

JPB

Q. What is your name, rate, serial number, permanent home address, and years of education.

A. My name is Roger Dick BAMFORD, Private, U.S.M.C., serial number unknown. My permanent home address is 316 E. 28th, Kearney, Nebraska. I have a high school education.

Q. Between December 1941 and May 1944 where were you imprisoned?

A. I was imprisoned in the P. KIANG WAN Kaing Wang Prison Camp, Shanghai, China.

Q. Will you relate your experiences concerning treatment in this camp, paying particularly attention to beatings.

A. Beatings were more or less continuous at this camp and were inflicted upon prisoners for little or no reason. The use of gun butts and kicking were the usual manner of carrying out this treatment. Men were knocked down and kicked or struck in the privates for as long as five minutes. Following this treatment men were not able to move for as long as an hour. I not only witnessed this treatment of others but was subjected to this treatment. A corporal in the Marine Corps by the name of Frank GUTHRIE was struck on his skull with an axe by a Japanese interpreter by the name of ICHIBARA. GUTHRIE was unconscious for approximately an hour and one-half. Many of these beatings were inflicted by a warrant officer by the name of WATANABE.

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Q. Were you ever subjected to any other unusual treatment?

A. Yes. I was given the "water cure" once. I was placed on the ground and after a towel had been placed over my nose and mouth cold water was poured on my face for approximately ten minutes. I became unconscious after that length of time. I have no direct knowledge of other cases, but know that it was common practice in the camp.

Q. Following this treatment were the prisoners relieved of any of their duties?

A. No. They were made to work as usual.

Q. Did you ever see a bayonet used in beatings?

A. Yes. In P. Kaing Wang in mid-winter of 1944, I saw a Japanese guard private bayonet five sick prisoners of war while they were lying in their bunks. Cuts approximately 2" in length were made in their backs, buttocks, thighs, etc. This occurred during an air raid by P-51s. I can not recall the name of the guard. Two of the prisoners were named HAMMILL and STEGMIRE.

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RECORDED AND INDEXED  
dick

Forwarded to Theater Judge Advocate

STATE OF CALIFORNIA:

: SS.

County of Alameda :

I, Roger Dick BAMFORD, of lawful age, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation, consisting of two pages, including this and the title page, and that all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Roger D. Bamford.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this Second day of October, 1945, at Oakland, California.

James W. Reynolds

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