

MILITARY COURTS FOR THE TRIAL OF WAR CRIMINALS

D.J.A.G.'s Case No. 65035/JAG

Name of Accused (including Rank, if any)	Arm or Former Arm of the Service	Age	Date and Place of Trial
Lieut TAKASAKI SHINJI Korean Guard KANESHIRO TAKESHI	Both in service of Imperial Japanese Army		3-6 May 1946 SINGAPORE
			Convened by Commander Singapore District

CHARGES

- 1st Charge (Joint) COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that they at TAMARKAN Prisoner of War Camp SIAM in the month of January 1943 when members of the Staff of the said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War were concerned in the killing of Ptes CLEAVER, RICHARDSON, DORVAL and CROKER all of the East Surrey Regiment British Prisoners of War interned in the said Camp.
- 2nd Charge (Joint) COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that they at TAMARKAN Prisoner of War Camp SIAM in the month of February 1943 when members of the Staff of the said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War were concerned in the killing of Capt. POMEROY and Lieut. HOWARD two British Prisoners of War interned in the said Camp.
- 3rd Charge - against the accused TAKASAKI Shinji only. COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that he at KANBURI Prisoner of War Camp SIAM between the 30th December 1944 and 31 July 1945 while a member of the Staff of the said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of (continued overleaf)

President and Members of the Court (except Legal Member)	Judge Advocate/Legal Member
Lt-col. L.G. COLEMAN Major E.F. LODGE Capt. C.E. FOSS	Dept. of J.A.G. in India Solicitor of the Supreme Court R.T.R. Ox & Bucks Lt Inf N/A

Pleaded	Finding
TAKASAKI Not Guilty to all charges against him. KANESHIRO Not Guilty to the 1st, 2nd and 6th. Guilty to 5th and 7th.	TAKASAKI Guilty on all charges against him. KANESHIRO Guilty on 2nd, 5th and 7th charges Not Guilty on 1st and 6th charges

Sentence and Minute of Confirmation

TAKASAKI To suffer death by being hanged
KANESHIRO To suffer death by being hanged

Confirmed by Commander
Singapore District on
22 July 1946

When and where Promulgated :— 25 July 1946

Date of Receipt	To whom sent	Date sent	Purport

MILITARY COURTS FOR THE TRIAL OF WAR CRIMINALS

D.J.A.C. Case No. 6501/46

Date and Place of Trial	Charges continued	Name of Accused (including rank if any)	Aim or object of the service
4th Charge - against the accused TAKASAKI Shinji only.	War was concerned in the ill-treatment of Prisoners of War in custody in the said Camp. COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that he at NAKORN NAYOK Prisoner of War Camp SIAM between the 1st July and the 1st September 1945 while in command of the said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War was concerned in the ill-treatment of Prisoners of War in custody in the said Camp.		
5th Charge - against the accused KANESHIRO Takeshi only.	COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that he at KANBURI Prisoner of War Camp SIAM in the month of October 1943 when a member of the Staff of the said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War illtreated one Sgmn MURFITT a British Prisoner of War in custody therein resulting in the death of the said Sgmn MURFITT.		
6th Charge - against the accused KANESHIRO Takeshi only.	COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that he at KANBURI SIAM in or about the month of July 1943 when a member of the Staff of KANBURI Prisoner of War Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War illtreated one Pte ETCHES a British Prisoner of War then in transit to the said Camp resulting in the death of the said Pte ETCHES.		
7th Charge - against the accused KANESHIRO Takeshi only.	COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that he at KANBURI and TAMARKAN and NONG PIADUK SIAM between the 1st August 1942 and the 30th June 1945 when employed in the custody of Ps.W. engaged in the construction of the Burma-Siam Railway in violation of the laws and usages of War was concerned in the ill-treatment of the said Prisoners of War causing bodily suffering to many of them.		

Judge Advocate General Member	President and Members of the Court (except Legal Member)
NA	Dep. of J.A.C. in India Solicitor of the Supreme Court S.P.B. Or & Buckle in Ind

Findings	Plea
TAKASAKI Shinji on all charges against him KANESHIRO Takeshi on all charges against him was guilty on 1st and 6th charges	TAKASAKI Shinji on all charges against him KANESHIRO Takeshi on all charges against him was guilty on 1st and 6th charges

Sentence and Minute of Confirmation	
Confirmed by Commander Singapore District on 22 July 1946	To suffer death by being hanged To suffer death by being hanged

When and where formulated	22 July 1946	
Date of Receipt	To whom sent	Date sent

7

RG/J/3/12A
(10)

MILITARY COURT FOR THE TRIAL OF WAR CRIMINALS.

ACCUSED (1) Lieut TAKASAKI SHINJI
(2) Korean Guard KANESHIRO TAKESHI
Both in the service of the Imperial Japanese Army.
att HQ 18 Group I.P.C.

