

Ex 1524

DOCUMENT NO. 5241

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I, VX39006 Major John Kevin LLOYD of Army Headquarters  
make oath and say:

1. I am an officer of the Australian Military Forces.
2. Annexed hereto and marked "B" is a true copy of an affidavit sworn by Terence Charles TREVOR on 11 Apr. 1946 which I have in my custody in the course of my duties.
3. The original affidavit cannot be made available immediately as it is required for trials of minor war criminals.

Sworn before me at MELBOURNE )

this 27 day of May 1946 )

J. Lloyd /s/  
Major

R. D. Crompton /s/ Capt  
An officer of the  
Australian Military Forces

No. 1524

On this eleventh day of April, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, Terence Charles Trevor, of 14 Ponsonby Pde, Seaforth, in the State of New South Wales, Woolclasser, makes oath and says as follows:-

1. As NX55521 Pte T.C. TREVOR of 2/30 Inf Bn I was attached to B Coy. Portion of my section, which included, besides myself, NX25556 Pte. J.R. BLAIR, NX27464 Pte. F.G. COLLETT, NX26712, Pte COCHRANE, NX5906 Pte MULLIGAN and Pte E.W. SAMS, were cut off from the remainder of our Coy whilst returning from the GEMAS Ambush.]
2. In an attempt to return to our Battalion lines, we became lost and wandered in the jungle and rubber plantations for approximately 14 days.
- [3. At about 0100 hrs on 1 Feb 42 we were captured by a Jap patrol. The patrol was also accompanied by a few Malayan natives.]
4. After being taken by the Jap patrol we were transported by a Samoan, we had previously commandeered, to Patrol HQ and then to LENGHA, where we spent the night in the local gaol. Here we were given food and next morning we were given bicycles and with a Jap and Malayan escort set out for MUAR, arriving there at approximately 1800 hrs on 2 Feb 42.
5. Here [we were handed over to a group of Jap officers quartered in the Sultan's Palace near the MUAR River.] The Jap Officer in command told us that we would be held as POWs and that we should have to work. We agreed to this and were given food and a place to sleep.
- [6. Next morning 3 Feb 42,] whilst helping to load a truck on which the Japs were about to proceed [to BERTU PAHAT, we were told to line up in twos, and tied together with signal wire, wrist to wrist.
7. We were then led by the Jap Officer across a lawn and asked if we would like a pistol to commit suicide. We refused and we were then asked if we had anything to say. I said "that we should be held as POW" but this was ignored and the Jap Officer, with the words "You will soon see your mothers and fathers", left us.
8. On the opposite side of the lawn about 25 yds away a Jap soldier lay behind a Bren Gun which was pointing in our direction. The Jap soldier opened fire, watched by the Jap officers.
9. Pte Cochrane was hit and immediately fell to the ground. Ptes COLLETT and BLAIR were then hit and fell to the ground, dragging me with them. The Jap continued to fire whilst we were lying on the ground and I could hear the bullets thudding into COLLETT who was lying alongside me. The Jap then ceased fire.
10. After a short time I raised my head but could see no sign of the Japs. I untied my wrists with my teeth and untied the others also. Pte COCHRANE was dead, Collett unconscious and the remainder wounded but still alive.

11. I dragged the other members of my party who were alive into the shade of some hibiscus trees nearby and made them as comfortable as possible. During the afternoon of that day BLAND and COLLETT died. MULLIGAN survived till the morning of 4 Feb 42. After Mulligan died, SAMS, who was wounded in the leg, and myself attempted to escape. We were pestered by Malaysians who followed us wherever we went but finally threw them off and spent the night in an evacuated native house in MUAR.

12. On 5 Feb 42 we were recaptured by different Japs and taken to Malayan HQ building in Muar. There we were told we were Prisoners of War.

13. I was of the opinion that these Japs were contemplating murdering SAMS and myself, but we were saved, I think, by the intervention of some Jap Staff Officers who arrived in two cars.

14. After a conference between the Jap Staff Officers and our captors, we were told by a Jap Sgt, that we were to be taken to KLUANG to a prison camp. We spent the night in a house adjoining Malayan HQ where I was able to dress Sams' wound.

15. On 6 Feb we were taken by the Jap Staff Officers in a car to Kluang where we met approximately 27 Aust POW and 2 British Brigadiers in the Kluang Gaol. One Brigadier's name I remember was PAYNTER.

16. On 7 Feb 42 we set out for KUALA LUMPUR. On 8 Feb 42 we arrived at Kuala Lumpur and were taken to PUDU Gaol where there were approximately 500 British and Aust Prisoners.

17. On 9 Feb 42 Pte SAMS died from tetanus and was buried in gaol grounds. After spending eight months at Pudu Gaol we were taken to Changi Gaol.

18. I was unable to discover the names of any Jap Officers or men responsible for murdering my colleagues and I was also unable to obtain anything that would help to identify their units.

19. The dates that I have before mentioned are absolutely correct and may assist in identifying Jap units in the area at that time.

SWORN by the abovenamed deponent, )  
Terence Charles Trevor, at Sydney, ) T. C. TREVOR /s/  
this eleventh day of April, One )  
thousand nine hundred and forty-six)

Before me L. SHEFFIELD J. P. (?)

Exhibit "B" - This is the document marked Exhibit "B" referred to in the affidavit of VX39006 Mai J.K. Lloyd sworn before me this twenty-seventh day of May 1946 as being produced and shown to him at the time of his swearing his said affidavit.

/s/ R. D. Crompton, Capt.  
An officer of the  
Australian Military Forces.