

WD/JAG/FS/JC/24  
RGLW/AKS-

IN THE MATTER OF THE ILL-TREATMENT OF  
PRISONERS OF WAR AND ATROCITIES COMMITTED AT  
ARGYIL STREET CAMP AND SHAMSHUIPO CAMP, HONGKONG  
FROM 30 DECEMBER 1941 UNTIL AUGUST 1945.

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A F F I D A V I T .  
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I, Lieutenant-colonel FREDERICK DENTON FIELD, Royal Artillery, an officer of the Regular Army with permanent home address at 5, RICHMOND ROAD, BEDFORD, MAKE OATH and say as follows:-

1. I was captured at HONGKONG by the Japanese on 25 December 1941 and was taken from the Island to a camp on the west side of the penninsular opposite HONGKONG, known as SHAMSHUIPO. I remained at SHAMSHUIPO from 30 December 1941 until 18 April 1942. On the latter date I was removed to a camp on the east side of the penninsular known as ARGYIL STREET CAMP. I remained there until May 1944. In May 1944 I was taken back to SHAMSHUIPO CAMP and remained there until August 1945.

During the time that I was at SHAMSHUIPO CAMP until April 1942, Major-General C.M. MALTRY, M.C. was the senior British officer; he and a number of other officers accompanied me to ARGYIL STREET CAMP in April 1942. Major-General MALTRY and most of the other British senior officers were removed from this area in July 1943 leaving me the Senior British Officer.

2. The camp at SHAMSHUIPO was known as Camp 'S'; ARGYIL STREET CAMP was known as Camp 'N' and they are so referred to hereinafter. Camp 'S' was for other ranks chiefly, Camp 'N' was for officers.

3. At Camp 'S' in April 1942 an escape was effected. As a result certain British officers left in the camp were interrogated by the Japanese. Captain SHRIGLEY and Lieutenant LLOYD were beaten up with bamboos by the KEMPETAI, the Japanese equivalent of the Gestapo. Lieutenant LLOYD was not heard of again and I believe died from the treatment he received. I believe that one of the 'S' Camp interpreters whose name is NIMOURI was involved in this incident. Both the officers were of the HONGKONG VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS. I was given an account of his beating up subsequently by Captain SHRIGLEY. Another officer who can speak of this incident is a Lieutenant BARROW of the HONGKONG VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS, formerly in the HONGKONG Government. Another possible witness is a Major C. ROCHFORD-BOYD, Royal Artillery, who may have the names of the Japanese responsible.

4. Conditions at Camp 'S' were very bad indeed. The Liaison British Officer at Camp 'S' while I was at Camp 'N' was a Major BOON, Royal Army Service Corps. Apart from the usual lack of medical facilities and shortage of food, many of the men there were forced when very ill to go out on Working Parties; some even had to be carried out on stretchers. In the autumn of 1942 diphtheria and dysentery broke out at Camp 'S'. The Japanese refused the sick men any attention with the result that about two hundred died. This can be confirmed by Captain PETER BROWN, Royal Army Medical Corps.



The Japanese medical officer who dealt with both 'S' and 'N' Camps was a Doctor SAITO - rank, I believe Lieutenant. He was responsible for sick British prisoners being forced to work.

5. Camp 'N' was a hutment camp and in very poor repair; there were no amenities or facilities, no medical equipment or attention; the food chiefly consisted of a meagre quantity of rice and vegetables the nutrition value of which was nil. I do not know of any major crimes that were committed while I was at Camp 'N' but striking and slapping of the prisoners was a common thing.

6. In June and July 1943 Captain Douglas FORD, 2nd Battalion Royal Scots located at Camp 'S' tried to effect a wholesale escape by contacting outside agents in CHINA. He was, however, discovered. Associated with him was a Flying Officer C. G. GREY, Royal Air Force. Both these officers were interrogated under torture. They were taken to STANLEY GAOL and put on starvation rations. The Japanese tried them on 1 December 1943 in HONGKONG and they were sentenced to death. These sentences were carried out by shooting on 18 December 1943. This account was given to me by Major O. BOXER, The Lincolnshire Regiment, who was in STANLEY GAOL with Captain FORD and Flying Officer GREY.

7. In the summer of 1943 about July Colonel NEWNHAM, who was GS01, China Command, who had been trying to contact outside agents, was detected in this and removed from Camp 'N'. Colonel NEWNHAM was taken to STANLEY PRISON. I subsequently was told by Major BOXER that Colonel NEWNHAM had been badly beaten up and, in due course, was shot by the Japanese. A Japanese, a Colonel KOCHI, who held a role something like that of Public Prosecutor in HONGKONG was concerned in this matter.

