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*M. Dwyer*

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

Yokohama, Japan  
23 July 1948

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS YASUMASA YAMAMOTO  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS SOICHI MIURA  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS TEZIO TAKASHIMA  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS SHUJI KAMADA  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS ISEO HATAKEYAMA  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS MASANOSUKE KURATA  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS SHIGERU OSANAI

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297  
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Review of the Staff Judge Advocate

1. The attached record of trial by common trial of Yasumasa Yamamoto, Soichi Miura, Tezio Takashima, Shuji Kamada, Iseo Hatakeyama, Masanosuke Kurata, and Shigeru Osanai at Yokohama, Japan from 3 March 1948 to 30 March 1948, by a Military Commission appointed by paragraph 4, Special Orders No. 46, Headquarters Eighth Army, United States Army, dated 27 February 1948, having been referred to the Staff Judge Advocate, this review thereof is submitted to the Commanding General.

Personal Data Concerning Accused

NAME: Yasumasa Yamamoto	DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 24 Dec 1945
AGE: 44	DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 3 Mar 1948
RESIDENCE: 100 Banchi, Inari-machi, Toyama City	PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan
MARITAL STATUS: Married	PERIOD OF TRIAL: 3 Mar 1948 to 30 Mar 1948
RELATIVES: Three children, sons 30 and 6; daughter, 13	DATE OF SENTENCE: 30 Mar 1948
EDUCATION: Not shown	SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) yrs
VOCATION: Police officer	CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No
MILITARY CAREER: Japanese Army 1 Dec 1925 to April 1927; re-entered army 13 Nov 1943 as 2d Lt.	

NAME: Soichi Miura	DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 7 Dec 1945
AGE: 30	DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 3 Mar 1948
RESIDENCE: 20 Banchi, Hiramata, Tayama Gun, Minohegun, Tayama-mura, Iwate Prefecture	PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan
MARITAL STATUS: Married	PERIOD OF TRIAL: 3 Mar 1948 to 30 Mar 1948
RELATIVES: Parents, sister, two brothers	DATE OF SENTENCE: 30 Mar 1948
EDUCATION: Not shown	SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) yrs
VOCATION: Not shown	CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No
MILITARY CAREER: Japanese Army 10 February 1940, service in China 3½ yrs, discharged as corporal; re-entered army Oct 1944, promoted to sergeant in June 1945	

NAME: Tezio Takashima	DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 28 Dec 1945
AGE: 40	DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 3 Mar 1948
RESIDENCE: Not shown	PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan

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MARITAL STATUS: Married  
RELATIVES: Four children  
EDUCATION: Graduate of higher primary school, Kosaka Mining Company school  
VOCATION: Mining company employe  
MILITARY CAREER: None. Instructed PW in work for Kosaka Mines

PERIOD OF TRIAL: 3 Mar 1948 to 30 Mar 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 30 Mar 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) yrs  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Shuji Kamada  
AGE: 27  
RESIDENCE: No. 975, 7-chome, Hiratsuka, Shinagawa, Tokyo Prefecture  
MARITAL STATUS: Not shown  
RELATIVES: Parents, five brothers, two sisters  
EDUCATION: Completed seventh grade in school in the U.S., finished middle school in Japan in 1941, entered Keio Univ., political science course, but called to army in 1943  
VOCATION: Not shown  
MILITARY CAREER: Japanese Army Dec 1943, basic and officer training for 5 mos, sent to Kosaka POW Camp 25 Jan 1945 as B-Class NCO candidate

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 15 Aug 1947  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 3 Mar 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 3 Mar 1948 to 30 Mar 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 30 Mar 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) yrs  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Iseo Hatakeyama  
AGE: 50  
RESIDENCE: 59 Bancho, Aza Kayakariba, Tokuda, Yawawa-mura, Higashi, Iwate Gun, Iwate Pref.  
MARITAL STATUS: Married  
RELATIVES: Four children, sons 18 and 5, daughters 22 and 14  
EDUCATION: Graduate Morioke Agricultural School, Iwate Pref.  
VOCATION: Not shown  
MILITARY CAREER: Japanese Army 1 Dec 1920, private, one yr voluntary service, discharged 1 Mar 1921; called into army for maneuvers several times, the last time about June 1931; in Aug 1938 recalled to serve as company commander, served in China with 21st Div medical unit; promoted to captain 10 Mar 1942; recalled 18 Apr 1945; assigned 11 May 1945 as Kosaka POW Branch Camp Commander

