

KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES

HEARING
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES
OF THE
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INVESTIGATIONS
OF THE
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CONTENTS

	Page
Appendix-----	148
Index-----	148a
Testimony of—	
Buttrey, Capt. Linton J., Headquarters, MRTC, Camp Pickett, Va..	110
Daniels, Cpl. Willie L., 6006th ASU, Fort Lewis, Wash.....	139
Kinard, Charles Edward, Quincy, Fla.....	97
Manring, Roy Paul, Jr., New Albany, Ind.....	128
Matta, Sgt. George J., 1202d ASU, Army Base, Boston, Mass.....	113
Rhoden, Sgt. Barry F., Headquarters, Florida Military District, Jacksonville, Fla.....	104
Sharpe, Sgt. Charles Robert, 14th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion, Fort Myer, Va.....	133
Todd, Lt. Col. Jack R., JAGC, Chief, War Crimes Division, Office of the Zone Staff Judge Advocate, Headquarters, Korean Com- munications Zone, Korea.....	77, 132
Treffery, Sgt. Wendell, Murphy Army Hospital, Waltham, Mass.....	86

SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITS

	Introduced on page	Appears on page
5. Photograph-----	85	*
6. Photograph-----	85	*
7. Photograph-----	85	*
8. Photograph-----	85	*
9. Magazine "United Nations POW's in Korea," published by Chinese People's Committee for World Peace, Peking, China, 1953.....	94	*
10. Photograph-----	131	148
11. Photograph-----	132	*
12. Photograph-----	132	148a
13. Photograph-----	133	*

*May be found in the files of the subcommittee.

KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1953

UNITED STATES SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
KOREAN WAR ATROCITIES OF THE PERMANENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
Washington, D. C.

The Subcommittee on Korean War Atrocities met at 10:30 a. m., pursuant to recess, in the Caucus Room, Senate Office Building, Senator Charles E. Potter, chairman of the subcommittee, presiding.

Present: Senator Charles E. Potter, Republican, Michigan and Senator Joseph R. McCarthy, Republican, Wisconsin.

Also present: Senator Herman Welker, Republican, Idaho; Senator Prescott Bush, Republican, Connecticut; Senator William A. Purtell, Republican, Connecticut; and Robert L. Jones, research assistant to Senator Potter.

Also present, the following staff members of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations: Francis P. Carr, executive director; Donald F. O'Donnell, assistant counsel; Ruth Young Watt, chief clerk.

Senator POTTER. The committee will come to order. This is a continuation of the hearings that began yesterday on war atrocities committed against our soldier prisoners of war in Korea. The first witness this morning will be Col. Jack Todd. Colonel Todd.

Will you raise your right hand please. Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Colonel TODD. I do.

STATEMENT OF LT. COL. JACK R. TODD, JAGC, CHIEF, WAR CRIMES DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE ZONE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE, HEADQUARTERS, KOREAN COMMUNICATION ZONE, KOREA

Senator POTTER. Colonel, will you identify yourself for the record, your full name and your present assignment?

Colonel TODD. Yes. I am Lt. Col. Jack R. Todd, JAGC, currently assigned as Chief of the War Crimes Division, Office of the Zone Staff Judge Advocate, Headquarters, K-COM-Z. That's Korean communications zone. Is that sufficient, sir?

Senator POTTER. I understand you are a Texan?

Colonel TODD. Yes. I was born in Corpus Christi.

Senator POTTER. That will not be held against you as far as the committee is concerned.

Colonel TODD. Fine; I have a passport.

Senator POTTER. You may continue.

Colonel Todd. Following Colonel Wolfe's remarks of yesterday I should like to outline briefly to you the operations of the War Crimes Division as it is today and has been for the past 14 months.

The Division is organized into several branches, the most important from an operational standpoint being the Case Analysis Branch, the Investigations Branch, and the Historical Branch, the latter containing Statistical and Order of Battle Sections. The functions of the Case Analysis Branch is to review and analyze and keep under continual scrutiny the case files of the Division, the purpose of this continual scrutiny and reanalysis being to detect what gaps, if any, exist in the evidentiary chain, and by virtue of those gaps to provide the field investigating teams with material. In a few moments I will describe a typical case operation and you will see how the functions of the various branches dovetail.

The functions of the field team are to perform investigations in the field, the object of which is to secure probative evidence of the commission of war crimes and to charge it against known or unknown perpetrators. In order that you may better appreciate the functions of this organization I should like to outline a typical case, but before doing so I should like to say that there are many, many deviations from the norm, and they are so numerous that I won't comment upon them. However, I don't want to leave the impression that every case goes off like this ideal one that I will outline for you.

Since the bulk of our old cases, that is, cases that were in the files prior to the initial exchange of sick and wounded prisoners, are predicated on confessions of enemy prisoners of war, I will use a case of that type as an illustration.

