

E. 1513

Evidentiary Document # 5395.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

No. 1.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and ors.

- against -

ARAKI, Sadao and ors.

I, Penrod Vance DEAN, residing at 85 Minora Road, Dalkeith, Western Australia, in the Australian Military Forces make oath and say as follows:-

1. I was a Lieutenant in the 2/4 Machine Gun Battalion, A.I.F. and was taken prisoner on 15 February 1942 at Singapore.
2. I was taken to Selarang Prisoner of War Camp, from which I escaped on 17 March, with an Australian Corporal. We crossed the Straits of Johore in a small prau and as we approached a small fishing village, our immediate destination, were captured by Tamils and Malays, who handed us over to the Kempei Tai, on 6th April 1942. I spent 4 days with the Kempei Tai, who tortured me by burning cigarettes on my chest and hands and by beating me on the head with bamboos, to force a confession that I was a spy.
3. I was transferred to Curran camp, which was the Sikh Guard camp for Changi and held there until 17th April when I was sent back to the Kempei Tai. I was held there until 24th April, during which time I was asked to sign a statement, which I refused. After four days of beating, burning with cigarettes and electrical shocks, which on one occasion knocked me unconscious, I was handed a statement in Japanese with no English translation, which I was ordered to sign under threats of further torture. I asked for a translation of the document, which was refused and eventually I signed the Japanese document. I was then sent to Outram Road gaol on 24th April.
4. On 18th May 1942 I was brought for trial before a Japanese Court, Martial in Singapore. All the proceedings were in Japanese and there was no translation. I eventually learned that I had received two years solitary confinement. I was then removed to Outram Road gaol in which gaol I remained until 18th May 1944.
5. The cells in Outram Road were 6 ft. by 10 ft., normally one man per cell. Later two or three men were put into each cell. In the cell were three boards to serve as a bed, together with a hard wooden pillow. There was a latrine bucket, which was normally cleared twice a week. There was one blanket. During the two years I was in the gaol, approximately 2,400 military and non-Japanese personnel passed through the gaol. Of those 110 were military, 150 British and Eurasian. The remainder were Chinese, Malays, and Tamils. Of those, approximately 1,000 people died in all. During the same period 3,000 Japanese passed through the gaol, of whom only one died. The most the gaol held at any one period of time, of non-Japanese personnel, was 230.
6. The conditions in Outram Road were appalling. The ration consisted of three meals per day, in all 6 oz. of rice and 1½ pints of watery soup. There was no Japanese doctor in the prison camp and the one English doctor, a prisoner for a short time in the camp, was given no facilities with which to deal with

the sick. He was not even allowed to visit them. The gaol was 250 yards away from Alexandra Hospital, the main hospital of Singapore, but no prisoner was ever sent there, except for one Chinese who tried to commit suicide before trial. He was taken to the Hospital where his head was sewn up and brought back to the gaol for trial.

There were no showers, no towels, no toilet articles of any nature. In order to wash ourselves we were sometimes given a bucket of water to throw over ourselves. For the first six weeks I never left my cell and never had a wash.

When I first arrived in the gaol it was like bedlump. People were screaming all day from pain from their wounds and their beatings. The gaol Commandant used to come and watch us, make no comment and leave. The guards both Korean and Japanese, had complete control over the prisoners. I saw many prisoners beaten and I saw many people die. Examples are as follow:-

On the 10th of May, 1943, 4 Chinese arrived in the prison. They were handcuffed and chained down in their cell. They were in good physical condition. They were dead in six weeks of mal-nutrition and beatings. I saw them often beaten by sticks and sword scabbards.

Davies, an English man, very bigly built, arrived at approximately the same time as I did in April, 1942. He contracted Beri Beri and by August his testicles were 2 feet in diameter. His only method of walking was to carry them in front of him. The Japanese used to bring their friends in to watch him and never did anything to help him, nor permit others to help him. Davies died in October in great agony. He had been beaten many times and he died covered in his own excreta and urine. For five days before his death he had been unable to leave his cell and we were not allowed to help.

