

EX 1890

Q. Please state your full name, rank or rating, branch of service, serial number and permanent home address.

A. My name is [James Hector COLE, Private First Class, United States Marine Corps,] Serial Number 280867. My permanent home address is Base Line, San Bernardino, California.

Q. State the date you entered the U. S. Marine Corps, the date you were sent overseas and the date you returned from overseas.

A. I enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps on 8 January 1940, was sent overseas on 27 March 1940, and returned to this country on 5 October 1945.

Q. State the organization with which you were serving at the time of your capture, and where and by whom you were made a prisoner of war.

A. At the time of my capture I was serving with the American Embassy Guard at Peking, China. I was captured by the Japanese Jung Army (Japanese military police).

Q. What were your major places of imprisonment and your major movements while you were a prisoner of war?

A. I was made a prisoner of war on 8 December 1941. From that time until February 1942 I was at the Shanghai War Prison Camp; then at Kiangwan War Prison Camp until December 1942; at Fengtai War Prison Camp until May 1944; and at Hokajate Camp #3 until August 1945.

Q. Can you name or identify any of the enemy officers or persons in authority at your places of imprisonment?

A. Yes. Colonel ODERA was the commanding officer of the Shanghai War Prison Camp.

Q. Do you have direct personal knowledge of any incident occurring while you were a prisoner which improperly subjected any American national to harm or the possibility of harm because of the act or omission of any enemy national?

A. Yes.

Q. Please describe this incident in detail, with particular reference to the circumstances under which it occurred and the manner in which it happened.

A. At the Shanghai War Prison Camp where I was a prisoner of war from 1 February 1942 until 9 March 1945 I saw a Japanese guard shoot and kill an American civilian by the name of REYNOLDS on about 10 March 1942. REYNOLDS was captured on Wake Island. The circumstances surrounding this fatal shooting were as follows: REYNOLDS was standing approximately

nine feet away from the fence which surrounds the prison camp when a Japanese guard, whose name I do not know, asked him a question. REYNOLDS replied by pointing to himself. At this instant the Japanese guard raised his rifle and fired.

From September 1943 until February 1944, I worked as a polisher on three-inch anti-aircraft shell cases. We were ordered to finish sixteen cases per day. When we failed to finish this required number, Japanese guards have made me and others stand at attention then they would hit us over the body and head with clubs, rifle butts or any other object they would be carrying at the time.

I was forced to stand at attention in front of the guard house at Shanghai War Prison Camp with other prisoners stripped of all clothing for periods covering three to four hours. This was during the winter months when the temperature was below freezing. Myself and others, while stripped of our clothing and still at attention, were hit with clubs and other objects and severely beaten. Several men developed pneumonia due to this punishment.

Q. Was any reason for, or explanation or justification of this incident ever given to you by an enemy national?

A. The reason they stated was for failure to have the right attitude as a prisoner of war, failure to salute, or failure to bow upon meeting any Japanese.

Q. Does the testimony you have given cover all the pertinent details of this incident which you are now able to remember?

A. Yes.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA :
: SS
County of Alameda :

I, James Hector COLE of lawful age, being duly sworn, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation, consisting of one page and that all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ James H. Cole

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

/s/ James G. Gullett
(Rank) Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA :
: SS
County of Alameda :

I, Lieut. James G. GULLETT, U.S.N.R., certify that
(Name) James Hector COLE, (Rank) Pfc, U.S.M.C., (ASN) 280867, 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/ James G. Gullett

Page 2 of 2 pages.