Our team interrogates a prisoner of war who confesses that he participated in the murder of unarmed American prisoners of war. He goes into some detail, stating that on the 30th of April 1951 his unit was engaged in a fire fight with elements of the 24th United States Infantry Division. After a brief encounter the allied troops are pushed off of hill so-and-so and the PW's unit occupies it. After consolidating their positions they organize a search party under the command of our enemy PW, who was then a junior lieutenant. This search party rounded up 14 American prisoners, several of whom were wounded, some seriously. He reports this fact to his battalion commander. The prisoners are herded together and left without medical care or food until the next day. Early the next morning, elements of the 24th United States Division launch a counterattack, which is successful. When it becomes apparent that the Communist must give up the hill, the battalion commander orders our junior lieutenant to execute the American prisoners of war because he cannot conveniently evacuate them to the rear. Accordingly, the execution is accomplished. When the allied troops reoccupy the hill they find the bodies of the prisoners, laid out in a neat row with a bullet hole in the back of each head, obviously an atrocity. That is the general line of the old confessions.

This confession now is turned over to our Case Analysis Branch, which reviews the confession itself in an effort to determine whether or not it sounds authentic. This is done by trained lawyers, because you can eliminate many of these confessions by their own obvious falsity. In some of them it stands out perfectly plainly. In others where it seems to make sense we pursue those.

Senator POTTER. Colonel, did you find much reluctance on the part of the Communist PW's in making these confessions?

Colonel TODD. Apparently in the early stages of the game, no. Colonel Hanley of course can answer that question for you better than I can, because he was there at the beginning. We did have some prisoner interrogations after I got there in September of last year. From the tone of the confessions, apparently there was not only no reluctance, there was an obvious willingness to tell their stories.

Senator POTTER. I understand in the early stages many of them were bragging about the atrocities that they committed.

Colonel TODD. Yes. As I say, Colonel Hanley can describe that better as an eye witness.

Senator POTTER. Yes.

Colonel TODD. Was that all your questions?

Senator POTTER. Yes.

Colonel TODD. After our Case Analysis Branch reviews this confession and comes up with the idea that it looks good, it looks all right, then we run what we call an OB check, an order of battle check. We have an Order of Battle Section in the shop, so our OB people run a check to determine first whether or not this prisoner's unit—of course, he has identified his unit in his confession—whether or not his unit was in the vicinity of the alleged execution situs on the date at which he said the execution took place. In our hypothetical case we will assume that the OB check is positive; in other words, that the confession could be true because the man's unit was there. The Case Analysis Branch then gets the case back and they prepare what we call a field file, which is simply an extract of the confession, showing what was done and where it took place.

Then maps are prepared with the necessary overlays, and if the PW gave us a sketch of the situs that is included, and this field file is then placed in the hands of a field investigating team. This war crimes field team then proceeds to the situs of the alleged atrocity and interviews all available witnesses, usually commencing with the village hanchō as he is called, or mayor, head man of the village.

Senator POTTER. That is to determine what atrocity was committed behind our lines.

Colonel TODD. In territory that we have within our possession; yes.

They start generally, as I say, with the hanchō or the mayor, the headman of the village. Then they go to the nearest police box, consult all of what you would call the prominent local citizens to find if they found any bodies or if they saw anything and so on.

The field team is accompanied, of course, by a Korean interpreter who in theory at least speaks English and writes English. Sworn statements are taken, both positive and negative, from all persons having any knowledge of the crime. These statements are then returned to the War Crimes Division by the field team where they are compared against the PW's confession as a part of process of building a chain of evidence. Meanwhile, a request has been prepared by the administrative branch of the War Crimes Division. A request has been prepared for the graves registration officer of the Quartermaster, requesting that they check their records to determine if any recoveries of American bodies were made in that area together with all details of the recovery.

This request, too, must be accompanied by the necessary extract from the PW's confession and by such maps, overlays, and so forth as are required to assist the GRO in determining the answer to our query.

Now, if we receive an affirmative answer from GRO, "Yes, we found 14 bodies in the area; they were recovered some 9 or 10 months after the execution; they were in a skeletal state, but we can identify them as Americans," we have another step in the chain. Then if we find, in addition to that, the field team has picked up the statements of witnesses who saw dead American bodies or who helped GRO find the situs and disinter the bodies, we have now built a case against our lieutenant. We have substantiated his confession and established a corpus delicti. Of course, all cases are not so simple; this is the ideal, not the normal. For example, if there is a conflict or a discrepancy in the statements of the witnesses—

Colonel WOLFE. Will you just state when you give this a case number. We have spoken of cases all the way through. Will you come to that?

Colonel TODD. When we give it a case number?

Colonel WOLFE. Call it a case.

Colonel TODD. When we first open a file it is just called an incident, but when we begin to establish evidence, when it looks as though the thing is going to turn out positive, we give it a case number.

Colonel WOLFE. And that is what we have referred to in our report as cases?

Colonel TODD. Right, sir.

As I stated all cases are not like this one I outlined.

For example, if there is a conflict or a discrepancy in the statements of the witnesses as compared to the confession of the PW, it may be necessary to take one additional step. In this case the War Crimes Division forwards a request for investigation to the Minister of Home Affairs of the Republic of Korea, for the attention of the National Police Bureau. As in the case of the request to GRO this request also contains an extract from the confession of the PW written in both Korean and English and the necessary maps, overlays, sketches, and so forth, to assist the National Police.

