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\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* REPORT ON IKUNO POW CAMP \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS LEGAL SECTION INVESTIGATION DIVISION

9 February 1946

MEMORANDUM :

SUBJECT : Re Investigation of IKUNO Prisoner of War Camp.

By direction of the Chief, Investigation Division, Lt J B Ammon and Lt S Walters, accompanied by T/4 Toda, as interpreter, proceeded to Ikuno, Japan and made an investigation of the POW Camp there.

(This report to supply information for the prosecution of War Criminals)

1. Location: The address of Ikuno POW Camp is: Kuchigindani, Ikuno-cho, Asago-gun, Hyogo Prefecture.

Military Objectives: The camp is on the outskirts of Ikuno village, about 800 meters from the Ikuno Mine Sugface Plant, this is the nearest military objective. See Exhibit A . The roofs of the buildings were not marked until after 15 Aug. 1945, when large letters PW were painted on.

2. Description: The main entrance to the camp is reached by crossing a bridge. The camp lies along the river bank and is surrounded by a board fence 10' high with sharp bamboo stakes on top. Just inside the gate were the Japanese Offices, quarters, dining room kitchen, guard quarters, and one cell. The cell was 15' x 9' and had one small window.

There were ten barracks. Not all of these were used as quarters for the POW's however. Barracks nos. 1 and 2 were identical, onestory buildings constructed of wood with a mud plaster covering. Dimensions 36 meters x 5.4 meters. Each barracks contained eight rooms

12' 24' x 12'. Barracks No. 1 was used by the POW officers for about 10 days and then they moved to Barracks No. 10. There were 40 officers in all. No. 2 barracks was used as a clothing and equipment warehouse. Outside were 2 wash throughs and 2 letrings and for each

barracks. Outside were 2 wash troughs and 2 latrines, one for each

Barracks Nos. 3,4, and 5 were wooden one story buildings with mud plaster covering, dimensions 41 meters long and 4.8 meters wide. Each barracks contained seven rooms 15' x 12' and quartering ten POWs. At the end of each barracks was a latrine consisting of a urinal and five toilets. Between the barracks were two wash stands.

Barracks No. 6 was never used as quarters, but as a sort of auditorium where the Prisoners put on shows etc.

Barracks Nos. 7,8,9. and 10 were all of the same design and dimensions, 36 meters long and 5 meters wide. All of Barracks No. 7 and one half of barracks No. 8 was used as quarters for enlisted POWs. 18 men slept in each of the rooms, which were 9 meters x 4 meters in size. Straw mats covered the floor boards. The other half of barracks No. 8 and all of No. 9 were used as food, clothing, and equipment warehouses.

No. 10 barracks was POW officers quarters, 5 officers having a room 4 meters x 4.5 meters, crude wooden bunks with straw mats had been constructed in the officers barracks. Each of the latter four

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barracks had a wash stand and a latrine with urinal and toilets.

The hospital was a building 29 meters long and 6 meters wide. Half the building was used as sleeping space for the average number of patients, which was between fifteen and twenty. The rest of the building contained treatment room, medical supply room and office.

The POW bath was in a wooden building 12 meters x 5 meters, with a cement floor. The bath was cement, 10 feet long and 8 feet wide. There were also eight showers in the building.

The remaining building, 15 meters x 5 meters contained a PX, a canteen, tailor shop and shoe shop in which the Prisoners worked.

3. Utilization: The Ikuno POW camp was opened to provide the Ikuno Copper Mining Co. with labor.

Clothing : The prisoners were issued Japanese Army summer uniforms plus cotton fatigues to wear at work. For shoes the Jap canvas shoe was provided and some prisoners still had their own GI shoes. The men working underground were given a miners safety type cap. (This of very cheap construction)

4. Prisoner of War Personnel: On 29 Mar 1945, 400 Prisoners arrived from Tanagawa and Wakayama Camps, American and English. On 31 March 1945, 40 prisoners from Kobe and Naruo - Officers. On 22 Aug. 1945, 6 officers transferred to Wakinohama. On 31 August 1945, 14 officers transferred to various camps.

5. Guards : See attached roster of Japanese Army personnel.

6. Work : All the prisoners from this camp worked for the Iduno Copper Mine ( Mitsubishi Kogyo Kaicha, Ikuno Kogyo Sho)

In the mine the prisoners shoveled, ran drill machines, did timbering and operated mine locomotives. On the outside they did mechanical work, ore-sorting and ore transporting. The officers worked in the camp gardens. One American Captain (Name unknown) had mining experience. He worked underground as advisor and safety man. One Jap laborer or warden to every 15 POWs while at work.

Work Hours 0700 left camp 0800 start work 1130 lunch 1300 start work 1500 quit 30 - 40 mins. walk from camp to mine. All the prisoners got Sunday off, they had the run of the camp on that day.