C. W. Barter died on the 13th February, 1943, as a result of beating. Shortly before he died, he was very weak, suffering from Beri Beri and Dysentery and on the 12th February, the guard came into his cell and forced him to his feet to carry his latrine bucket out to empty it. At this time Barter was merely skin and bone. He was unable to lift the bucket and tried to drag it along the ground. He was unable to do this however and fell down. The guard beat him and kicked him for nearly five minutes. The next morning he was dead.

Allen, an Australian, died on the 10th July, 1943. After his death, without the knowledge of the Japanese authorities, his body was weighed by our own medical people in Changi. The weight was 56 lbs, approximately what the bones, of themselves, would weigh. For the fortnight before his death, he was not able

to leave his cell, or even to move about. Nevertheless, the guards put rice in a corner of the cell, which Allen was not able to reach. I asked many times to be allowed to feed him but the various guards refused. I was ordered to dress him after his death and when I saw him he was literally bone covered in scales as a result of dry Beri Beri. He was covered in filth.

Hatfield, an Australian Sergeant, was caught in Singapore in May, 1943. He spent three months with the Kempei Tai and was then brought into the gaol in August. He was tried in November, 1943, and sentenced to be executed as a spy. I had some small knowledge of Japanese and I was taken to Hatfield on the 4th December, 1943, who asked me to arrange for him to make a will and for a Priest. Both these requests were refused by the gaol Commandant. Hatfield was taken away from the gaol on the 6th of December, and the Guard who executed him told me later that he had had the pleasure of executing Hatfield in a field at Bukit Timah.

Mrs. Nixon, the only Eurasian woman I saw at Outram Road came in January, 1944. She had been an internee at Changi. She was brought in by the Kempei Tai and confined in the same circumstances as ourselves, without any privacy. She was still there when I left in May, 1944, in solitary confinement.

Father Massino and another Eurasian Priest were brought into the gaol in 1943 and had both been tortured previously by the Kempei Tai. They died of disease in the gaol. Massino was regularly beaten by the guards when they saw him on his knees praying.

Hugh Fraser, the Colonial Secretary, Malaya, arrived with a party at the end of 1943. He had been with the Kempei Tai some four months prior to his arrival. He was beaten by the guards regularly and died after I left.

There was an Englishman, who in May, 1943, developed a form of scabies as the result of which, the whole of the area at the back of his body from the waist to knees, became an open sore, which dripped puss. He was quite unable to sit down or lie down for three months, and was given no treatment, no bandages or rags to wipe the matter coming from the wound. Fortunately eventually, it dried by itself.

Two Chinese women were brought into the gaol on the 26th July, 1943, and were held in the same circumstances and conditions as the men. One woman was in an advanced stage of pregnancy.. She was moved only a few days prior to the birth of her child.

A Chinese boy, aged 12, came into the gaol with his mother. She was put into one cell and he in another. He died of Beri Beri in about nine weeks. I carried his body when he was dead. It was all puffed out and his head was so swollen that the features were

not obviously recognisable as human.

A number of people went mad under these conditions. The Japanese method of treatment was to put three or four more people into the cell to look after the lunatic. In most cases the mad man died because he refused to eat. On several occasions he injured his companions.

Major Smith who arrived at the end of November, 1943, had had his jaw broken by the Kempei Tai during interrogation. It was exceedingly difficult for him to eat. He was refused treatment in the prison, the Japanese answer being if he had told the truth he would not have had his jaw broken.

At the end of 1943, the Prison authorities sent some of the worst sick away from Outram Road to Changi Hospital. In almost every case the men sent were about to die, and the Doctors in the Hospital told me that these sick men were impossible to save and it appeared that the Japanese were sending them so that the official death rate in Outram Road would appear to be less than it was in fact.

I had a big cyst on my right hip in September, 1943, from which I suffered for nearly a month. Moreover, my side was enormously swollen and I asked the guard to slice the top of it off, which he did with his sword and then drained the puss. This I took as a kindly act. There was a dispensary in the gaol and a Japanese orderly with a large number of drugs and instruments, who refused to treat me. In August, 1942, two Japanese escaped from their portion of the gaol and as a punishment for three weeks all the prisoners had to sit to attention, that is on their heels and cross legged, from 7 in the morning till 9.30 at night. The daily ration was 3 ounces of rice, a small bowl of water and a piece of rock salt.