When this request for investigation is received by the National Police Bureau, it is forwarded through national police channels to the nearest police box, to the situs of the execution. This police station sends out an investigator, a detective, to conduct an independent investigation, independent of that conducted by the War Crimes Division and by GRO. He conducts an investigation and takes statements again from all the neighbors in the vicinity. Frequently, this step results in the clearing up of minor discrepancies that may have appeared.

For example, some minor discrepancies in dates appear because frequently Koreans will give you a date based on the lunar calendar rather than the Gregorian calendar which we use and there is roughly a 4 to 6 weeks' variation. When we get the National Police of Korea on the thing they can clear that up for us and that is one of their most helpful aspects.

Since we now have a case against our lieutenant, there is only one more step for the War Crimes Division and that is to prepare the case for consideration by the command staff judge advocate, Headquarters, Armed Forces, Far East.

I have mentioned before I started this outline that there would be many deviations from the typical case which I have outlined. In the first place, many of our incidents are not predicated upon confessions by enemy PW's, but upon reports initiated by other agencies, such as the graves-registration officer, Counter Intelligence Corps, G-2, Republic of Korea civilians, Republic of Korea Police, and many other sources.

However, the procedure I have outlined should give you an idea of the way in which we work. I will omit at this time any discussion of the difficulties posed by the terrific language barrier, the weather, and the terrain in Korea with which most of us I suppose are generally familiar.

Having briefly described a typical case operation, I should like to describe the method by which War Crimes Division arrives at its statistics and the methods by which it compiles the many charts that have appeared in our reports.

To begin with let us define materials as best we can. As General Ridgway pointed out yesterday, a victim, as that term is used, is one against whom an atrocity has been committed.

Senator POTTER. Is that called a case?

Colonel TODD. No, sir.

Senator POTTER. Do you have a case for every victim?

Colonel TODD. No, sir. One case may have hundreds of victims. One case may have one victim.

Senator POTTER. So when you speak of the number of cases that does not mean the number of victims?

Colonel TODD. That is not related to the number of victims.

Colonel WOLFE. Each case will at least have one victim?

Colonel TODD. Oh, yes; each case will at least have one, but it may have 400.

Colonel WOLFE. And, 1,600 cases would represent at least 1,600 people?

Colonel TODD. At least 1,600, but many, many more, of course. As I say, a victim is a person or an individual against whom an atrocity has been perpetrated. We must bear in mind that he is not necessarily dead. A single individual may be the victim of many atrocities and yet be alive today. Many of them are, you have seen some of them testify here and you will see some more of them, so let us not confuse victims with fatalities. All fatalities are victims. The converse is not true.

Another term which we use in our charts: Reported victims. These people represent the maximum number of victims reported to the War Crimes Division without any regard to the established credibility of the source of the information. Probable victims: This represents the number of victims reported by usually reliable but not infallible sources. They are considered as probable because upon scrutiny of the report by trained officers who are able usually to detect and eliminate obvious exaggerations, duplications, and so forth, they appear probable.

Evaluated victims: This represents the number of victims arrived at by first eliminating obvious exaggerations and duplications and then checking our results against other sources of information, such as War Crimes field investigations, AG casualty figures, ROK investi-

gations, GRO reports, additional reports of the same incidents, and so forth.

Bodies recovered, another term we use in our charts, is of course self-explanatory.

Survivors: That is also self-explanatory.

To go back briefly to probable victims, I should like to point out that frequently it is very difficult to decide between probable and evaluated. Many times the evaluation, the comparison of conflicting information received from two or more individual sources, will place your case or your incident in a twilight zone, midway between evaluated and probable. In such cases we have laid the weight of the evidence on the lesser of the two figures in arriving at our conclusions.

We indicated in our interim historical report cumulative to June 30, 1953, that reported American victims number 10,233. Bearing in mind that one man could be a repeat victim, that figure is not proportional. We could have reported 60,000 victims. One man being one victim one time.

Senator POTTER. It is not 10,000 atrocities. It is 10,000 victims, some who have been victims of several atrocities?

Colonel TODD. That is right. Of these reported that we have, 6,113 were listed as probable. This is done by eliminating some duplication and exaggeration and this figure is reasonably accurate. Possibly it is low. In a TWX to the Department of the Army on May 13, 1953, when we inquired—War Crimes Division was queried by the DA as to the number of deaths of American soldiers due to enemy atrocities—we submitted the figure as a best estimate, which is what the Department of the Army asked for, of 1,379. That, of course, was based on old, well-documented incidents such as the Taejon massacre, Hill 303 and Haedong murders, and so forth. At that time—this was April 13, 1953—we had little or no knowledge of what was transpiring in enemy prison camps. There were few escapees and those who did escape accomplished it generally after only a few days of marching and practically no confinement.

Once the men were back, way back behind the lines, they didn't get away, or if they did they didn't get back to us, so we had little or no information as to what was transpiring in prison camps. In response to another Department of the Army query in November 1953 we submitted another best estimate of American deaths as 5,639. This was because Little Switch had been completed, and we had some idea of what had happened in those POW camps. This figure was arrived at by adding our old incidents figure that we had reported in the April TWX, of 1,379 to the results of information volunteered by Little Switch returnees, 4,514 deaths, not connected with old incidents. We added those two figures and came up with 5,639. Once again that figure is conservative. It is probably low. We don't know for sure.

