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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH ARMY
United States Army
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

Yokohama, Japan
5 August 1948

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS MATASUKE ISHIMATSU
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS KOSEKI YAMAJI

Review of the Staff Judge Advocate

1. The attached record of trial by common trial of Matasuke Ishimatsu and Koseki Yamaji, at Yokohama, Japan, from 6 October 1947 to 15 October 1947, by a Military Commission appointed by paragraph 25, Special Orders No. 230, Headquarters Eighth Army, United States Army, dated 1 October 1947, having been referred to the Staff Judge Advocate, this review is submitted to the Commanding General.

Personal Data Concerning Accused

NAME: Matasuke Ishimatsu	DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 5 Dec 1945
AGE: 53	DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 6 Oct 1947
RESIDENCE: Moji City, Daiji, Higashifuromachi, 3-Chome	PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan
MARITAL STATUS: Married	PERIOD OF TRIAL: 6 to 15 Oct 1947
RELATIVES: Father, mother, 3 brothers	DATE OF SENTENCE: 15 Oct 1947
EDUCATION: 8 yrs schooling	SENTENCE: CHL for twelve (12) yrs
VOCATION: Farmer	CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No
MILITARY CAREER: 23 yrs service, 1914 to Jan 1930, Sep 1937 to end of war; rank of captain at end of war.	

NAME: Koseki Yamaji	DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 26 Nov 1945
AGE: 59	DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 6 Oct 1947
RESIDENCE: Kagawa-Ken, Nakatada Gun, Zentsuji-Machi, Shimo- yoshida	PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan
MARITAL STATUS: Married	PERIOD OF TRIAL: 6 to 15 Oct 1947
RELATIVES: Wife, mother	DATE OF SENTENCE: 15 Oct 1947
EDUCATION: 8 yrs schooling	SENTENCE: CHL for fifteen (15) yrs
VOCATION: Farmer	CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No
MILITARY CAREER: Broken service from 15 Aug 1937 to end of war	

2. Synopsis of Charges, Pleas, Findings, Legal Sufficiency and Sentence:

<u>Charge and Specifications:</u>	<u>Pleas</u>	<u>Findings</u>	<u>Legally Sustained</u>
ISHIMATSU			
Ch: Accused, at the times and places set forth in the specifications, and during a time of war between the United States and Japan, did violate the Laws and Customs of War.	NG	G	Yes

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Sp 1: At divers times between 27 NG NG
November 1942 and 10 April 1945, at
or near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp No.
4, Mukaishima, Mukaishima Island,
Japan, accused did willfully and un-
lawfully mistreat and abuse numerous
Allied PWs by misappropriating, with-
holding and otherwise converting to his
own use and benefit Red Cross and other
supplies provided and intended for the
use and benefit of Allied PWs

Sp 2: At divers times between 27 NG G Yes
November 1942 and 10 April 1945, at
or near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp No.
4, accused did willfully and unlaw-
fully mistreat approximately eight
unidentified Allied PWs by beating
them with a sword encased in a scab-
bard.

Sp 3: At divers times between 27 NG G Yes
November 1942 and 10 April 1945, at
or near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp No.
4, accused did willfully and unlaw-
fully mistreat and torture one Golab,
a Canadian PW, one Harrick, one Fos-
ter, one Wringer, one Mellon, and num-
erous other Allied PWs, by ordering
and causing them to be placed in
solitary confinement in cells unfit
for human habitation and by otherwise
abusing them.

Sp 4: At divers times between 27 NG G Yes
November and 10 April 1945, at or
near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp No.
4, accused did willfully and unlaw-
fully mistreat and torture numerous
Allied PWs by forcing them to kneel
at attention for long periods of time
with sticks placed behind their knees
and by otherwise abusing them.

Sp 5: At divers times between 27 NG NG
November 1942 and 10 April 1945, at
or near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp No.
4, accused did willfully and unlaw-
fully mistreat John Chagiana, an
American PW, by beating and otherwise
abusing him.

Sp 6: At divers times between 27 NG G Yes
November 1942 and 10 April 1945, at
or near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp
No. 4, accused did willfully and
unlawfully mistreat Wilfred Greaves,
H. E. Haley, L. E. Fryer and one
Yateman, Allied PWs, by forcing
them to work when ill and in an un-
fit physical condition for work and
by otherwise abusing them, thereby
contributing to their death. NG. Except the words "there-
by contributing to their
death" stricken (R. 46)

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Sp 7: At divers times between 27 November and 10 April 1945, at or near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp No. 4, accused did willfully and unlawfully mistreat numerous Allied PWs by beating and otherwise abusing them. NG NG

Sp 8: Between 27 November 1942 and 10 April 1945, at or near Hiroshima Branch POW Camp No. 4, accused did unlawfully disregard and fail to discharge his duty as Commander of said Camp to control and restrain members of his command and persons under his supervision and control by permitting them to commit the following atrocities and other offenses against Allied PWs:

a. Between 7 September 1944 and 10 April 1945, the unlawful mistreatment and torture by Koseki Yamaji of Private Eugene W. Coxe, an American PW, by beating him, by forcing him to kneel on a cement walk for a long period of time with a bamboo pole behind his knees and by otherwise abusing him in cold weather and while said Prisoner was insufficiently clothed. NG G Yes

b. On or about 25 November 1944, the unlawful mistreatment by one Koseki Yamaji of Corporal Christopher Baker, a British PW, by refusing to furnish and to have furnished to him medical supplies and treatment at a time immediately following the sustaining of a serious injury to his right leg and by otherwise abusing him. NG NG

c. Between 27 November 1942 and 10 April 1945, the unlawful mistreatment and abuse by Koseki Yamaji of numerous Allied PWs by misappropriating and otherwise converting to his own use and benefit Red Cross and other supplies provided and intended for the use and benefit of Allied PWs. NG NG

d. At divers times between 27 November 1942 and 10 April 1945, the unlawful mistreatment and torture by one Koseki Yamaji of numerous Allied PWs by ordering and imposing collective punishment on groups of said Prisoners for offenses alleged to have been committed by individual Prisoners of War. NG G No

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