I had one pair of shorts during the whole period April, 1942, to September, 1943. This was the case with many of us. In September, 1943, we were issued with one Japanese shirt and a pair of shorts, which had come from diseased Japanese sick. These garments were washed once a month and owing to their refusal to allow us to number or mark the garments, no prisoner normally ever received his own garment back. In view of the diseased nature of most of the prisoners, under this system it was impossible for anyone to remain healthy. In a short time everyone had scabies

It is difficult to describe the cells in which we lived. There was blood and puss stains on the wall, where people had wiped the hands they had used to dry their wounds. Piles of scaly skin lay in the corners. There were bed bugs in the boards of the bed. We were never shaved and had to cut our nails by scraping them on the concrete floors. All the guards wore masks

when they were on duty in our block of cells. They never touched anything in our cells with their hands, only with their swords or with gloves. Our cells were cleaned to my knowledge, only twice in the two years. On the other hand the block in which the Japanese prisoners were housed was beautifully clean.

Every guard was a law unto himself and one evening a guard would beat us for not being asleep; the next on duty would beat us for being asleep.

There were working parties in the gaol which began in October, 1942, when some of us went out cleaning drains. By May, 1943, other parties had been formed.

It was impossible to keep notes or a diary since cells were searched daily. Outram Road gaol was the Central Gaol for the Japanese Southern Army, so that when a cell was empty we knew either the man had died or had been executed, or was about to be executed.

When I first arrived in the gaol I saw in the open buildings which were around, six fully stocked with cases of tinned milk. I estimate there were between 20 and 30 thousand cases. We got a little for the first month; after that we had milk twice on the Emperor's birthday in 1942 and 1943. The milk was used by the Japanese for themselves in the gaol and as presents to visitors. It was not distributed to other units. There was enough milk in the gaol to supply every prisoner with milk until the end of the war, with a good deal to spare, and Vitamin B was of course our greatest need.

On one occasion a member of the Royal family walked through the gaol at the end of 1942. He never looked into the cells, he merely walked into the passage. On several occasions high ranking officers paid visits to the gaol. They must have seen some of the prisoners at their work or carrying their latrine buckets to be emptied. Prior to such visits, the cell steps would be scrubbed with soap. Soap was never issued to the prisoners for the purpose of washing their bodies.

On the 18th of May, 1944, I left Outram Road gaol and went back to Changi gaol and was put in the tower. I was asked to sign a non-escape form which I did eventually under compulsion. I was then released and became an interpreter, going to Bukit Panjang with 379 officers and men, to dig Japanese fortifications. The Australian Camp Commandant protested to the Japanese Sergeant in charge of the Camp, and to high inspecting officers who visited, as to the nature of the work, but to no avail. In June, 1945, an Australian Private Wilson, was killed in a fall of earth owing to insufficient precautions being taken, during the tunnelling of the hole.

The work parties began at 8 a.m. and marched four or five miles each morning. For the most part, men had no boots. Some used home-made rubber shoes or clogs, others had bare feet. Officers were not permitted to leave the camp, nor allowed to go with the working parties, which normally returned at 6.30 p.m. Towards June 1945, the men began to return from work parties at 10 p.m. in the evening, after working 20 to 30 ft. into the side of a hill by candlelight, and not having eaten since midday. They often came back wet through. No lights were allowed in the camp and the hours were so irregular that it was often very difficult to provide a hot meal at night.

Clothing was very short in the camp and in about July 1945, 50 pairs of Chinese women's bloomers were issued to the great amusement of the villagers as some of the men walked through the streets in them. We had very little medical stores in the camp and although 200 yards away was a medical stores distribution centre, we were unable to obtain any nevertheless. A good deal of beating up by the Guards took place. One order that all men had to salute sentries, provided ample excuse for many beatings.

The ration for working men was 10 oz. of rice daily, 3 oz. of vegetables and occasionally tinned food, which appeared to be Red Cross supplies, since I saw Red Cross parcels in the stores. The ration for a sick man was about 30 percent less. This affected the camp basic ration, as about 50 percent of the camp were sick.

SWORN in Tokyo this the)
 day of)
November 1946,)

Before me,

(F.E. MOSTYN)
Major, Legal Staff.