Senator POTTER. Do you expect that figure will increase after you have completed the investigation as a result of Big Switch?

Colonel TODD. I can't say that I expect it, sir, but I would not be at all surprised. I wouldn't be at all surprised.

Our figures of 6,113 victims and 4,514 deaths are very near the truth. They are, of course, subject to revision either upward or downward as information volunteered by returnees under Big Switch comes under analysis, but the revision will not be large in number of fatali-

ties. That figure checks too closely with those FAG casualty division to suffer any major revision. As to the number of victims, Big Switch information will probably revise that figure upward.

In short, the facts are there. Much remains to be done in the nature of analysis, comparison, evaluation, integration of new information. We hear camps referred to by one returnee: "I was in peaceful valley." Another man who is in another batch of prisoners says, "I was in death valley."

We are aware of the fact that of all those nicknames for those camps, there may be some duplication under a different name. We will never know for sure about all of them, but when we get the balance of this volunteered information from operation Big Switch we will come mighty close to knowing the facts, but until we do we can't pin a figure to the wall and say this is it. But we feel that our returnees are neither prevaricating nor intentionally exaggerating. You have heard some of these men testify to their experiences while in Communist hands.

You are about to hear some other. You will be shocked and you have been shocked at what they have said and will say. However, bear in mind that hundreds could be summoned here to relate similar experiences and the story that they have voluntarily unfolded, that of deliberate destruction of the human will, of human dignity, and worth. In short, the animalizing of helpless humanity through starvation, torture, neglect, is one of the most scathing indictments of Communist-inspired brutality in their long and checkered career in this dubious field of endeavor.

Do you have any questions, sir?

Senator POTTER. Do you have any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Only one, Mr. Chairman.

Actually on the basis of the figures, how many came back on Little Switch and Big Switch, Colonel; do you know?

Colonel TODD. I think without referring to any documents, 3,339 on Big Switch and 169 on Little Switch. That is pretty close.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Actually then on a percentage basis about roughly one-third of our PW's were returned and two-thirds were victims of murders and various other crimes?

Colonel TODD. Not all together. That is one reason why these figures will always be a little bit off. For example, you can have an instance, as the Senator well knows from combat experience, where a man can be in a foxhole on the frontline and suddenly finds as a roommate in the foxhole a 126-millimeter mortar shell from the enemy. If that happens you won't find a fingernail or toenail. That man is actually a bona fide missing-in-action case. The same as if he gets buddy-buddy with a big artillery shell; you don't find anything to bury. Nobody saw him die, so he is a bona fide missing-in-action. That is a rarity. It is a rarity, but it can happen. It can't be altogether discounted so there would be some actual bona fide MIA's so let's put it this way: The bulk of those who fail to return died as a result of illegal postcapture activities by our enemy.

Mr. O'DONNELL. And the bulk of those who failed to return is virtually twice the number of those who actually did return?

Colonel TODD. It approximates it, yes.

Mr. O'DONNELL. So that at a rough estimate on the basis of the probables, the percentage would be about one-third returned, two-thirds still unaccounted for?

Colonel TODD. I will go along with that as a rough sort of a proposition.

Senator POTTER. We have had many inquiries from mothers or wives as to their loved one who has been declared missing in action and had not been returned. It can be assumed that they died as a result of being captured, while some can be deaths resulting from military action where the body had not been found?

Colonel TODD. That is right. You must take into consideration, sir, that there are bona fide cases where a man was wounded and captured and although technically he was in a PW status, he died the next day, and he would have died anyway. You see, the enemy activity did nothing—there are a few of such. That is the reason the figures will never be firm. As Don put it there a few minutes ago—

Senator POTTER. In accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention, however, deaths that occur in enemy hands to prisoners of war should be recorded.

Colonel TODD. That is right, sir.

Senator POTTER. What has been your experience? Have we received knowledge as to the deaths that have occurred to our PW's from the Communists?

Colonel TODD. No, sir. As the Senator knows, there were some few lists supposedly furnished by the Communists to the International Red Cross and forwarded over. You saw some of them in the newspaper. They are pitifully inadequate. The returnees from camp 1 and camp 2 will tell you, as you heard already, that the prisoners were buried in unmarked graves and, so far as the returnees know, no records, or at least pitifully inadequate records were kept. They don't do paperwork like we do.

Mr. JONES. Colonel, would you say that the Red Chinese and North Koreans violated every provision of the Geneva Convention with respect to the treatment of our war prisoners?

Colonel TODD. That would be a pretty broad statement without going through it, but I am pretty sure that they did. I might be able to find one in here that they didn't violate, but I doubt it.

Senator POTTER. If they did not violate it, it was more by happenstance than by design?

Colonel TODD. I would say this: if they didn't violate it, it is one that isn't involved. That is the reason I hesitate to say that they violated all of them, because there may be several that are not involved.

