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

Yokohama, Japan  
19 May 1949

- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS KAKUZO IIDA
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS NIRO AKITA
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS SABURO HIGURASHI
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS MITSUNARI YAMAGUCHI
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS TORU MIZUNO
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS HIDECHIKA SAKUMA
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS YUKIO TAKAHASHI
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS TSUTOMU TAKAMOTO

Review of the Staff Judge Advocate

1. The attached record of trial of the case of Kakuzo Iida, Niro Akita, Saburo Higurashi, Mitsunari Yamaguchi, Toru Mizuno, Hidechika Sakuma, Yukio Takahashi and Tsutomu Takamoto at Yokohama, Japan, tried from 29 April 1948 to 11 October 1948, by a Military Commission appointed by paragraph 4, Special Orders No. 97, Headquarters Eighth Army, United States Army, dated 29 April 1948, as amended by paragraph 11, Special Orders No. 117, same headquarters, dated 22 May 1948, having been referred to the Staff Judge Advocate, this review is submitted to the Commanding General.

Personal Data Concerning Accused

NAME: Kakuzo Iida	DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 18 December 1945
AGE: 45	DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948
RESIDENCE: Kanagawa-Ken, Kamakura, Gun, Ofuna-Machi, Yeki 253	PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan
MARITAL STATUS: Married	PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to 11 October 1948
RELATIVES: Wife, 3 daughters, 1 son, 4 sisters, 1 brother	DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948
EDUCATION: Elementary Grammar School, 8 years	SENTENCE: Death by hanging
VOCATION: Business man and office employee	CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No
MILITARY CAREER: Camp Commander at Ofuna Prisoner of War Camp from September 1942 until the end of the war with rank first of Warrant Officer and later ensign	

NAME: Niro Akita	DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 16 December 1947
AGE: 49	DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948
RESIDENCE: Ibaragi-Ken, Tsuchiura-Shi, Kosakura-Cho, 3195	PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan
MARITAL STATUS: Married	PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to 11 October 1948
RELATIVES: Wife, 2 daughters, 2 sons, 1 brother	DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948
EDUCATION: Elementary School, 7 years; Middle School, 5 years; Medical College, 4 years	SENTENCE: Death by hanging
VOCATION: Doctor	CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No
MILITARY CAREER: Chief Surgeon of Yokosuka Naval Guard Unit from 23 April 1943 to 15 September 1945 with rank of Captain	

NAME: Saburo Higurashi  
AGE: 46  
RESIDENCE: Chiba Ken, Chiba Gun Honda  
Maru Hirakawa 2216  
MARITAL STATUS: Married  
RELATIVES: Wife, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 2  
brothers, 1 sister  
EDUCATION: Graduated Etajima Naval  
College in July 1925; Graduated Naval  
Gunnery School; Graduated Naval Tor-  
pedo School; Graduated Kasumibaura Air  
Elementary course  
VOCATION: Farmer  
MILITARY CAREER: Lieutenant Commander  
at Yokosuka Naval Guard Unit from 15  
May 1942 to 1 September 1943

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 9 December 1947  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to  
11 October 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for thirty-two (32) years  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Mitsunari Yamaguchi  
AGE: 35  
RESIDENCE: Kanagawa Ken, Yokosuka-Shi,  
Zushi-Machi, Sakurayama 742  
MARITAL STATUS: Married  
RELATIVES: Wife, 2 sons, 1 daughter,  
1 sister  
EDUCATION: Etajima Naval College,  
Graduated 19 March 1936  
VOCATION: Office clerk  
MILITARY CAREER: Chief Security Officer  
with rank of Lieutenant Commander of  
the Yokosuka Naval Guard Unit from 1  
September 1944 to 25 August 1945

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 9 December 1947  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to  
11 October 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for life  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Toru Mizuno  
AGE: 31  
RESIDENCE: Fukushima-Ken Taiira-Shi,  
Hachimankoji No. 76  
MARITAL STATUS: Married  
RELATIVES: Wife, 1 daughter, mother,  
brother  
EDUCATION: Hiroshima Naval College,  
graduated July 1939  
VOCATION: Factory employee, office  
clerk  
MILITARY CAREER: Chief Security Officer  
of Yokosuka Naval Guard Unit with rank  
of Lieutenant from 5 May 1944 to 31  
August 1944

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 19 December 1947  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to  
11 October 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for fifteen (15) years  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Hidechika Sakuma  
AGE: 49  
RESIDENCE: Kure Nakayama-Tocho, 13-1  
Hiroshima-Ken  
MARITAL STATUS: Married  
RELATIVES: Wife, 5 children  
EDUCATION: Graduated from Naval Academy  
VOCATION: Clerk  
MILITARY CAREER: Career in Imperial  
Japanese Navy; Highest rank attained:  
Captain

