

WAR CLAIMS

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF:  
SGT WARIAM SINGH and L/CPL HAZARA SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force.  
DECLARATION OF PTE CHAIN SINGH

I, PTE CHAIN SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am Pte CHAIN SINGH of 2/12 Frontier Force.
2. While in New Guinea as an Indian PW I was a member of 19 Indian Working Party.
3. In August 1944 19 Indian Working Party had its main camp at KANIMBOA with a detachment of about 100 Indians nearby at PAHOM. Sgt. WARIAM SINGH, L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH and I were with the detachment at PAHOM.
4. One day while we were making sac sac Sgt. WARIAM SINGH and L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH quarrelled with one Cpl RAJINDAR SINGH and began beating him. Subedar GANDA SINGH and Subedar SUKHDARSHAN SINGH separated them. A few minutes later I saw Cpl RAJINDAR SINGH go up to Cpl TAKEI and say something. About ten minutes later Cpl TAKEI L/Cpl HATA Pte ISHIYAMA and Pte YASUSAKA approached with a shovel and two sticks. Cpl TAKEI and the two Privates beat Sgt. WARIAM SINGH and L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH with the shovel and sticks until they fell to the ground senseless. Lt. MITSUBA and L/Cpl HATA looked on.
5. Half an hour later they were still lying on the ground. Cpl TAKEI, L/Cpl HATA and Ptes ISHIYAMA and YASUSAKA bound their hands behind their backs with turbans and led them away. Pte ISHIYAMA was carrying a shovel and Pte YASUSAKA a rifle. As they passed the guard hut they were joined by Cpl SHIMIZU who was also carrying a rifle. Lt. MITSUBA followed them. Shortly afterwards I heard three rifle shots.
6. I did not see either of these Indians again. The next day I overheard Subedar GANDA SINGH asking Lt. MITSUBA what had happened to Sgt. WARIAM SINGH and L/Cpl HAZARA SINGH and heard Lt. MITSUBA reply saying that they had been handed over to the Military Police.
7. I was present at a parade of Japanese soldiers at WEWAK on 9 Nov. 45. I there pointed out to Lt. T. H. LIFSCOLBE OF ATTACH 6 Div the undermentioned Japanese soldiers who are referred to by name in paras 4, 5 and 6 hereof. They are Cpl. (now Sgt/Maj) TAKEI, L/Cpl (now Sgt) HATA, Pte (now Cpl) ISHIYAMA, Pte (L/Cpl) YASUSAKA, Lt. MITSUBA and Cpl (now Sgt/Maj) SHIMIZU and are the individuals whose photographs are exhibited hereto

[ and numbered 83,87,90, 100, 70 and 84 respectively.

AND I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1911-1922 conscientiously believing the statements contained therein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED in the field this )  
11th day of November, 1945. ) (sgd) CHAIN SINGH

(sgd) J. C. LOWRY  
(JOHN COWAN LOWRY)  
OFFICER OF AMF

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

(Sgd) T. MORNANE Lt. Col.  
24/9/46.