Senator POTTER. Any other questions? If not, I wish to thank you, Colonel, and I want to express again the committee's deep appreciation for the cooperation that you have given this committee. I know that the American people are interested in knowing the thorough work that the commission has done and the cases, when cases are mentioned, entail more than just hearsay. It is more than just one person's story. Efforts have been made and cases have been documented to back up the atrocity charges.

Colonel TODD. Yes.

Senator POTTER. So no one can say that we are just using numbers and figures indiscriminately.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Before the witness is excused I would like to have him look at some photographs to see if he can make an identification and a brief description of each photo.

Colonel TODD. Yes. This is 76, the Suncheon tunnel massacre.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Would you briefly describe that photograph?

Colonel TODD. Yes. It shows the body of an American soldier with his hands bound together by ropes and he is dead of course and quite obviously the victim of murder after capture. It is obviously the picture of a victim of the Suncheon tunnel massacre.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may I have that marked as an exhibit for the record?

Senator POTTER. Without objection, it will be so ordered and made a part of the record.

(The photograph was marked "Exhibit No. 5" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Colonel TODD. This is another photograph of an American soldier with a gaping wound in his chest. It is from our case file 76, the Sunchon tunnel massacre. Obviously once again the soldier is dead and obviously he is a victim of murder after capture.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may I have that marked as an exhibit for the record?

Senator POTTER. Without objection, it will be marked as an exhibit and placed in the record.

(The photograph was marked "Exhibit No. 6" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Colonel TODD. This is another photograph from KWC 76, very similar to the other two, the corpse of an American soldier with his hands in such a position as to indicate that they were bound when he was murdered.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may I have that photograph marked as an exhibit in the record?

Senator POTTER. It will be placed in the record and marked as an exhibit.

(The photograph was marked "Exhibit No. 7" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Colonel TODD. This is also from KWC 76. It shows a dead American soldier lying on a litter. From the position of his hands you can tell that he was bound before he was slain, and that of course is an indication that he was killed after capture.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Was that part of the Sunchon tunnel?

Colonel TODD. Same case, Sunchon tunnel.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Same case? May I have that marked as an exhibit?

Senator POTTER. Without objection, that photograph will be marked as an exhibit and placed in the record.

(The photograph was marked "Exhibit No. 8" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Senator POTTER. Thank you. I think it well to acknowledge the efforts of our good friend Frank Finn, who has been pointing out on the map the various places that are mentioned in the testimony. Major Finn represents the JAGC office in the Department of the Army.

Sergeant Treffery.

Sergeant, do you swear the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I do, sir.

**TESTIMONY OF SGT. WENDELL TREFFERY, PATIENT IN MURPHY
ARMY HOSPITAL, WALTHAM, MASS.**

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, will you be seated please?

Sergeant, will you identify yourself for the record, your full name and present assignment?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Sir, my name is Sgt. Wendell Treffery, RA-115660, presently stationed as a patient in Murphy Army Hospital in Waltham, Mass. My hometown is Terryville, Conn.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, would you tell the committee when you went to Korea and what outfit you were with at the time?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I went over as an aid man, sir; with the 7th Division, landed at Inchon September 18.

Senator POTTER. I think it would be a little easier if you spoke a little more slowly. Would you briefly tell the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Sergeant TREFFERY. We was ambushed. We was headed for the Chosen Reservoir, was attached to the 1st Marine Division at the time. We was ambushed one night about 7 o'clock.

Senator POTTER. You were what?

Sergeant TREFFERY. We was attached to the 1st Marine Division, headed for the Chosen Reservoir. A lot of our troops were surrounded by Chinese forces the other way there. About 7 o'clock in the evening we was ambushed by Chinese forces. After fighting all night we was forced to surrender in the morning. A Chinese interpreter hollered from the mountainside and told us to surrender or we would be all wiped out and if we surrendered they would take all the wounded back on to our frontlines. The senior officer in charge went down the road and talked terms to the Chinese interpreter. He came back and told us we were forced to surrender, we had no other alternative. After telling us that, we just ruined everything possible to save the enemy from getting hold of it.

Senator POTTER. You mean you destroyed your weapons and things of that kind?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Everything that would do them any good. After the Chinese moved in on us they put us all in two files, marched us up the side of the mountain to three log cabins on the mountain. There they took most of our heavy clothing, outer garments, and left most of us a pair of fatigues. At the time it was about 20 below zero.

Senator POTTER. About 20 below zero. Did they take your shoes?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes; they got my boots. We stayed there until the 1st day of December.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, did the Communists send the wounded prisoners back to our lines as they agreed to?

Sergeant TREFFERY. We found out, sir, after starting out on the march again, starting the 1st of December, they backtracked down by our convoy that had been ambushed and our wounded were still laying there, but they were frozen.

Senator POTTER. The wounded had been left. They took the able-bodied men and left the wounded there, stating that they would have them sent to our lines?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes. The wounded had frozen laying there, frozen stiff. We marched by them. We marched 2 days. The first night we got some hay and we slept in the hay cuddling together to keep warm. The second night we slept in pigpens, about 6 inches space between the logs. That night I froze my feet.

