

Ex 1578  
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Evidentiary Document No. 5024B.

International Military  
Tribunal for the Far East.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHERS

v

ARMI, Sadao and others.

(I, ROY HALFORD STEVENS of 46 Princess Street, Kew in the State of Victoria formerly VX39043, Major R.H. STEVENS of 2/12 Field Ambulance, make oath and say:-

1. In March 1945 the Japanese sent several working parties from Kiangi to Johore. I was sent with them as Senior Medical Officer to establish a hospital for the care of these parties. We were billeted in condemned barracks extremely overcrowded.
2. Daily rations consisted of 6 to 7 ounces of rice, 4 ounces of tapioca root and 2 ounces of maize, which had all the grain eaten out by weevils, and potato tops. In addition an average of half ounce of fish per man weekly was supplied. We received a very small amount of American Red Cross supplies amounting in all to one tin of bully beef per man.
3. As to sanitation the Japanese insisted on a pan system being used because they sold the night soil to natives as manure. This pan system caused a good deal of dysentery as a result of infection by flies. Representations to the Japanese to allow us to put in bore holes were refused.
4. Prisoners of war were engaged in defence works for the Japanese making tunnels by mining into the side of hills for use as machine gun posts in the event of invasion. No safety mining precautions were exercised by the Japanese with the result that several were killed and injured by the fall of earth. Work was extremely hard continuing for long hours in a stifling atmosphere as there was no proper air supply.
5. We were informed by the Imperial Japanese Army that as these men were engaged on security work, in the event of invasion by our forces we would be a nuisance and as we had information which might be valuable we would be immediately disposed of if a landing was made.
6. The average loss of weight per man whilst in this camp was about five pounds per month and these men had been stabilized at a very low level before going to Johore.
7. Whilst at this camp several acute abdominal cases necessitating urgent surgery occurred. Conditions were most unfavourable for major surgery at this camp, while at Kiangi about 6 miles away there was a large hospital with adequate surgical facilities. Although it was pointed out

AG 1578

to the Imperial Japanese Army authorities that the results of surgery under the conditions prevailing was very doubtful permission to evacuate cases to Kiangi was refused. In one case of acute appendicitis the Japanese in charge of camp granted permission for removal of the case to Kiangi but on arrival at Kiangi admission there was refused by the Japanese in charge and the case had to be returned to Johore and operated on under the extremely unfavourable conditions there.

8. Four days before the surrender the attitude of the Japanese changed completely, rations were increased and medical supplies that had previously been withheld were made available.]

Sworn at Kew in the State )  
of Victoria this the - )  
day of October 1946. )

(Signed) R.H. STEVENS.

Before me,

(Signed) P. RETCHFORD, J.P.