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Loose handwritten sheet containing an account of a visit to Muntinglupa Prison, kept by unspecified member of TORII (*8) Unit. Dated 24 October, year not stated. 1 p.

Full translation:

On the 24th of October, I visited Muntinglupa Prison with the commander of TORII (*9) Unit, as a guide. The prison is guarded by 2d Lt TAKESHIBA (*10) and 20 men of the TORII Unit. According to the story of 2d Lt TAKESHIBA, there are 2,200 prisoners including doctors, ministers and constables. The food consists of thick rice gruel and one or two slices of papaya. Because of lack of food, deaths average 10 per day.

I entered with the unit commander into No 3 Barracks which had a foul odor. We entered by using the guard's key. The heavy iron lattice door was opened by a prisoner. The prisoners near us, upon hearing the command to salute, saluted us. 17 or 18 year old youths to 60 year old men were all ill-smelling.

Because the prisoners were emaciated, their thighs and ankles were the same size. Even walking appeared to be an ordeal for them. I have never seen such thin people. It was truly pitiful. Some lay on narrow double deck beds covered with mats. These I learned were dead bodies. On the way out, we met the corpse carriers. 10 prisoners were seen carrying the stretchers.

The prison is surrounded with three barbed wire fences; the center fence is charged with electricity. The guard towers are placed at various points. I saw prisoners who were working inside with iron chains around their legs. The construction of the entrance to the prison camp is like an old castle. The flag of the PHILIPPINES is hoisted on the look-out tower. It is surprising to notice the great contrast between outside and inside.

Visiting is permitted at certain hours. The visitors are mothers or wives. They carry a straw sack which appears heavy with presents. The anxiety with which a family awaits the release of their loved ones is apparent. I wondered how the families feel when they see the pitiful state of their loved ones. For those who have no visitors or receive no presents, there is only death waiting. Even though they are foreigners, my heart goes out to them. The prisoners are Filipinos and Chinese. There are also a few westerners.

We, who are at war, must not lose to the Allied or our fate will be worse. Certain victory!

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JEWELL A. BLANKENSHIP, 1st Lt. Inf., of the Allied Translator and Interpreter Section, Tokyo, Japan, do hereby certify that the attached document is a true and correct copy of the translation of a captured Japanese Document, the original of which has been forwarded to the Washington Document Center, Washington, D. C.

/s/ Jewell A. Blankenship

Witness: /s/ Henry Shimajima

Sworn before me this 31 day of October 1946, Tokyo, Japan.