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STATEMENT.

Summary of examination of: BEL BHADUR RAI.
Occupation: Sergeant Instructor,
Burma Regimental Centre.
Address: Burma Regimental Centre,
Maymyo.

Duly sworn, states: I am 26 years of age, of Gurkha nationality,
born in Akyab and stationed in Maymyo.

I was a prisoner of war of the Japanese, and during my internment I was made to work for the Kempei Tai as an interpreter.

During June 1944 I was with a detachment of Kempei Tai in HOPIN, looking for Allied parachutists. One day a British infantry Corporal and two British Privates were brought to our house by local Burmese. I do not know which unit they belonged to, but I believe they belonged to 77 Brigade. The Japanese in charge - Sgt. Maj. IWAKI (1 line 3 stars) told me to take the three soldiers upstairs and guard them, which I did. The Corporal had a bad wound in his throat, and was unable to eat or drink; when he drank the water came out from the wound in his throat, and even breathing was very difficult. He asked me for medical aid I asked IWAKI, who said he would try to get some, though none was ever given. After two days the Corporal died, and the two Privates and I buried him nearby.

The day after the Corporal died, a third private was brought in by the villagers. This Private was kept in the room with the others.

The following day, IWAKI said to me that, as the battle was close and as there was little food, he was going to get permission from some superior officer to execute the three prisoners. He went away and came back after about 30 minutes, and told me that he had obtained the necessary permission. He went upstairs, and IWAKI had the three Privates tied together by their wrists. He told them that he was going to kill them and that they could take anything they liked from their kit. IWAKI, myself and IWAKI's orderly, an African P.O.W. Named Baseinkuatav went with the three Privates to a place near HOPIN station where there was a bomb crater. IWAKI told the three Privates to kneel down in the crater. He said that they were his enemies, that he was going to kill them and that they should say their last prayers. They knelt down, and after a short period of silence, IWAKI leant down, and shot the three one by one in the back of the head with a revolver. The last one to be shot did not die at once, so IWAKI drew his Burmese dah and cut twice at the back

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of his neck. When he saw that they were all dead, IWAKI ordered his orderly to cover them with earth from the edge of the crater, and then we left.

(Signed) Sd/. BEL BAHADUR RAI.

Interpreter not required.

Sworn before me (signature) Illegible
(rank) Capt. R.A.
(description) W.C.I.T.2

this fourth day of July 1946.

detailed to examine the above by the Commander-in-Chief,
Allied Land Forces, South East Asia.

Certified that the above is the true copy of the statement of Bel Bahdur Rai.

Date: 13.9.46.

(Signed) W.M. AGARWAL, Capt.
16 W.C.I.T.