

ABOARD USN HOSPITAL SHIP "SANCTUARY"
EN ROUTE PEARL HARBOR TO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA)ss

[JOHN F. BRONNER,] 2914 (J.F.B.) Leavenworth Street, San Francisco, California, deposes and says:

While interned at Footung Civil Assembly Center, Shanghai, China, after my apprehension by the Japanese as a member of the crew of the SS President Harrison, I was placed in the position of camp meat inspector and butcher. This assignment began on 31 January (J.F.B.) 1943 and continued until liberation of the camp was effected on 16 August 1945. My qualifications for the work were the result of experience as second butcher on the SS President Harrison.

From 31 January 1943 to February of 1944, internees at Footung were allowed 220 kilos of meat or fish per day for the entire group of internees consisting of approximately 1090 persons. In addition to the meat mentioned above the camp was allowed 420 (J.F.B.) kilos of vegetables per day and from 160 to 65 kilos of rice. These (J.F.B.) figures do not indicate the actual amount of food made available to the internees, however, because the meat, which was always water buffalo or a poor grade of pork, had a loss from trim which ran approximately 40 percent. Similarly, the vegetables, which were third or fourth grade, were of a type which had a loss in preparation of about 40 percent.

In February of 1944 the meat and vegetable rations (J.F.B.) described above were cut by 10 percent and the quality did not improve. In April of the same year there was another cut of 10 percent and in August of 1944 there was a final cut of 15 percent. It is thus apparent that our initial ration of meat and vegetables was cut by 35 percent in less than a year and a half. This reduction in rations was made even more serious by reason of the fact that from January of 1945 to April 1945 we received no rice from the Japanese and very little assistance from the Red Cross.

I do not know who was responsible for the above described reductions in food rations at Footung Civil Assembly Center and have no further information which should be included in this statement.

/s/ John Frederick Bronner
John F. Bronner

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of October 1945.

/s/ Victor A. Tresk
VICTOR A. TRESK
Major, Inf.
Summary Court Officer

Interviewed by: John J. L. Fianza, Jr., SIC

.. THIS COPY:

/s/ [Signature]
[Signature]
Captain, Signal Corps