

RECORD OF MILITARY COURT
(JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS)

R101 Que 145

AWC No.....

Accused: L/Cpl MENA Hishao

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

Court, Place, Rabaul
Date and 28 May 46
Formation: 8 ID.

Charge(s)	Plea	Finding
<u>1st Charge</u> MUTILATION OF THE DEAD in that he at N.G. on or about 20 Jul 45 mutilated the dead body of a deceased soldier.	Not guilty on both charges	Not guilty on both charges
<u>2nd Charge</u> CANNIBALISM in that he at New Guinea on or about 20 Jul 45 ate portion of the dead body of an Australian soldier.		

The prosecution relied on the evidence of one Lt TAZAKI Takahiko

Precis of Evidence: At the outset TAZAKI stated that on 20 Jul 45 he saw the body of an Australian soldier and that he cut some flesh from the body and ate it. He further stated that the accused was present and he could not remember what the accused did at the time. The Prosecuting Officer by leave of the Court tendered interrogations reduced to writing and signed by TAZAKI. In these interrogations TAZAKI admitted (inter alia) that he and the accused mutilated the body with a dagger and a pocket knife and that he (TAZAKI) had eaten some of the flesh. Later in the course of the proceedings the Court granted the Prosecuting Officer leave to treat TAZAKI as a hostile witness and a declaration by TAZAKI marked Exhibit "A" was referred to. In this declaration TAZAKI admitted (inter alia) that assisted by the accused he cut up the body of the deceased Australian soldier and "we subsequently ate portion of it". The accused in evidence in his defence admitted being on guard pursuant to TAZAKI's orders and whilst TAZAKI was cutting up the body. TAZAKI gave him three small pieces of flesh, which he buried without eating.

Sentence and Date: Not guilty - 28 May 46.

Confirmation and by Whom:

Promulgation:

Petition:

J.A.G.'s Report on Petition:

Action on Petition:

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

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detailed summary
of prosecution testimony
concerning torture