PLACE AND DATE OF TRIAL Singapore 3,4,6 May 46

COURT CONVENED BY Commander Singapore District.

PRESIDENT Lt Col L.G.COLEMAN, Dept of JAG in India
Solicitor of the Supreme Court

MEMBERS Major E.F.LODGE, R.T.R.
Capt C.E.FOSS, Ox and Bucks Lt Inf.

CHARGE See charge sheet attached.

PLEA 1st accused - charges 1,2,3 & 4 - Not Guilty
2nd accused - charges 1,2, and 6 - Not Guilty
charges 5 and 7 - Guilty

FINDING 1st accused - charges 1,2,3 & 4 - Guilty
2nd accused - charges 1 and 6 - Not Guilty
charges 2,5, and 7 - Guilty

SENTENCE 6 May 46 Each accused - To suffer death
by hanging.

CONFIRMED 22 Jul 46 By Comd Singapore District.

PROMULGATED 25 Jul 46

REMARKS

DISPOSAL OF PROCEEDINGS To AG3 HQ ALFSEA 9 Aug 46
JAG of the Forces

DJAG ALFSEA
Case No. 65035 JAG

CHARGE SHEET

1st CHARGE

Committing a war crime
in that they
at TAMARKAN Prisoner of War Camp SIAM in the month
of January 1943 when members of the Staff of the
said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War
were concerned in the killing of Ptes CLEAVER,
RICHARDSON, DORVAL and CROKER all of the East Surrey
Regiment British Prisoners of War interned in the
said camp.

2nd CHARGE

Committing a war crime
in that they
at TAMARKAN Prisoner of War Camp SIAM in the month
of February 1943 when members of the Staff of the
said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War
were concerned in the killing of Capt POWEROY and
Lieut HOWARD two British Prisoners of War interned
in the said Camp.

3rd CHARGE
against the
accused
TAKASAKI
Shinji only.

Committing a war crime
in that he
at KANBURI Prisoner of War Camp SIAM between the
30th December 1944 and 31 July 1945 while a member
of the Staff of the said Camp in violation of the
laws and usages of War was concerned in the ill-
treatment of Prisoners of War in custody in the said
Camp.

4th CHARGE
against the
accused
TAKASAKI
Shinji only.

Committing a war crime
in that he
at NAKORN NAYOK Prisoner of War Camp SIAM between
the 1st July and the 1st September 1945 while in
command of the said Camp in violation of the laws
and usages of War was concerned in the ill-treatment
of Prisoners of War in custody in the said Camp.

5th CHARGE
against the
accused
KANESHIRO
Takeshi only.

Committing a war crime
in that he
at KANBURI Prisoner of War Camp SIAM in the month
of October 1943 when a member of the Staff of the
said Camp in violation of the laws and usages of
War ill-treated one Sgmn MURFITT a British Prisoner
of War in custody therein resulting in the death of
the said Sgmn MURFITT.

6th CHARGE
against the
accused
KANESHIRO
Takeshi only.

Committing a war crime
in that he
at KANBURI SIAM in or about the month of July 1943
when a member of the Staff of KANBURI Prisoner of
War Camp in violation of the laws and usages of War
ill-treated one Pte ETCHES a British Prisoner of
War then in transit to the said Camp resulting in
the death of the said Pte ETCHES.

7th CHARGE
against the
accused
KANESHIRO
Takeshi only.

Committing a war crime
in that he
at KANBURI and TAMARKAN and NONG PLADUK SIAM
between the 1st August 1942 and the 30th June 1945
when employed in the custody of P.S.W engaged in the
construction of the Burma-Siam Railway in violation
of the laws and usages of War was concerned in the
ill-treatment of the said Prisoners of War causing
bodily suffering to many of them.

ABSTRACT OF EVIDENCE

In respect of the accused:

TAKASAKI, Shinji	Lieutenant
KANESHIRO, Takeshi	Korean Guard

in the service of the Imperial Japanese Army.

The known histories of the accused are, as far as can be ascertained, as follows :-

TAKASAKI, Shinji

1. January 1943 - April 1943 at TAMARKAN P.O.W. Camp SIAM
2. April 1943 - May 1943 at KANBURI P.O.W. Camp SIAM
3. May 1943 - September 1943 at NONG PLADUK P.O.W. Camp SIAM
4. September 1943 - December 1943 at KONQUITA P.O.W. Camp SIAM
5. December 1943 - March 1944 at BRENCASI P.O.W. Camp SIAM
6. March 1944 - December 1944 at NONG PLADUK P.O.W. Camp SIAM
7. December 1944 - July 1945 at KANBURI P.O.W. Camp SIAM
8. July 1945 - September 1945 at NAKON NYOK P.O.W. Camp SIAM

KANESHIRO, Takeshi

1. August 1942 - April 1943 at TAMARKAN P.O.W. Camp SIAM
2. April 1943 - August 1943 at NONG PLADUK P.O.W. Camp SIAM
3. August 1943 - January 1944 at KANBURI P.O.W. Camp SIAM
4. January 1944 - January 1945 at NONG PLADUK P.O.W. Camp SIAM
5. January 1945 - June 1945 at KANBURI P.O.W. Camp SIAM
6. June 1945 - capitulation at NAKON NYOK P.O.W. Camp SIAM

Evidence will show that the accused TAKASAKI, Shinji was nicknamed "the Frog" and KANESHIRO, Takeshi "the Undertaker".

