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S Y N O P S I S

FORMOSA,

a) Prosecution document numbered 5182, the Affidavit of Col. C. H. STRIFGER, R.A.M.C., is offered for identification and the excerpts marked therein produced in evidence. This document describes the conditions in and the disgraceful treatment of Allied senior officers in KARENKO Camp. Food was grossly inadequate and the officers were subjected to every humiliation that could be devised. They were beaten without reason, and forced to do heavy manual work. One room was allotted by the Japanese to serve as a hospital ward; there was no equipment and drugs were rarely those smuggled in by the P/W. Requests for medicines were largely ignored.

There were periods when beatings were worse than at any other times, suggesting that the 'hate' periods were ordered by the Camp officers who themselves took part in assaulting the prisoners.

b) Prosecution Document numbered 5170B, the Affidavit of W.O.I. J.O. EDWARDS, being offered for identification, the marked excerpts are produced in evidence. This document states that the witness arrived at KINKASEKI Camp, where 1,200 men commenced work in the Copper mines. The workings were unbearably hot, and dangerously without safeguards. Every man who worked in the mines has scars as a result of the conditions and accidents. Hot acid water dripped from low roofs, holes in the grounds were unguarded.

Men who failed to complete the day's task were beaten with the shaft of hammers, three feet long and 1 1/2 inches thick. Men were beaten into insensibility and kicked.

Food was inadequate as were medicines and drugs. Eighty seven men died at KINKASEKI.

In May, 1945, the camp moved to KOKOTSU. Conditions here were dreadful, food reached starvation level, the camp had to be built by the men themselves and food and materials brought up daily by men worn and exhausted from long travel, over 8 miles of rough jungle track.

After the war was over on August 27, the camp moved to TAIHOKU. No provision was made for the sick. Weakened men had to carry the sick themselves on bamboo stretchers under a blazing sun. Two men died on the journey.

c) Prosecution document numbered 5187, the sworn testimony of Sgt. J.L. MASSIMINO, is produced for identification, the marked

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excerpts therein being offered in evidence. This document states that the witness went to HATEO Camp in December, 1944, remaining there for 2 months.

Men were thrown into a water trough and their heads held under water, under the direction of the Camp Commandant. They were then stripped and beaten. A number of the men died of brain fever in the camp. The Commandant assembled all the P/W one day and asked how many men had the violent headaches which was the symptom of the brain fever. Fifty or sixty men raised their hands, whereupon the Japanese remarked that he had a big cemetery and he would try very hard to fill it. The P/W were then dismissed.