8. In September 1943 the Japanese discovered in Camp 'N' a wireless set which we had made. They took away Major C. BOXER of the Lincolnshire Regiment, Commander CRAVEN, R.N. Commander YOUNG, R.N. and Sub-Lieutenant DIXON, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, to the civil prison known as STANLEY PRISON, HONGKONG. I believe they were beaten up and ill-treated. They were kept there on starvation diet. I understand that Commander CRAVEN and Commander YOUNG are now back in England.

9. While we had been at Camp 'N', Lieutenant T.S. SIMPSON, Royal Engineers, had picked up a note, apparently dropped by a Chinese, which was brought to me. It purported to come from a British Agent but I was suspicious of it. Subsequently a second note was brought to me of which I was even more suspicious. In June 1944, when we were back at 'S' Camp, the Japanese held an identification parade. They singled out Captain H.A. de B. BOTELHO of the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps and Major J. SMITH also of the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps. These two officers were interrogated and tortured. The water torture hereinafter described was used. Both officers subsequently related to me their experiences in this respect.

Lieutenant T.S. SIMPSON, Royal Engineers, Captain G.V. BIRD, Royal Engineers, and myself were also interrogated by the Japanese about these notes. We knew nothing about them but Captain BIRD was tortured by the Japanese being tied up, placed in a trough, a piece of silk was placed over his face and water poured on to him until he nearly drowned. This was told to me afterwards by Captain BIRD himself.



A Mr. JEROME LAW, whose address is 128 KENNEDY ROAD, HONGKONG, was an eye witness to this incident. The Japanese responsible for the torturing of BOTELHO, SMITH and BIRD was a KEMPETAI Interrogator whose name was FUJIHARA.

10. In June 1944 Lieutenant SHRIGLEY was interrogated by the Japanese in connection with the burying of some Colours which had taken place at the time of surrender. I was told by Colonel E.J.R. MITCHELL, Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps that Lieutenant SHRIGLEY jumped from a veranda and committed suicide to avoid further ill-treatment

11. The following incident occurred at SHAMSHUIPO in August 1944. A Red Cross Representative was visiting the camp. The prisoners had been warned not to speak to this representative. In defiance of this order a Lieutenant BARNETT of the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps called out to the representative in English, French and German: "We have no food and are starving", or words to this effect. For doing this BARNETT was taken away and he was beaten up with a bamboo stick so severely that he fainted. The Japanese responsible for this was the camp serjeant whose name is HAFATA. The account of this incident was given me by Captain A.R.B. BARKER, Royal Artillery, and Commander MILLETT, R.N. Retired.

12. In or about September 1944 a Lieutenant Commander VERNALL of the Hongkong Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve was taken from Camp 'N' to the Military hospital on the island. There, in connection with an incident about which I know nothing, he was beaten up and ill-treated. Lieutenant-colonel BOWIE, Royal Army Medical Corps, who was in charge of the hospital, has knowledge of this incident.

13. The Commandant of 'N' Camp at the times of the above-mentioned incidents concerning Lieutenant BARNETT and Captain BIRD was a Japanese named TANAKA.

14. The higher Japanese officer in charge of and controlling Camps 'S' and 'N', also the Military hospital BOWEN ROAD, HONGKONG, and the Indian Camp at ARGYLL STREET which was known as "MATAHEUNG" for the period from December 1941, until August 1945, was Colonel TOKENUGA. I believe he also took over STANLEY INTERNMENT CAMP in about December 1943. He was responsible for and familiar with conditions at the camps, particularly the deaths from diphtheria which he could have prevented by introducing anti-diphtheria serum. Major-General MALTBY, Brigadier PEFFERS, OBE, MC, and Lieutenant-colonel S.E.H.E. WHITE, 2nd Battalion Royal Scots could give evidence with respect to Colonel TOKENUGA.

15. There was with the Indian troops a Captain ANSARI of the 5/7th RAJPUT Regiment. The Japanese made a practice of trying to seduce the Indian troops and undermine their loyalty and Captain ANSARI was responsible for the Japanese lack of success in their endeavours. As a result, he was taken to STANLEY GAOL, I think about the middle of 1943, and there treated with great brutality. He was executed by being beheaded on 29 November 1943.

