

Ex 1726

DOCUMENT 5709

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10043/1/WCLS
H.Q. Allied Land Forces,
South East Asia Command.
2 July 1946.

Royal Netherlands Liaison Section,
S.E.A.C. - - - - -

Subject: BURMA-SIAM Railway - Coolie Labour.

We shall shortly be commencing a trial of the Commander, and certain members of the 1st Patient Convoy Unit, usually known as the KUDO BUTAI.

This Unit bore medical responsibility for all Coolies employed in the construction of the BURMA-SIAM railway. Conditions were appalling, and atrocities of the worst nature frequent.

The death rate is estimated at figures ranging from 50,000 to 150,000 - probably 80,000 is round about the correct figure.

A large number of Javanese coolies were victims, and I shall be glad of any evidence or live witnesses whom you can produce. On the other hand, a very favourable case has already been prepared, so that it will not be necessary for you to collect evidence if you have not already such in your possession. The evidence I have includes statements from Dutch Medical Officers.

The evidence at present available is sufficient to put the following on trial:

- Major KUDO Hikosaku, alias "PAPPI"
 - Cadet Officer TAKANO Sotao, alias "Dr. FU MANCHU"
 - Pte TSUKUMOTO Chuji, alias "SCUMADOR" alias "TED"
 - L/Cpl. ONADERA Shoji, alias "ONATERA" alias "GREEN PANTS"
 - L/Cpl. YASUDA Kinichiro, alias "GEORGE"
 - Pte. ISHIMURA (alias NISHIMURA?) alias "GOGGLES"
 - Pte. FUGITA Saburo, alias "SAMA SAMA" alias "SUMMER SUMMER".
 - Lt. HIKATA.
 - Pte. OSAKI
 - Cpl. ISSHIKOWA, alias "MY BLUE HEAVEN"
 - Pte. D. YAMA
 - Lt. KITHAGO Naokatsu
- There is also a Sergeant known as "PATCHES" but has not yet been identified.

It is assumed that you will wish to have a member sitting on the Court.

ELStJC/CL
Copy to: 1 Aust. War Crimes Section S.E.A.C.
This H.Q. 10043/1/WCLS 28 June '46 refers.

Colonel, Legal Staff,
for D.J.A.G. Allied Land Forces, S.E.A.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

The undersigned, CHARLES JONGENEEL, Captain R.N.I.A., Head of the War Crimes Section of NETHERLANDS FORCES INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (NEFIS) being first duly sworn on oath deposes and states that the annexed report is a full, true, complete and accurate copy of the original document, entitled :

Letter of Deputy Judge Advocate General Allied Land Forces South East Asia to Royal Netherlands Liaison Section, dated 2 July 1946, No. 10043/1/WCLS,

which document is a part of the official records of the NEFIS.

Signature :

Sd/ Ch. Jongeneel

Batavia, July 23rd 1946.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, K. A. de WEERD, LL.D., first Lieutenant R.N.I.A., Senior Official attached to the Office of the Attorney-General, N.E.I.

Sd/ K. A. de Weerd