

MILITARY COURTS FOR THE TRIAL OF WAR CRIMINALS

D.J.A.G's Case No. 65134/JAG

Name of Accused (including Rank, if any)	Arm or Former Arm of the Service	Age	Date and Place of Trial
Cpl. KODERA Keizo	Imperial Japanese Army		30 October & 1 November 1946 SINGAPORE
			Convened by
			Commander Singapore District

CHARGES

CHARGE COMMITTING A WAR CRIME in that he at APERON in Burma and at NIKE and SONGKRAI in Siam, between the 1st day of September 1944 and the 9th day of August 1945, when engaged in the custody and supervision of Prisoners-of-war employed in the maintenance of the Burma-Siam Railway, in violation of the laws and usages of war did illtreat British and Dutch Prisoners of war employed as aforesaid, causing their physical suffering.

President and Members of the Court (except Legal Member)		Judge Advocate/Legal Member
Lt-col. C.F. BALL	Dept. of J.A.G. in India	N/A
Major E.N. HEBDEN	Barrister-at-Law	
Capt. E.H. DUNSFORD	R. A. ABRO	

Pleaded	Finding
Not Guilty	Not Guilty

Sentence and Minute of Confirmation

When and where Promulgated :—

Date of Receipt	To whom sent	Date sent	Purport

MILITARY COURT FOR THE TRIAL OF WAR CRIMINALS.

(2)

ACCUSED

Cpl KODERA Keizo,
of the Imperial Japanese Army,
attached Base Workshops, R.E.M.E.

DATE AND PLACE
OF TRIAL.

30th October and 1 November 46. Singapore.

COURT CONVENED BY

Offg G.O.C. Singapore District.

PRESIDENT

Lt-Col. C.F. BALL, Dept of the JAG in India.
Barrister-at-law.

MEMBERS

Major. E.N. HEBDEN, R.A.
Capt. E.H. DUNSFORD, A.B.R.O.

CHARGE

Committing a War Crime, in that he, at APERON
in Burma and at NIKE and SONGKRAI in Siam,
between the 1st day of September 1944 and the
9th day of August 1945, when engaged in the
custody and supervision of Prisoners-of-war
employed in the maintenance of the Burma-Siam
Railway, in violation of the laws and usages
of war did illtreat British and Dutch Prisoners
of War employed as aforesaid, causing their
physical suffering.

PLEA

Not Guilty

FINDING

Not Guilty

SENTENCE

CONFIRMED

PROMULGATED

REMARKS

DISPOSAL OF
PROCEEDINGS.

To AG 3 HQ ALFSEA 15 Nov 46

JAG of the Forces _____

DJAG ALFSEA
Case No. 65134 JAG.

ABSTRACT OF EVIDENCE

In the case of

KODERA Keizo - Corporal

The evidence shows that the Accused was a Guard at APERON (also known as APALON) Camp Burma from September 1944 until July 1945 when he went to SONG-KRAI Camp in Siam.

He acquired the nickname of "Four Eyes" and is frequently so referred to in the documentary evidence.

He is stated to have consistently illtreated Prisoners-of-war especially those who were sick. J.J. GRANT in his Affidavit states that the Accused at APALON forced seriously ill prisoners to parade and sent some of them to work. This was a frequent occurrence. The same deponent says that the Accused frequently beat prisoners on parade, and used to walk around the sick quarters late in the evening. He always carried a stick, and if he found any prisoner off his bed, he would beat him and force him to go to work in the morning.

Corroborative evidence is contained in the Affidavit of D. TAYLOR.

In April 1945, a P.O.W. named Signalman WEBB was sent from APERON to NIKHE Japanese Hospital for an abdominal operation. The Accused accompanied him as guard. The Accused is stated to have illtreated Signalman WEBB and to have beaten him severely about three days after the operation. After a week in hospital WEBB was sent back to APERON, and was beaten by the Accused because he was unable to climb into the railway truck unaided.

Evidence of these facts is contained in the Affidavits of Sgt. E.J. MAYNE and Pte. Chester CLACK.

Sgt. H. PAYNE in his Affidavit states that sometime in December 1944 at APERON, the Accused was concerned in the beating, kicking and other ill-treatment of five Dutch P.O.W.

The Accused was transferred to SONG-KRAI in July 1945.

Gnr. A.E. JOHNSON in his Affidavit states that on 8 August 1945, he was one of a party of seventeen prisoners made to carry trees for about half a mile down the railway line. The men were stripped to the waist and without shoes. The heavy trees chafed their shoulders and backs so badly that at the conclusion of the journey they were bleeding, and their feet were also bleeding from cuts incurred through walking on sharp stones. The men were exhausted, but on instructions received from an unidentified Japanese Sergeant, the Accused lined the prisoners up and beat them with his fists, hitting them in the face, knocking them down and kicking them as they lay there.

The evidence tendered by the Prosecution will consist of:

Affidavit of	J.J. GRANT
"	" D. TAYLOR
"	" C. CLACK
"	" E.J. MAYNE
"	" H. PAYNE
"	" A.E. JOHNSON
Statement by the Accused.	

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Now

FAST AIR MAIL

BM/JAG/65000
HQ Allied Land Forces,
South East Asia Command.
15 November 46.

JAG of the Forces,
6, Cockspur Street,
Spring Gardens,
LONDON S.W.1.

SER NO. 162

PTI 40.

Pt 1 44.

JAG RE 37.

War Crimes Courts

I forward herewith details of the trial by
Military Court of Cpl. KODERO KEIZO. of the Imperial
Japanese Army, att Base Wksps R.E.M.E.

FCAK/RH



Allen
Offg DJAG, HQ Allied Land Forces,
SEA.

unwcc copy sent

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