

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AAF A117(a)  
(Introduced Jan 46)  
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DPW(AG13(2a))/ WMcL /AR.

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT  
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

Aug. 155  
R109

AWC No..... 2637

Accused: Capt SEKI Takashi

Aust W.C. List Ser No.....

Court, Place, RABAU  
Date and 7 Jun 46  
Formation: 8 MD

| Charge(s)  | Plea          | Finding |
|--|---------------|---------|
| ILL-TREATMENT OF A PRISONER OF WAR<br>at or near Rabaul on or about 22 Aug 45<br>namely No.6808 Jemadar RAHMAT ALI<br>No.1 AW Coy IE, a Prisoner of War. | Not<br>Guilty | Guilty  |

Precis of Evidence: The said Jemadar RAHMAT ALI was an officer of the Indian Army and a prisoner of war in Japanese hands. On 21 Aug 45 after the Japanese surrender Indian personnel were issued with Japanese hats with red markings to indicate officers. The said RAHMAT ALI destroyed the hat issued to him and the fact was reported to the accused. Prior to this occasion the said RAHMAT ALI had been at variance with the accused the appointment of an Indian as leader of the Indian PW. The officer so appointed by the Japanese was junior to RAHMAT ALI. After the destruction of the hat all Indians were paraded by the accused. The accused slapped the said RAHMAT ALI with his hand until he was tired and then he flogged him with a leather belt. The said RAHMAT ALI fell to the ground in an unconscious state and on three occasions he was revived with water and the accused continued to flog and kick him. The said RAHMAT ALI was then tied to a tree. The accused obtained a sword and raised it as though he were about to decapitate the said RAHMAT ALI but was restrained by another Japanese. The accused made another attempt (over)

Sentence  
and Date: To be imprisoned for 10 years - 7 Jun 46

Confirmation  
and by Whom: Finding and sentence confirmed by Lt-Gen V.A.H. STURDEE

Promulgation: Confirmation of finding and sentence promulgated to  
accused on 9 Oct 46.

Petition: Lodged 20 Jun 46 against finding and sentence.

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition: Confirm finding and sentence and dismiss petition.

Action on Petition: Dismissed.

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and Numbered.....

PURL: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/2e4ce2/>



Precis of evidence (contd):

and was again stopped. The accused then struck the same RAHMAT ALI with the sword scabbard on the head until RAHMAT ALI became unconscious again. The said RAHMAT ALI was then placed in a shell hole from 23 Aug 45 until 12 Sep 45 and was not permitted to vacate the hole for any purposes at all. On one occasion during the incarceration the said RAHMAT ALI together with other Indian officers were paraded before the accused. The accused asked those present to forgive him for his wrongs. The said RAHMAT ALI refused to do so and he was taken back to the shell-hole until he was released as a recovered PW.

2. The accused denied the ill-treatment as alleged. He stated that when he heard of the destruction of the hat by RAHMAT ALI "I pushed his body with my hand and gave him 3 or 4 slaps with another hand." He denied that RAHMAT ALI had been imprisoned at all.