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 22 December 1947  
DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948  
PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to  
11 October 1948  
DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948  
SENTENCE: CHL for twenty-two (22) years  
CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Yukio Takahashi  
 AGE: 32  
 RESIDENCE: 2 Choma, Daita Setagaya-Ku  
 Tokyo-To  
 MARITAL STATUS: Married  
 RELATIVES: Wife, 2 children, father,  
 mother, 3 brothers  
 EDUCATION: Graduated Grammar School,  
 Keio Middle School, Keio University,  
 Pre-medical School, Keio Medical  
 University  
 VOCATION: Doctor  
 MILITARY CAREER: Medical Officer with  
 rank of Lieutenant, Senior Grade assign-  
 ed to the Yokosuka Naval Guard Unit  
 from August 1943 until the end of the  
 war

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 5 May 1948  
 DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948  
 PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
 PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to  
 11 October 1948  
 DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948  
 SENTENCE: CHL for twenty-seven (27) years  
 CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

NAME: Tsutomu Takamoto  
 AGE: 28  
 RESIDENCE: 2133 Hiratsuka, Hiratsuka  
 City, Kanagawa Prefecture  
 MARITAL STATUS: Married  
 RELATIVES: Wife, child  
 EDUCATION: Graduate of dental and medi-  
 cal schools  
 VOCATION: Physician  
 MILITARY CAREER: Probationary Officer  
 from September 1944 until 20 January  
 1945; Lieutenant, Jr Grade attached  
 to the Yokosuka Naval Guard Unit from  
 about 24 January 1945 to the end of  
 the war

DATE OF CONFINEMENT: 4 May 1948  
 DATE OF ARRAIGNMENT: 17 May 1948  
 PLACE OF TRIAL: Yokohama, Japan  
 PERIOD OF TRIAL: 29 April 1948 to  
 11 October 1948  
 DATE OF SENTENCE: 11 October 1948  
 SENTENCE: CHL for three (3) years  
 CLEMENCY RECOMMENDED BY COMMISSION: No

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

Charges and Specifications:

Pleas

Findings

Legally Sustained

Kakuzo Iida

Charge: Accused, at the times and places set forth in the specifications hereto attached, did violate the Laws and Customs of war.

G

Yes

Sp 1: That from about 28 September 1942 to 1 September 1945, accused did willfully and unlawfully mistreat and torture numerous American and Allied Prisoners of War by unlawfully placing them in solitary confinement for long periods of time and by failing to recognize their status as Prisoners of War.

G

Yes

Sp 2: That from about 28 September 1942 to 1 September 1945, accused did unlawfully disregard and fail to discharge his duty, as Commander of said Camp, by reducing rations for long periods of time; by failing and neglecting to provide adequate quarters and heat, and by failing to provide proper medical treatment, available drugs and medical supplies, thereby contributing to the deaths of W. H. Walker, Norman Emil, Kenneth Flynn, Richard Hunt, William Zimmer, Ernest Peschau, Harry U. Sweet and Arthur Gill, American Prisoners of War, and Marton Seus Kruisings and Anton Mindis, Allied Prisoners of War.

G

No

except the words "by reducing rations for long periods of time" and the words "quarters and" and the words "Ernest Peschau" and the words "and Arthur Gill" and the words "and Anton Mindis, Allied Prisoners of War". Of the excepted words, NG.

It is to be noted, in connection with this same specification, that a motion of the Defense for a finding of Not Guilty was sustained in part as

*Restricted*

to the words "Harry U. Sweet" and the words, "and Marten Seus Kruisings", as shown on Page No. 1891 of the record.

Sp 3: That between 1 June 1945 and 31 July 1945, accused did willfully and unlawfully order and cause Japanese personnel to mistreat and torture, R. H. O'Kane and one Lieutenant Fanagan, American Prisoners of War, by beating and otherwise abusing them. NG

It is to be noted that on motion of the Defense for a finding of Not Guilty it was sustained on Page 1891 of the record.

Sp 4: That from about 28 September 1942 to 1 September 1945, accused did willfully and unlawfully order, cause and permit Japanese personnel on duty at said camp to mistreat, abuse and torture numerous American and Allied Prisoners of War. NG

G

Yes

Sp 5: That between 28 September 1942 and 1 September 1945, accused did unlawfully disregard and fail to discharge his duty by refusing and failing to provide proper medical attention and treatment to numerous American and Allied Prisoners of War. NG

G

No

Sp 6: That on numerous occasions between 28 September 1942 and 1 September 1945, accused did willfully and unlawfully withhold and misappropriate food and Red Cross supplies intended for the use and benefit of American and Allied Prisoners of War. NG

G

Yes

except the words "numerous", substituting therefor the word "several" and except the words "withhold and". Of the excepted words, NG. Of the substituted words, G.

Sp 7: That at divers times between 28 September 1942 and 1 September 1945, accused, did unlawfully disregard and fail to discharge his duty to control and restrain members of his command and persons under his supervision and control, by permitting them to commit the following brutal acts, atrocities and other offenses against American and Allied Prisoners of War: NG

G

Yes

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