

E 1915

No 1915

Q. State your name, rank, serial number, permanent home address, and any other pertinent information concerning yourself.

A. [My name is Stephen Martin ZIVKO, Private First Class, U.S.M.C., Serial Number 275724.] I am a high school graduate and have served in the Marine Corps since October 1939. My permanent home address is 1952 South 59th Street, West Allis, Wisconsin.

Q. Were you ever imprisoned under improper conditions?

A. [At Fengti Prison Camp the barracks consisted of a large warehouse, subdivided into three sections containing approximately 350 men per section. No sleeping facilities were provided other than a straw mat upon the brick floor. No toilets nor washing facilities were available. For the approximate population of 1,000 men of the camp the only water supply was that provided by a single two-inch spigot. All bathing, washing of clothes, etc., depended upon this one spigot, which likewise provided all the water for the galley for the washing of dishes, etc. Latrines consisted of trenches.]

At Camp Hokadate #3 the barracks were vermin infested and extremely dirty. Conditions in the barracks were extremely crowded. The Japanese refused to issue any blankets and the men were required to sleep on the floor, the only protection being the one Red Cross blanket per man that they had brought with them.

Q. Did you see any prisoners of war being used on enemy military works or operations?

A. Yes. [At Kaingwan Prison Camp in China the men were required to assist in the construction of the Japanese rifle range, to handle gasoline and oil supplies of the Japanese Army, and to assist in the repair and maintenance of Japanese Army motor equipment. Further, they were required to build barricades around Japanese military go-downs.]

Q. Did you see any prisoners exposed to danger of gunfire, bombing, or other hazards of war?

A. [While Kaingwan Prison Camp was under the command of Colonel ODAHA of the Japanese Army, the prisoner working parties were not permitted to take cover during air raids until the raiding planes were directly overhead.]

Q. Did you witness the transportation of prisoners of war under improper conditions?

A. When the prisoners were moved by rail in China, as from Kaingwan to Fengti and from Fengti on through Korea enroute to Japan, they were loaded into the small Chinese box cars. These box cars were cut in half by barbed wire barricades, thus creating two sections in the car. The men were crowded in 25 to a section, in addition to their personal baggage, eating tubs, etc., and in addition to the latrine facilities located in each end of the car. Transportation from Shinono Soki, Japan, to Prison Camp Hokadate No. 3 was in regular Japanese passenger cars, into which the men were crowded approximately 125 per car.

I can recall nothing further concerning these incidents which would be of value to the War Crimes Office and I do not have any other information, favorable or unfavorable, which I consider of sufficient importance to report.

/s/ STEPHEN M. ZIVKO

STATE OF CALIFORNIA :
: SS
County of Alameda :

I, Stephen Martin ZIVKO of lawful age,
being duly sworn, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of
my interrogation, consisting of one pages, and that all answers con-
tained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ STEPHEN M. ZIVKO

Subscribed and sworn to before me this Sixth day of
October, 1945, at Oakland, California.

/s/ THOMAS P. GUERIN
(Rank) Lt. USIR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA :
: SS.
County of Alameda :

I, Thomas P. GUERIN certify that
(Name) Stephen Martin ZIVKO, (Rank) Pfc. U.S.M.C. (no) 275724,
personally appeared before me on the Sixth day of October, 1945,
and testified concerning war crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate
transcription of the answers given by (him)(her) to the several questions
set forth.

Place: Oakland, California

Date: 6 October 1945 /s/ THOMAS P. GUERIN

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