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Fisher 5 - 6 times a month
Ket Company furnished the food, the army paid the company for
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8. Medical: There were no deaths at the Ikuno Camp. Medical personnel consisted of one company doctor who came very rarely. Two Prisoner doctors and one POW Dentist, three Jap medics and six POW medics. Medical supplies were furnished by the company plus Red Cross supplies.

Injuries were mainly bruises and cuts, although there was one fractured leg. There was an average of 20 patients in the hospital at a time. The most common diseases were beri-beri, pneumonia and colds.

9. Sanitation: See 2 above.

10. Air raid shelters - none provided in the camp, a shelter was provided on the outskirts of the village for Jap civilians, ex-guards said that is case of air raids it was planned to use this. As mentIONed above, the buildings weren't painted to distinguish them from the others until the war'send.

11. Punishment - Nothing that would lead to belief that any atrocities occured in this camp were was brought out. When questioned ex- guards stated that all punishment was left up to the superior officers among the prisoners.

12. During this investigation no leads were uncovered to show any atrocities of any kind.

### CERTIFICATE

We, S Walters, Lt. 0-1332112 and J B Ammon Lt.,0-1185962, certify that the above contained facts are true as we saw or as were told to us during our investigation of Ikuno POW Camp on 7 - 9 February, 1946.

Osaka, Japan

9 February 1946

Hornes B. Ammon

JAVES B ANMON 2d Lt. 0-1185962 Investigating Officer Legal Section GHQ SCAP

SAMUEL E WALTERS 2d Lt., 0-1332112 Investigating Officer Legal Section GHQ SCAP

J Williams

AFFIDAVIT

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1. Japane follows:	ere prison:	, cemps or	hospitals in which	sh I wan a	on "ined ave	a <b>s</b>
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Bandoeng Java Cycle Camp Bata Thimshi Java	via Java		Sept. 43 July 43		Connog Dogg	
Changhi Shing			Sept-oct. 43			
Wakayama Japan Ikuno Japan			Nov. 43-Mch. 45 March-Sept. 45		Naka t. Harawa	
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Name of Victim	Dato	Place	Japaneso Perpetrator
Procter	Jan 5/45	Wakayama	(Seapy)
Wakefield	Feb. 44	do	( Okalagi , ( Sgt. Jumping Jack
			( Camura ( Speedo

Briof description of each atrocity:

Frye--Beaten whilst very ill, died next day.

Procter--Kicked and butted with rifle whilst attempting to walk 2 miles over sand suffering from fractured big tos. Because unable to double b

Wakefield--Heavy beating-no reason

4. I have heard of and have resean to believe the following structive were also committed:

Name of Victim	Date	Place	Japanose Perpetrator
Hough	Mch. 44	Wakayama	Nippon Staff
	1		The second second second
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Brief description of each atrocitiy:

5. I do have (not have) a diary or other documentary evidence. It is presently located at

Subscribed and sworn to before no this 10th day of September, 1945.

A Certified True Copy

Robert E. Covert 2nd Lt., J.A.G.D. (a) ALBERT H. STEWART let LT. (Aray or Nevy Officer Authorized to take Oathe)

(s) W. PROCTER (Sighature)

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British National Office Charge No: United Nations War Crimes Commission Reference: 513

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#### AFFIDAVIT

I, Lloyd Ernest Keene, formerly Pilot Officer with number J53415, at 84 Squadron, Callijati, Java, and of permanent address, White Rock, B.C., make oath and say as follows:

On February 15, 1942, the Jap. army attacked our station with 1. light tanks and infantry. I escaped into the jungle with my air gunner, Sgt. E. Davies, Observer, Sgt. J. Morley and F/O Keeblewhite, with a few wounded British ack ack gunners we made our way to Bandoeng. We were ordered by the British authorities to proceed to Tjillatjap. On arriving there we found the harbour bombed out and the ship that was to evacuate us did not come into the harbour but proceeded to Australia. We were then given permission to leave the island at our own discretion. We picked up two life boats and left with 31 in each. We attempted to reach Australia, but the heavy seas were too much for our load so we put into a small island. Our officer Commanding, W/C Dewdwin, left for Australia with 12 men and told us to remain there for a month, if possible, as he would contact us by air on reaching Australia. Two days later 7 others and myself set out in another boat that we had found here on the coast. After 7 days our boat was capsized off the coast of Java and we were washed ashore. We contacted the Javanese natives there who fed us and gave us clothes. We attempted to hide out in the hills but were picked up by native police who turned us over to the Jap. authorities March 15, 1942. We were placed in camp Tjackjacarta and remained there 4 months. We were only given slight interrogation here and the treatment at this camp was fair, but the rations were very low and many of the prisoners died from malnutrition and lack of medical treatment. The only incident of brutality in this camp was given to 3 Dutch prisoners. They were caught leaving the camp at night while going to see their families. They were given a mock trial then tortured for 24 hours. While this was being carried out, we were forced to dig their graves. On completion they were brought out and made to stand in front of their graves. They were then bayonetted and immediately buried half alive. We were then moved to a large P.O.W. camp at Bandoeng and stayed there a year. The treatment in this camp was fair, except for many beatings, which was the penalty for minor infractions. Food and medical conditions were very bad and many more prisoners died here due to this. Myself and 50 other aircrew members, British and Australian, left for Japan in July, 1943, via Singapore. We arrived in Japan on Nov. 16th, 1943.

