

and

IN THE MATTER of the beating of Private Arthur CLARKE of 4th Reserve MT Company by Japanese Lieutenant TERADA and Private USHIHARA at KEIJO PW Camp, Korea, about February 43.

I, John Alexander TAYLOR of George Street, QUEENS PARK, in the State of Western Australia, formerly WX4986 Private J.A. TAYLOR of 2/4 Aust Machine Gun Battalion, being duly sworn, make oath and say as follows:

1. I was taken prisoner by the Japanese at Singapore on the 15 February 1942. Subsequently I joined a party which left Singapore for Japan on the 16 August 1942. This party was known as the 'Japan Force' and consisted of 100 Australians and approximately 900 Englishmen. We arrived at FUSAN in Korea about the 24 September 42 and went to KEIJO on the 25 September 42.
2. I knew a Private Arthur CLARKE, formerly of the 4th Reserve MT Company, who was a member of the PW with me at KEIJO. In or about the month of February 43 I saw Private CLARKE being taken into the administration office of the Japanese Camp Staff by a Lieutenant TERADA and Private USHIHARA. Prior to his going into the office he had been in the hut with myself and others and Lieutenant TERADA and Private USHIHARA came to the door of the hut and called for Private Arthur CLARKE. I then saw him being taken into their administration office. I remained in the hut for practically an hour and an half afterwards and at the end of approximately an hour and an half after he had been taken into the administration hut I saw Pte. CLARKE re-enter the living hut where I was. When I saw Pte. CLARKE come into the hut I noticed that his eyes were blackened and his face was bruised. I did not hear or see what occurred in the Japanese administration hut after Pte. CLARKE was taken into it but shortly after he re-entered the living hut where I was Pte. CLARKE told me that he had been beaten up by Lieutenant TERADA and Private USHIHARA and that the weapon they had mainly used was a wooden sword.
3. Sometime prior to this occasion when Pte. CLARKE was taken

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*AWM 54 1010/4/137*

AWM 54 1010/4/37

into the Japanese administration hut a supply of Red Cross stores came into the camp. The Japanese proceeded to allocate the supplies in a manner which favoured the officers. Private CLARKE wanted to get up a petition amongst the men protesting against this unfair allocation. As far as I was concerned I did not consider that the allocation was so unfair as to warrant any protest and as far as the medical officers were concerned, in view of the job they were doing, I considered they were entitled to all they could get. I do not think anyone signed the petition because I think the Japanese administration camp staff heard about it before Private CLARKE was able to go very far with it. The Japanese found out about this protest by Pte. CLARKE and in my opinion they regarded him from then on as a marked man.

4. The Lieutenant TERADA I have referred to was the Adjutant of the Camp. After I arrived at KEIJO in about September 42 I remained for a period of about 12 months and left there on the 13 September 43. During the whole time I was at KEIJO Camp the Camp Commandant was Lieutenant TERADA. I subsequently saw Lieutenant TERADA again when I was at KONAN in or about the month of January 1944 when he visited us and on this occasion he had been promoted to a Captain and was wearing the badges of rank of a Captain. A description of Lieutenant TERADA is as follows: about 5'5" in height; weight about 10½ stone; rather fair complexion; he was bandy-legged and had a swaggering kind of a walk; age about 32 or 33 years. Pte. USHIHARA'S description is as follows: Was a first-class private when we arrived there but before I left he had been promoted to Corporal. He was a medical orderly and an interpreter and spoke good English with an American accent. He was about 5'4" in height; wore thick-rimmed glasses; weight about 9½ stone; age about 32 years; rather dark complexion; had spent about 20 odd years in America. His wife had been born in America and could not speak Japanese at that time. She was attending Keijo University for the

J. Jay 109

Almond

AWM 54 1010/4/37

purpose of learning Japanese.

5. TERADA was a very brutal and cruel man and acted very viciously towards the PW. Before going out on working parties every morning all the PW would attend at a parade together with the guards. TERADA would address the guards and I am of the opinion he exhorted the guards to be more cruel to the PW because whenever he gave the guards a pep talk on the morning parade there were always numerous beatings that day and the guards appeared to act more strictly, discipline being enforced in a much more severe manner. On days that TERADA did not address the guards there were very few beatings and it was noticeable that discipline was not so rigidly enforced. I have seen TERADA ill-treat PW by hitting them in the face with his hands when they failed to call out their number correctly or for some other trivial offence whilst on parade. It was apparent from TERADA'S manner that he had a loathing for any white people.

6. For the first three or four months after we arrived at KEIJO Private USHIHARA treated those PW in the hospital where he was a medical orderly quite reasonably. I was in the hospital for a month about three or four months after we arrived at the Camp and I considered USHIHARA'S behaviour then to the sick PW was quite fair. He told me while I was in hospital that he thought the Japanese suspected him of being a spy for the Allies because of his long stay in America. He told me that he had to be very careful in his dealing with the PW as the Japanese would suspect the least sign by him of sympathy towards the PW. A month after I left the hospital USHIHARA'S attitude towards the PW changed completely. Whereas before he had treated the patients in the hospital fairly and even went out of his way to help them to the extent of buying food, cakes and note-books <sup>for them</sup> out of his own money, <sup>had</sup> a month after <sup>at the end of</sup> my stay <sup>in</sup> hospital USHIHARA'S attitude became very unsympathetic towards the PW and he often beat them himself. If a man reported sick to USHIHARA one day it was his duty to report to

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AWM 54 1010/4/37

USHIHARA the next day also whether he had recovered or not from his indisposition. The reason for this was that once you reported being sick you were still sick on the books until you reported again and were examined and marked as fit on the books. On any occasion that man who had reported sick but failed to report the next day to see whether he was still sick or not, USHIHARA would search for the man and administer a beating to him for failing to report. His beating were not particularly vicious but consisted of four or five slaps across the face. USHIHARA left KEIJO a few months later and the next time I saw him was when we had moved to KONAN where USHIHARA used to visit the Camp as an interpreter.

7. About two months after the Red Cross supplies were distributed among the PW in about February 43 I was on a working party which had the job of cleaning out an incinerator in the living quarters of TERADA, his wife and four or five children, in a house at the back of the administration hut. While cleaning up the incinerator at these living quarters I and other members of the working party found <sup>the remains of</sup> 13 Red Cross parcels. I knew there had been 13 parcels because we found 13 half empty tins of 'Galantine' which was a sort of camp pie. From our previous experience of Red Cross parcels I knew that there was only one tin of 'Galantine' to each Red Cross parcel. I also found packages of tea from Red Cross parcels thrown into the incinerator. The Japanese had their own tea which was a green tea having a sweet taste and they did not relish our form of tea. In the incinerator we also found the carton covers for the Red Cross parcels. The packages of tea I saw were small quarter pound packages of an English blend of tea. I forget the name of the manufacturers but it was a Chinese tea and had English printing on the label. It is a well-known tea in England. These quarter pound packages of tea I found in the incinerator were exactly identical with the quarter pound packages of tea which I had seen taken from the Red Cross parcels

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AWM 54 1010/4/137

by myself and other PW when they were distributed to us by the Japanese.

SWORN by the said John Alexander TAYLOR at Perth in the State of Western Australia this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 1946.

J.A. Taylor

Before me: W.W. ...

A Commissioner for taking affidavits in the Supreme Court of Western Australia.