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 12 Nov 1945  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 3 Mar 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 3 Mar 1948 to 30 Mar 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 30 Mar 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) yrs  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Masanosuke Kurata  
AGE: 30  
RESIDENCE: 43 Bancho, Nakamachi, Izumi, Akita City  
MARITAL STATUS: Not Married

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 18 Nov 1945  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 3 Mar 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 3 Mar 1948 to 30 Mar 1948

(p. 2 of 34, Yamamoto Base #266)

*Restricted*

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RELATIVES: Not shown  
EDUCATION: Graduate, Higher  
Permanent School  
VOCATION: Not shown  
MILITARY CAREER: Japanese Army  
15 Mar 1940 to 18 Apr 1943;  
recalled June 1944 to end of  
war; entire service was as  
medical corpsman

DATE OF SENTENCE: 30 Mar 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) yrs  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY  
COMMISSION: No

NAME: Shigoru Osanai  
AGE: 31  
RESIDENCE: Motoyama, Kasaka  
Machi, Kazunogun, Akata Pref.  
MARITAL STATUS: Married  
RELATIVES: Not shown  
EDUCATION: Graduate, higher  
primary school  
VOCATION: Not shown  
MILITARY CAREER: Civilian employe  
at Kosaka POW Camp 15 Mar 1945  
to end of war, assistant to  
person in charge of clothing

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 31 Aug 1947  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 3 Mar 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 3 Mar 1948 to  
30 Mar 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 30 Mar 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) yrs  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY  
COMMISSION: No

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

<u>Charges and Specifications:</u>	<u>Pleas</u>	<u>Findings</u>	<u>Legally Sustained</u>
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YAMAMOTO

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: Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, at or near Sendai POW Camp No. 8, Kosaka, Japan, accused did unlawfully disregard and fail to discharge his duties as Commander of said Camp to restrain and control members of his command and persons under his supervision and control by permitting them to commit the following atrocities and offenses against American PWs:	NG	NG	---
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a. Between 25 January and 11 May 1945, the unlawful mistreatment and abuse by Masanosuke Kurata, medical non-commissioned officer of said Camp, of Allen D. Randall, an American PW, by withholding from and denying to him adequate and available medicines and medical treatment.	NG	NG	---
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b. Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, the unlawful mistreatment and abuse by Masanosuke Kurata, medical non-commissioned officer of said Camp, of Stephen Joseph Sanchez, by withholding from and denying to him adequate and available medicines and medical treatment.	NG	NG	---
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c. Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, the unlawful mistreatment and abuse by Masanosuke Kurata, medical non-commissioned officer of said Camp, of Virgil L. Catchings, by withholding from and denying to him adequate and available medicines and medical treatment. NG

Sp 2: Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, at or near Sendai POW Camp No. 8, accused, as Commander of said Camp, did unlawfully mistreat numerous American PWs by withholding from and denying to them adequate and available food and fuel and otherwise abusing them. NG

Sp 3: Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, at or near Sendai POW Camp No. 8, accused did unlawfully disregard and fail to discharge his duties as Commander of said Camp to restrain and control members of his command and persons under his supervision and control by permitting them to unlawfully mistreat William Sherman Allen, Irvin N. Barton and other American PWs by forcing them to work while physically unable to do so. G Yes

Sp 4: Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, at or near Sendai POW Camp No. 8, accused did willfully and unlawfully mistreat Juan Contreras and numerous other American PWs by imprisoning them in a guardhouse without adequate food and heat and otherwise abusing them. NG

Sp 5: Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, at or near Sendai POW Camp No. 8, accused did unlawfully disregard and fail to discharge his duties as Commander of said Camp to restrain and control members of his command and persons under his supervision and control by permitting them to commit the following atrocities and other offenses against American PWs: Nolle Prosequi

a. Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, the unlawful mistreatment by Shuji Kamada of William C. Famm, an American PW, by beating him, causing others to beat him and otherwise abusing him. Nolle Prosequi

b. Between 25 January 1945 and 11 May 1945, the unlawful mistreatment by Shuji Kamada of Stephen Joseph Sanchez, an American PW, by slapping him and otherwise abusing him. Nolle Prosequi

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