

NO 189A

Ex 1844

Evidentiary Document No. 5386.

DEATH OF KITIAL SINGH
STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, JEMADAR CHINT SINGH, 2/12 Frontier Force, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

1. In the month of February 1945, when the JAPANESE marched us to YAKANO from YAWA and again back to YAWA, we stopped at FURRINGE on the way. On the following morning I saw Pte MAIDA, a member of our guard (nursing orderly) beating Jemadar KITIAL SINGH. Pte MAIDA had a big stick in his hand and KITIAL SINGH was lying on the ground. Pte MAIDA was beating his head, face and other parts of the body. His head started bleeding and the blood flowed over his face and shirt. He became unconscious. MAIDA left him and went into his hut.
2. We carried KITIAL SINGH to his hut and put water in his mouth and he recovered after half an hour. I asked him the reason for the beating. He told me that MAIDA had called him early in the morning, his boots being dirty with his uncontrollable motion and had order Jemadar KITIAL SINGH to clean them. He said he took the boots to the creek nearby and cleaned them. When he came back Pte MAIDA inspected the boots and found a little dirt in one of the boots and started beating him.
3. After this beating KITIAL SINGH did no work for 3 days. He was very weak and had been beaten so severely that he was not made to work for this period.
4. He was then made to work, although his condition was such that he could do very little. He told MAEDA and others that he was too ill to work. MAEDA said that he was a malingerer and sent him out to work each day.
5. KITIAL SINGH never recovered from the effect of the beating and became weaker and weaker every day.
6. About 3 weeks after he had resumed work he became too sick to eat or walk. We left him alone on his bed for 2 days and he received no medical attention.
7. On the third day he died.
8. The abovementioned incident was also witnessed by L/Cpl FUKAI, the JAPANESE guard who died later on and all the INDIANS present there.

9. I was present at a parade of JAP soldiers at WEWAK on 9 Nov 45. The JAPANESE whom I then pointed out to Lt. T. H. LIPSCOPE, ATIS, att 6 Div, was the person referred to above as Pte MAIDA. He is identical with the person whose photograph is annexed hereto and numbered 101.

AND I MAKE this solemn declaration by virtue of the STATUTORY DECLARATIONS ACT 1911-22 conscientiously believing the statements contained herein to be true in every particular.

DECLARED at WEWAK this)
8th day of January, 1946) /s/ CHINT SINGH JEM
before me)

(JOHN D STEED)
Capt. Officer of AIF

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY.
/s/ T. Mornane, Lt-Col.