

R7/FE/7/7
E-38
BR 394

MILITARY COURT FOR THE TRIAL OF WAR CRIMINALS

ACCUSED

(1) Sgt. TAKASHIMA Shotaro.
(2) Cpl. ASAKO Koichi.
of the Imperial Japanese Army,
att. 61 Coy, RASC (GT).

PLACE AND
DATE OF TRIAL

Singapore. 25,27,28,29,30th Jan, '47.

COURT CONVENED BY

G.O.C. Singapore District.

PRESIDENT

Lt-Col. H.E.R. SMITH.

R.A.

MEMBERS

Major. E.N. HEBDEN.

R.A.

Capt. E.H. DUNS福德.

A.E.R.O.

CHARGE

COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that they at SANKAKUYAMA, New Britain, between 1 April 1945 and 15 August 1945, were, in violation of the laws and usages of war, concerned in the illtreatment of Indian Prisoners of War which illtreatment included the forcing of sick men to work and the neglect of proper medical attention resulting particularly in the deaths of MOHD KHAN and ABDUL GHANI.

PLEA

Each Accused - Not Guilty.

FINDING

Accused 1 - Not Guilty.

Accused 2 - Guilty excluding the words "which illtreatment included the forcing of sick men to work and the neglect of proper medical attention" and excluding the words "MOHD KHAN and" and excluding the pluralities of the word "deaths".

SENTENCE

30 Jan, '47. Accused 2 - Imprisonment for life.

NOT CONFIRMED

21 Apr, '47. Offg, Commander Singapore District.

PROMULGATED

28 Apr, '47.

REMARKS

DISPOSAL OF
PROCEEDINGS

To AG3 GHQ SEALF 5th May, 1947.

JAG of the Forces

DJAG SEALF
Case No. 65182 JAG.

ABSTRACT OF EVIDENCE

In the Case of:

Sgt. TAKASHIMA Shotaro
Cpl. ASAKO Koichi

In April 1945 a party of Indian Prisoners of War were taken to SANKAKUYAMA. The Accused were at the Camp. On the day the Ps.O.W. arrived TAKASHIMA was given a quantity of food and medical supplies for the Ps.O.W. As a result of a conversation with Capt. TAURA, TAKASHIMA had most of the food and all the medical supplies removed to TAURA's HQ. The number of men suffering from ulcers were very high and some died from ulcers. Almost all the men were suffering from ulcers or malaria. Only 15 cases of malaria were excused from doing fatigues, but even they were made to go to the forest to collect coconuts. They were able to walk with the help of a stick with great difficulty. Those suffering from malaria were made to work also. Out of 150 Prisoners 26 died.

One NAITO beat MOHD KHAN on two occasions until he became unconscious. TAKASHIMA saw him unconscious. No treatment was given to him. MOHD KHAN's back was bruised badly and had blue marks in several places. After the second beating MOHD KHAN never walked. He used to lie flat on his back on the ground and could not turn on either side as the slightest movement caused him pain. His stomach had become bloated. He remained in this condition for 10 or 12 days and then died. TAKASHIMA insisted on patients with ulcers four inches wide and two inches deep going on working parties.

About May or June 1945, one ABDUL GHANI was suffering from very bad ulcers. The Officer in charge of the Camp asked ASAKO to dress GHANI's wound. ASAKO said: "Bring the man here, I will not go there". Eventually ASAKO did go to the man.

Instead of dressing the man, he beat him mercilessly and stopped the dressing on the ulcers. The ulcers developed maggots, and after 3 days ABDUL GHANI died. ASAKO was medical orderly and insisted that the sick come to him and not him to them even if they had to crawl.

Subedar NAURANG KHAN will attend to give evidence and the statement of RAKHMAT ULLAH will be produced. A statement of the Accused will be produced together with a statement by W.O. FURUYA.

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