Affidavits of Major KENNEDY, Major ROBERTS and Lt.Col. TOOSEY together with signed statements by Pte LAMBERT and Pte GARRETT will be produced to give evidence on the first two charges, the facts of which are set out below. A statement by each of the accused will also be proffered in evidence.

At TAMARKAN P.O.W. Camp in January 1943, two British Officer Ps.O.W., namely Capt. E.C. POMEROY 2/12 F.F.Rifles and Lieut. HOWARD 80th Anti-Tank Regt, escaped. At about the same time four Other Rank British Ps.O.W. escaped. They were Ptes CLEAVER, RICHARDSON, DORVAL and CROKER all of the East Surrey Regt. At the time of these escapes and later when these men were brought back to the camp, the accused TAKASAKI was Camp Commandant of TAMARKAN and KANESHIRO one of the Camp guards. Some two or three days after their escape the four Other Rank Ps.O.W. were brought back to the camp and put into cells. After being confined here for a few days, they were taken in a truck to a clearing in the jungle, already prepared for this purpose, they were blindfolded, bound and made to sit on the side of a pit which was to be their grave, and on the orders of TAKASAKI, the guard KANESHIRO shot or bayoneted them in the back. About a month later the two Officer Ps.O.W. were recaptured and put into cells on their return to the camp. In almost identical circumstances with the first execution, they were prepared for their own execution, but in this case TAKASAKI ordered KANESHIRO to bayonet the Prisoners in the back, which the latter did.

There is little evidence of the career of Lieut TAKASAKI as a Staff member of P.O.W. Camps except in NONG PLADUK Camp as Commandant between May and September 1943, when he was guilty of general illtreatment of Ps.O.W., both by direct and indirect means. Affidavits by Major GILL and Lt-Col. TOOSEY show these facts.

Lieutenant TAKASAKI's career as a member of the staff of Prisoner of War Camps in SIAM, ended with him holding a staff job at KANBURI Camp and later in command of NAKON NYOK Camp, between 30th December 1944 and 31st July 1945. He appears to have devoted most of his time to brutalities to Officer Prisoners of War and humiliating them as much as possible, including the cases of Lieutenant WRIGHT, Captain MARTIN and others. Evidence to show these facts will be produced in the form of affidavits of Lieutenant MAWER and Captain SANDERSON, also a signed statement by Lieutenant WRIGHT.

In the case of KANESHIRO, Takeshi, his crimes range in time from August 1942 until the end of the War.

During October 1943 at KANBURI Camp, the accused took part in the beating of eight convalescent Prisoners of War. These men, at the time, were sitting down in a hut rolling cigarettes for the canteen. The name of one of these men was Signalman MURFITT, a British Prisoner of War. Because he failed to stand up and salute he was severely thrashed by the accused, as a result of which Signalman MURFITT died that same night. Affidavits of R.S.M. WORSFOLD, Captain C.H. JAMES and L/Cpl REDFERN and a signed statement of the accused will be produced to show the facts as set out above.

Previously at KANBURI Camp about August 1943, the accused was one of a party of guards who was responsible for certain sick Prisoners of War travelling to the Kanburi Base Hospital, some as stretcher cases and all seriously ill. An affidavit by Sgt. HARRISON and signed statements by Pte NETHERSOLE and Sgt. VISSER (Dutch Army) will be produced to show that the accused KANESHIRO took part in the ill-treatment of these Prisoners of War, and in particular that he struck one, Pte ETCHES of the East Surrey Regiment, with a pick handle, in consequence of which Pte ETCHES died some four hours after admission to KANBURI hospital.

While at TAMARKAN Camp the accused KANESHIRO was responsible for the general ill-treatment of Prisoners of War therein; similarly during his two tours of duty at KANBURI and again during his two tours at NONG PLADUK. This ill-treatment took the form of beating and slapping of Prisoners of War with little or no excuse and behaving generally against all the known standards of humanity. Affidavits concerning such matters in these camps, have been set out by Lt. Col. TOOSEY and Major GILL. Also signed statements by Pte EMSLIE, Dvr. PARKER, Pte GARRETT, Dvr. PINNOCK, Pte MANNING and Sgt. HARRISON give evidence to this effect.

Copies or copy extracts of documents to be tendered in evidence, are attached. The originals of these copies or copy extracts will be produced in Court and may previously be inspected by the Defence counsel, at the Office of the War Crimes Legal Section A.L.F.S.E.A., on making an appointment.