

Ex 1234

A F F I D A V I T

Today, Friday 19th April 1946, there appeared before myself, Anthonie Corstiaan Kraayenbrink, Attorney-at-Law, Civil Servant, Netherlands Indies, Member of the Netherlands War Crimes Investigation Team, Singapore, a person who, on enquiry, declares himself to be:

Name: GOEDEL 30 years old
Civilian Occupation: Seller of Fried Meat on Sticks.
Address: Henderson Road Camp, Singapore.
Future Address: Poerwodjo.

5. Can you give any information regarding acts of violence committed against yourself or others, which you witnessed:

I am a Javanese from the hamlet of Rapih near Solo. About 18 months ago I was told to appear before our village headman who told me that I had to go and work for the Japanese for 7 weeks at Klaten. Instead of that I was put on the train with about 1000 men and taken to Batavia, where I remained for 15 days at Klender. There we were imprisoned in a camp where we were guarded by Japanese and were not allowed to go out. There were a few, I no longer recollect their names, who tried to run away, but they were nearly beaten to death by the Japanese.

After our stay at Klender we were driven to Tandjoeng Priok and driven aboard a ship. Then we sailed direct to Singapore, where I was taken to the camp in Henderson Road, at which I have remained since, and still am. For food we got there a little rice mixed with maize and a kind of sweet potato. There were very many sick, above all with dysentery, beriberi and tropical ulcers; there was also a great deal of malaria. There was no quinine or any other medicines; the sick were given a watery medicine, that never had any effect. There were no bandage appliances. This camp was a transit camp where all Javanese came, who were transported from here to other destinations. The sick were consequently left behind here. Very many people died here; every day certainly 15 to 20 people died. I do not know how many died in toto, but certainly estimate the number at about 2000. The dead were left lying for about two days, and were then taken away on a motor truck; I do not know where. There were frequent beatings here by the Japanese, if they had any comments about the work. About eight months ago I was accused of stealing a blanket, with which I had nothing whatever to do. The Japanese soldier Irakobo bound a rope round my neck and left me suspended like that for a night. The following morning at seven o'clock the Japanese soldiers Kimoto and Irakobo began to maltreat me. These Japanese also forced each of 260 Javanese to give me a few blows with a leather strap. Without respite I was thrashed by them with their leather shoes, which maltreatment lasted until eleven o'clock. Thereafter my arms and my legs were bound, and my head was put into a basin of water, whereby I was half drowned. After half an hour they stopped this, and tied me securely to the wall of one of the barracks, where I stood bound for a week. I was then full of wounds; I had three bleeding wounds on my back, made by Irakobo with a native knife. My left foot displayed a big bloody wound made by Irakobo with a piece of iron.

(N.B. witness shows me, the interrogator, the distinctly visible scars of / these

these wounds, as well as scars on the fore-arms resulting from the wounds received through his bonds).

I was covered with blood all over my body, and stood bound like that for a whole week, without being cleaned or my wounds being tended. All this time I only got a little rice porridge to eat twice a day. When after a week I was unbound, all my limbs and my body was badly swollen. I was then no longer in a condition to make any movement whatsoever, and had to be carried to my sleeping place by others. Only after a month was I in a position to move about a little again, and slowly made a complete recovery. I have retained no lasting injury as the result of this maltreatment.

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VERIFICATION BY THE WITNESS

I, the undersigned Goedel, abovementioned, hereby declare that I was led in and heard on oath by the interrogator, who informed me that the oath taken by me was still binding upon me, and having heard my above sworn statement read to me in my native language and shown to me, I declare that it is a true and accurate statement.

Singapore, 19th April 1946

Oath administered by:

Sd/ Mohd. Sardjadi

The witness above named:

In view of the fact that the witness cannot write, instead he has set the impression of his right thumb.

The above statements have been signed in my presence and this official record has been truly drawn up and subsequently signed by myself, the interrogator.

On 19th April 1946 at Singapore

The abovenamed interrogator:

Sd/ A. C. Kraayenbrink

Certified a true copy:

Head of the Netherlands War Crimes Investigation Team, Singapore.

Sd/ J. G. Benders

DOCUMENT 5704

C E R T I F I C A T E

The undersigned, CHARLES JONGENEEL, Captain R.N.I.A., Head of the War Crimes Section of NETHERLANDS FORCES INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (NEFIS) being first duly sworn on oath deposes and states that the annexed documents, entitled :

Affidavit of GOEDEL, pedlar, dated 19 April 1946.

concerning illtreatment of "romusha" (forced coolies) by the Japanese authorities in the coolie-camps in Malaya and neighborhood,

have been taken from the official records of the NEFIS.

SIGNATURE :

Sd/ Ch. Jongeneel

BATAVIA, 23 July 1946.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, K.A.de WEERD, LL.D. first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., Senior Official attached to the Office of the Attorney - General, N.E.I.

Sd/ K. A. de Weerd