Starting out again the next morning after bypassing the convoy I picked up two rubber boots, what we call snow packs. They was both for the left foot. I put those on. After starting out the second morning, I didn't have time to massage my feet to get them thawed out. I got marching the next 16 days after that. During that march all the meat had worn off my feet, all the skin had dropped off, nothing but the bones showing. After arriving in Kanggye they put us up there in mud huts, Korean mud huts. We stayed there—all sick and wounded most of us was—stayed there in the first part of January 1951. Then the Chinese come around in the night about 12 o'clock and told us those who was sick and wounded they was going to move us out to the hospital, which we knew better. There could have been such a thing but we didn't think so.

They moved us all night on oxcars. We moved then about 10 miles south of Kanggye, where they isolated us in a small Korean valley with the Koreans, no Chinese around. We stayed there until April 25. During that time the Chinese nurse, what we called a nurse, but I don't think she was—she come around to take care of the wounded for the first 3 days we was there. She gave us medical attention.

Senator POTTER. What did that medical attention consist of?

Sergeant TREFFERY. She had a bag on her side, stuffed full of newspapers and she had a big pair of shears that I cut hedges around the house with. She had those in her hands. This afternoon she come in the hut I was in. Me and three other men was there. She said, "What is wrong with you?" So I stuck my feet out from under the blankets and showed her the bones of my feet. She told me to lay down on my back so I slid down. She started to clip them. She missed the joint about sixteenth of an inch and hit the solid bone. She crunched them off, took them all off except two big toes. After doing that she took that dirty newspaper she had in that bag and she wrapped it over the blood and pus and stuff that come out of the foot and tied it on with a piece of string. Then she went out.

I said, "How do you like that. That's pretty stupid." I tore the newspaper off and the comforter that the Chinese had gave us was full of cotton. I tore the comforter open and administered the cotton to the nub, and had a pair of fatigues. I ripped them up into bandages. I took care of my feet all winter long. If I hadn't, the poison from my feet would backtrack up into the system and probably would have killed me. Those other three men who was with me, they died. They died by April 25. They was all dead but myself.

Mr. JONES. Sergeant, did you have any anesthesia when she cut off your toes?

Sergeant TREFFERY. No sir; no anesthesia.

On April 25 they moved what was left of us in that valley out to camp 1, Changsong. They moved us by truck. After arriving there

on April 28—it took three days to get there—they put us all in another mud hut, Korean mud huts.

There they kept us until one incident happened in June, about the last of June, first of July, 1951. They was holding sick call about once a week. I was just learning to walk then. I hadn't walked since December 1950 up until the first of June 1951. All winter long I had my feet pulled up underneath the blanket to keep warm and I had them curled under me for so long the muscles had drawn up in my legs and I had quite a time getting those muscles stretched out again. After so much practice on a wooden Korean cane one of the men had made for me I finally managed to start learning to walk again.

This one certain day the Chinese had fellows out to go on sick call, their so-called hospital. Looked like a Japanese castle on the side of the mountain. They felled us out to go there and get some medicine for our feet, rewrapped in clean bandages. After arriving up there my first sergeant of the medical company at that time was up there. Him and I had been sleeping in an air-raid shelter——

Senator POTTER. You mean the First Sergeant that had been in your unit before you were captured?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

Senator POTTER. He was also a prisoner of war?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes. We had slept in an air-raid shelter because most of us had dysentery, beri-beri, and everything else. Him and I was sleeping in an air-raid shelter because we couldn't get out of the mud huts fast enough when we wanted to go to the bathroom, it was making quite a mess in the huts. Him and I slept in an air-raid shelter to not cause any embarrassment and be healthier for everybody else. We slept in there about 2 months until they took him off to the hospital. So I went up to the hospital this one day to see him and on sick call at the same time.

After arriving up there I started inquiring around where he was. The stalls up there looked like horseracing stalls, like you see at the track, little boxes. I opened the door and there he laid, him and another man. They was both naked, too weak to even turn over and the blowflies was blowing them, and getting them in the mouth and in the eyes. I said his name and I says, "Can't you put something on you to keep those blowflies off you." He says, "I'm sorry, I can't do it. I'm too weak. I can't even lift my arms," so I go to the Chinese doctor and said, "Can't you do something for these men." I said, "They're going to die in a few days." He said, "Later, later," always later. Then I heard they died.

While I was there the maggots was coming out of his eyes, out of his ears, nose, and everything else. The blowflies was blowing him; not only his case but several cases like that up there. About 92 percent of them that went up to that so-called hospital never come out. About a week after that the Chinese doctor came to my mud hut I was in.

He says, "You are go to the hospital." I says, "What for." He says, "Those two big toe bones you still have on there," that this Korean woman hadn't cut off. He turned his back just long enough to give me time to break those bones off and we all had long hair, finger nails was long, so on the basis of those two big toe bones was starting to decay he wanted me, and so I punched in enough under-

neath to the bone to give a push to snap it off, which I did, the both of them.

Mr. JONES. This is with your fingernail?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, punched in around the base of the bone.

Senator POTTER. You did that rather than go to the hospital?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Instead of going to the hospital because I knew I didn't have a chance up there. Back in the camp I had at least a half chance. I broke them off and the Chinese doctor come in and said, "Are you ready to go to the hospital." I says, "No go to the hospital," and he says "Why?" I says, "No more bone." He says, "Let me look," and I showed him. He says, "OK," and that's one thing that saved my life. I stuck it out there and took care of my own self as best as possible.