16. (a) I myself saw Colonel TOKENUGA and Doctor SAITO in British custody in HONGKONG in September 1945.

(i) TOKENUGA is aged about fifty; height about five feet six inches; hair black with grey specks and close cropped becoming thin; eyes brown; sallow com-



plexion; round face; squat features like a toad; fat and flabby with a pronounced corporation; he was clean-shaven.

- (ii) SAITO was aged about forty to forty five; height about five feet four inches; black close cropped hair; longish face; sallow complexion; brown eyes; clean shaven; wore thin rimmed glasses; slight in build.
  - (iii) KOCHI I cannot describe as I have not seen him. I believe he was a Colonel. I think that Major BOXER could give a description of him. He may have been apprehended by the British on the Japanese surrender.
  - (iv) TANAKA, Lieutenant, was aged about thirty-five; height about five feet six inches; hair black - fairly close cropped; round features; brown eyes; clean shaven; wore glasses; medium build. It is not unlikely that he was also taken into custody by the British.
  - (v) FUJIHARA was aged about thirty; height five feet nine inches; hair black and close cropped; thin hatchet face; clean-shaven; eyes dark brown; suffered from some affliction of the neck; slight and thin in build. I last heard of him in June 1944 at Camp 'N'. Notwithstanding this, he may still have been in HONGKONG and have been interned in September 1945.
  - (vi) HARATA, Serjeant, was aged about twenty-five to thirty; height five feet four inches; black hair; square features; clean shaven; brown eyes; sallow complexion; stocky in build; he was seen at Camp 'S' at the beginning of August 1945 and then disappeared but he may likewise have been interned.
  - (vii) NIMOURI was aged between forty and fifty; height about five feet five inches; black hair; triangular features; very wrinkled face; stocky in build; distinctive slit eyes; I was told before I left HONGKONG that Nimouri had been taken into British custody.
- (b) It is likely that Major BOXER, and Major HALL-CAINE of the British Army Aid Group, China, and, I believe, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, both of whom remained at Hongkong, could probably speak as to the Japanese who were taken into British custody. The British Naval authorities interned, inter alia, the staffs of 'S' and 'N' Camps and all the Japanese internees were lodged at Camp 'S'.

17. I recall the following Japanese as being at Camps 'N' and 'S' :-

CAMP 'N'

Commandant from April 1942 until January 1943 was Lieutenant SANAMORI. I know of nothing against him.

Commandant from January 1943 until December 1943 was Lieutenant TANAKA, whom I have mentioned above.



Commandant from December 1943 until May 1944 was Lieutenant HARA. I know of nothing against him.

For the month of May 1944 the Commandant was Warrant Officer ISHINGI. I know of nothing against him.

Serjeant HARATA whom I have mentioned above was at this camp from September 1943 until May 1944.

An Interpreter named NATAYAMA was periodically at Camp 'N' from May 1942 until May 1944.

The Interpreter NIMOURI whom I have mentioned above was at Camp 'N' from December 1943 until May 1944.

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CAMP 'S'

From May 1944 until April 1945 the above-named Lieutenant TANAKA was Commandant.

From May 1945 until August 1945 Lieutenant WADA was Commandant.

From May 1944 until August 1944 the above-mentioned Serjeant HARATA was at Camp 'S', thereafter his place was taken by a Serjeant NAGAMATSU who remained there until August 1945.

From May 1944 until August 1945 the Interpreter KATAYAMA was at Camp 'S'.

I know of nothing against Lieutenant WADA, KATAYAMA or NAGAMATSU.

Lieutenant Doctor SAITO was doctor to both camps from December 1941 until August 1945.

Major BUCK of the Royal Army Pay Corps was at Camp 'S' from December 1941 until August 1945 and would know all Japanese there.

18. In 1942, Major-General MALTBY instructed Major W. de B. WOOD, Army Education Corps, an officer of the Regular Army, to make and keep a note of war crimes committed by the Japanese in HONGKONG; this Major WOOD carried out. I believe this officer has returned to England.

SWORN by the aforesaid FREDERICK )  
DENTON FIELD at 6 Spring Gardens )  
in the City of WESTMINSTER this )  
23rd day of NOVEMBER 1945. ) (SIGNED) F.D. FIELD

BEFORE ME,

(Signed) RATHCREEDAN,  
Captain Legal Staff  
Military Department, Office of the Judge Advocate General,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

I certify that this is a true copy of the original affidavit.

(signed) R. G. McDonnell  
Major Legal Staff  
Office of the Judge Advocate General.