew by the name of Enui beat him with a wooden saber for about 5 or 10 minutes. When Bray fell to the ground as a result of the beating, this civilian guard, Enui, kicked him and otherwise mistreated him. As a result of the beating Bray was out of his head for a couple of days. At the time Bray was ill and had a high fever. I would describe Enui as being about 5’11” tall, 165 pounds in weight, about 25 years of age and neat appearing. It was rumored that he had been in the Japanese Air Corps prior to the time he was a civilian guard at the camp.

Dr. Barkley, an English physician, who was our medical officer, is aware of this incident and many others that took place. I do not know the address of Dr. Barkley at the present time, but I believe he resided in 9 Dixon Avenue, Glasgow S2, Scotland.

The foregoing testimony is all that I am now able to remember.

Joseph J. Bush

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Sgt. ASN 6565492

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