Then this July after peace talks started up things started to improve a little bit. We were all moved to—sergeants were segregated from the rest of the men. In August 1952 they moved the sergeants out to camp 4 where I was released.

Senator POTTER. How long after this experience where you broke off your two toes was it before you were released?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I broke them off in middle or last of June 1951, and I was released in April 1953. One of the feet now at the present time is being treated and has never healed up. What's wrong I don't know.

Senator POTTER. You are still receiving medical treatment?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes; Murphy Army Hospital.

Senator POTTER. Any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. I think I would like you to bring out if you could some of your experiences while you were at camp 1 over and above what you have related as to the amount of food you received, the actual conditions that existed in the camps, and so forth. Can you go into that for us, sergeant?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, I can.

Soon as arriving at camp 1 the chow started to improve a little bit from what it was in this Korean valley. We weren't getting nothing there. In this Korean valley we was getting a very small bowl, about half a coffee cup of food, once in the morning and once in the night.

Now we knew what time it was to feed. There was a paper on a door in the Korean house. By the sun going down on that door we knew it was chow time. They wouldn't give us no water. Why I don't know. As soon as spring started coming in this Korean valley, where they isolated us during the winter I asked this Korean woman, "How about some water to drink," and they showed me a little river running down off the hill from the rice paddies, which for fertilizers they used human manure in these rice paddies.

She told me to go out there and drink. So I told her "No," I'd rather die. I know if I drank that water it would kill me anyhow so I took a chance without drinking it, went without water. In the springtime a lot of greens were growing out in the field and I took them and boiled them down and got the juice and ate the greens.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Sergeant, could you tell us how many American PW's were at camp 1?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I'd say about 800 American PW's.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How many died during the period of time that you were there?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I'd say 800 total.

Mr. O'DONNELL. That died?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

Mr. O'DONNELL. And what were the total number of American PW's there; do you have any idea?

Sergeant TREFFERY. It's pretty hard to say. I'd say 800, 900 Americans alone, but there was other U. N. forces mixed together.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Of the total number that were there, how many approximately American PW's died?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Oh, American PW's. I'd say at least five.

Mr. O'DONNELL. At least five?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Five hundred.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Five hundred?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

Mr. O'DONNELL. That would be between what periods of time?

Sergeant TREFFERY. May, 1951, sir, until August 1951.

Mr. O'DONNELL. A period of a few months.

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Five hundred of our men died?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Fifteen and twenty a day, to a day; dying off like that.

Mr. O'DONNELL. At the rate of 15 or 20 a day?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

Mr. O'DONNELL. What was the cause of their deaths?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Dysentery, lack of medicine, malnutrition. If they had those, about 95 percent of the men who died wouldn't have died.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, did they try to give you any Communist indoctrination while you were at camp 1, or camp 4?

Sergeant TREFFERY. After May 28, 1951, any time after that they gave it to us constantly, every day.

Senator POTTER. What did that consist of?

Sergeant TREFFERY. How good communism is; showed us a lot of magazines and books on the Republic of China, New China, and Russia, and the Russian construction; all that, sir.

Senator POTTER. Did they have the Daily Worker, New York Daily Worker there?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, they had the New York Daily Worker, San Francisco Daily Worker, and London Daily Worker; all those, sir.

Senator POTTER. Was that required reading?

Sergeant TREFFERY. No, sir.

Senator POTTER. That wasn't required reading?

Sergeant TREFFERY. They required reading, but everybody just threw it to one side; just a bunch of stuff, sir.

Senator POTTER. Were you ever interviewed alone?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, I was.

Senator POTTER. Would you tell the committee what happened?

Sergeant TREFFERY. They asked me what organization I was in, what was my job. I told them I was a medic, medical aid man. They never inquired too much into medicine because they weren't

too interested in it. After I told them I was a medic they never bothered me after that, except Christmas of 1952 a Chinese interpreter called me down. He wanted me to send some Christmas cards to my old outfit. I says, "Nobody in my old outfit knows me so why hear from me." He says, "You still send one." I says, "No, I don't care to." After seeing they was up a dead-end street they never bothered me.

Senator POTTER. Did they ask you during this interrogation about your home life?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Oh, yes. They told me that only 60 percent of the United States citizens had bathtubs. I said, "You are exactly right. The other 40 percent got showers."

Senator POTTER. Did you witness any beatings administered by Communist guards?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, I did. One of the men was put in jail for trying to escape. He was put in confinement and all during the day he sat at attention with his arms like this and his leg under him. Only once in the morning he was allowed to go to the bathroom. Once or twice during the day they'd stand him on his right foot and get the civilians in off the street and they'd slap him to the floor. That happened once or twice a day during the day every day he was in prison.

Senator POTTER. He stood on one foot and they would bring civilians in to slap him down and let him go get up again and slap him down again?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes. That happened once or twice during the day every day he was in the prison and some of the men was in prison as long as 5, 6 months.

