

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST.

NO. 1.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHERS

-against-

ARAKI, SADA0 AND OTHERS.

1. DERRICK RANALD MAIN of 15 STAFFORD STREET, BARDON, BRISBANE, in the STATE OF QUEENSLAND, make oath and say as follows:-

I was QX.12878 GNR. DERRICK RANALD MAIN of the 2/10 FIELD REGIMENT, when I was taken prisoner by the Japanese at Singapore on the 15th February, 1942. I was sent to Changi on the 17th February, 1942, where I remained for three weeks and was then sent to the Great World Camp in Singapore.

2. Conditions at Changi were not good and food was fairly short. The Japanese did not interfere with us during these three weeks. I went to Great World Camp on the 22nd March, 1942, I was working on the docks and in warehouses loading general ordnance stores including ammunition.

3. A number of bashings occurred each day, some were severe and some were slight. One concerned Gnr. FERGUSON, a member of an Anti-Tank Regiment. We were working amongst stores and he had taken some tins of butter. We were searched by guards, he was the only one on whom anything was found. He was taken to the guard house, and we were able to see through the windows the bashing he received. They knocked him down and kicked him, and hit him with rifles; this lasted for half an hour. He was bleeding from the eyes and mouth when he came back, but he did not suffer any permanent injury. (No preliminary investigation or trial was held.)

4. On another occasion Gnr. FERRAR of the 2/10 Field Regiment was caught eating a tin of milk and a Japanese named "SEQUESTA" tied him to a tree with his hands behind him and set about him with a shovel. He was then taken to Japanese Headquarters. He had blood on his arms and legs and was laid up for three or four days after he came back from Headquarters. I did not actually see the bashings he received at Headquarters, (but he informed me and I verily believe that he was thrashed with a riding crop and a golf stick at intervals during the night.)

5. I went back to Changi on the 23rd December, 1942, and was there until 14 March, 1943; conditions then were bad. Food was short and we were reduced to eat hedge, grass and potato tops and anything we could get. Some of the men resorted to eating dogs and cats, (and I have actually eaten cat myself.)

6. In March, 1943, I went to THAILAND.

(Signed) DEREK R. MAIN.

SWORN BEFORE ME AT
BRISBANE, ON THE 28th DAY
OF AUGUST, 1946.

(Signed) A.J. MANSFIELD.
JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF QUEENSLAND.

No. 1508