2. We were enroute 3 months on the ship Matsu Maru. There were 500 of us to a hold without sanitary arrangments. Only 3 men were allowed on deck at one time. All of the men were sick at one time or another and no medical attention was allowed. Only one English airman (name not known) died of dysentery on the way. He was refused medical care. On arrival in Japan we were placed in camp Wakayama and were stripped of all valuables and interrogated. We were then forced to learn Jap. drill and commands. We immediately started to work in a steel factory in Wakayama doing ordinary labour. Many of the men became sick due to poor rations and this was never rectified; regardless of the sick men, we were not allowed to stop work. Many of our men were carried back and forth to work on stretchers and after 4 or 5 days of this, they would die. In one case an English airman, LAC White, had contracted pneumonia and could not possibly go to work. He was severely kicked and beaten while he lay in bed by a Jap. Sergeant named Keia. LAC White died from this beating the same day. At one time we had 50 men sick with beri-beri and medical treatment was refused. The Japanese claimed this could be cured in another manner. They were stripped and laid on the floors in rows. A substance smelling of incense was placed on their stomachs and set fire to. They did not die from this treatment but they suffered much. Another treatment for beri-beri was the inserting of match sticks into the legs and set fire to. The Commander of this camp was Lieut. Naka and the medical orderly was a 2 star soldier called "The Rat". Another guard, Sgt. Kimura, a dischargee from the Jap. army, took delight in beating the prisoners regularly for no reason at all excepting his dislike for white people, as he put it.

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3. We remained in this camp from Nov.1943, until March, 1945, and during this time we were visited once by the Haugue convention representatives, consisting of a Swiss, R.C. Priest, and a Jap. civilian. They claimed to be Red Cross Officials and were escorted through the camp by the Jap. Commander. A few hours prior to their visit much meat and other foods were brought into the camp and prominently displayed. Our own officers along with the bedridden sick cases were removed from the camp. I was in the kitchen at the time of the visit. The representatives, on seeing the meat, asked me how often we got meat. I answered, "Today we get meat", and I think he understood what I meant. As I answered, the Jap. officer who was standing behind him took up a meat cleaver and shook it at me then slammed it down on the table. We did not get any of the food that was brought in and it was taken away immediately after the representatives left.

We left this camp in March, 1945, and were put in camp Ikuno 4. in the Osaka area. The rations were cut down at this camp but the treatment of the prisoners eased up a little. The majority of the prisoners were forced to work in a copper mine. The beatings continued at this camp are charged to Sgt. Minnimoto and a civilian named Naki (nicknamed "Squeaker"). The C.O. I did not know. During the time spent in these two camps, I received 5 Red Cross parcels that had been tampered with. Other prisoners received less. Many of the parcels were opened before us by the guards then taken away. We had our own doctors, S/L McGraff, R.A.F., and F/L Knox, R.A.F. These doctors travelled between several camps but were given very little or no medical supplies to work with. The treatment of the prisoners gradually became better, commencing in June, 1945, until we were liberated on 15th August, 1945, when air supplies were dropped to us two days later and we took over the camp. The Japanese immediately became very polite and treated us like long lost brothers. Both doctors and our Officer Commanding, Lieut. Frow (King's Own Hussars) kept daily diaries. We left Japan on 8th Sept. and were taken aboard the battleship "TENNESSEE".

The camps mentioned in the above are located as follows:

- (a) Camp Tjackjacarta (Java) may be called Jochja or Jockjacarta - on the main road from Batavia to Soerabaja, and is about half way between Batavia and Bandoeng. (Exact location not known).
- (b) The "large P.O.W. camp at Bandoeng" (Java) referred to in the above statement was on the southern outskirts of Bandoeng about 1 1/2 miles from the city centre, and was at one time a Bitch Army barracks.

- (c) Camp Wakayama (Japan), was a camp on the beach near an airport of the same name - approximate position 34° 10' N, 135° 10' E.
- (d) Camp Ikuno (Japan), is about 50 miles north-east of Osaka on a main rail line. Approximate position 35° 09' N, 134° 50' E.

SWORN BEFORE ME AT THE CITY

/s/ Lloyd E. Keene

OF VANCOUVER, IN THE Province

of British Columbia, this 6th

day of April, 1946.

e. . . .

/s/.W.H.L. Whimster, ...... W.H.L. Whimster, Flight Lieutenant, Western Air Command Headquarters, Vancouver, B.C.