Senator POTTER. Did you ever witness a guard, either at the camp or on the march, shooting any of the PW's?

Sergeant TREFFERY. On the march, sir, they'd drop out. They just couldn't make it any further, the ones that was wounded. I had a box of morphine hidden under my belt. I administered that morphine to them because I knew if I took it myself I might be an addict, I would want more. I couldn't get it and I would be hurt. I administered it to them. They were hurting more than I was. After the morphine run out they just couldn't make it any further and they had to drop out.

Everybody was too weak to help them. After going by about 1 minute walking they would surely drop out. You would hear a rifle shot. You didn't dare turn around because you would get a bayonet in the back. You had to keep going.

Senator POTTER. In other words, is as the same pattern of the men that were too weak to keep up with the regular march. They had to straggle back and they were done away with?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. They were murdered. This was in the wintertime when you were captured?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. What time of the year was it when you got to camp 1?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Camp 1, sir? That was about the last of April 1951.

Senator POTTER. It was still pretty cold?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes. The sun was starting to come out and warm up quite a bit.

Senator POTTER. Did they have any heating facilities?

Sergeant TREFFERY. During the winter of 1950-51 there were no heating facilities at all. You had to huddle up in the blanket and keep warm the best you could. The lice were terrific. The three men with me who died, when they died you would open up their coat like that and there would be so many lice on their bodies you couldn't put a finger on their bodies without touching one.

Senator POTTER. They issued you blankets, I assume?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, 1 blanket for every 2 men, the sick and wounded, and then they issued everybody a comforter, a bigger blanket.

Senator POTTER. I assume prison camp No. 1 was marked so our aircraft would know it was a prison camp?

Senator TREFFERY. Up until December 1951 it wasn't marked.

Senator POTTER. It wasn't marked?

Sergeant TREFFERY. No, sir. And October 13 a plane which we called Bedcheck Charlie, he was very familiar with us, he flew over and saw the light when the Chinese were cooking food for the Chinese troops. Bedcheck saw the lights and he circled five times and the fifth time he dropped some personnel bombs, strictly all shrapnel. When they hit they don't make too big a hole, they just spread. It hit the Chinese kitchen and by the looks of things, the Chinese cook started out the door, and when it hit the kitchen he just splattered and went back against the wall. One hit next to the officers quarters and killed a couple of officers, and after they killed those two officers the Chinese put them out for display on the road and uncovered the wounds and all the Koreans were coming around looking at them. Then, about a week after that, the Chinese brought dynamite around. They had dug the holes deeper—

Senator POTTER. The bomb craters?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes. It is a very small hole the personnel bomb makes. They dug the holes much deeper, planted dynamite in those holes, and exploded dynamite, and taken pictures of that all the way along. All the time before that they said "We don't make the lies, we tell the facts." After they said, "We make the facts."

Senator POTTER. In other words, what they were doing was using the small bomb crater and putting dynamite in there to simulate a bomb attack caused by our own Air Force and using it for propaganda purposes?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes. Propaganda uses, "American planes bomb their own troops." That is the propaganda.

Senator POTTER. By the same token, they had not marked the camp as a prisoner of war camp?

Sergeant TREFFERY. That is right. And the Chinese cook shouldn't have been cooking at that time. If he was going to cook, at least cover the windows up. So it was their own fault they got bombed.

Senator POTTER. Of course the failure to not mark a prisoner of war camp was another violation of the provisions of the Geneva Convention?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

On May Day 1952, sir, they fell us all out and we were going to march to the square which was about a mile from the compound. After falling us all out, they brought the red flag up in front of the

column and were going to force us to carry that red flag down to the square, to kind of show the other POW's from the other section of the compound, if they had seen us with that red flag, they would say, "Look at them progressives," about as low as you could get. Everybody refused to carry the red flag. As soon as it came out, everybody scattered, and they couldn't be found. The regimental interpreter came up and he was plenty mad and he said, "Everybody fall out," and we wouldn't have to carry the flag. We fell out and marched to the square with him, about 50 yards from the square. Just before we reached the square they stopped us and up come the red flag. A certain man from down south, after they brought it over to him, he takes a hold of it and stands against a telephone pole. They seen they was up against a dead end street and didn't force us to carry the flag.

They started us to the square and just before we reached the square, one of the men started singing God Bless America and everybody started singing God Bless America and kept on singing it. The Chinese guards kept hollering "Shut up, and keep quiet." They kept on singing God Bless America. They wouldn't stop but kept on singing. They marched us into the square and stopped us. They was plenty mad at us. So the MC, it was a British soldier, he got up on the stage. They was supposed to have a play before the lecture. He got up on the stage and he was telling a little joke about these three soldiers who was killed in action, and who went to heaven, and at the Golden Gate Saint Peter met them. The American soldier entered and said he was from America. Saint Peter said, "Enter." The British soldier came up and Saint Peter said "Where are you from?" The British soldier said "England," and Saint Peter said "Enter." The Chinese representative from Red China stepped forward and Saint Peter said "Where are you from?" He said "China," and Saint Peter said "Go back. We can't cook Kemchi and rice for one."

They threw him off the stage and threw him in prison. They didn't have any sense of humor. They didn't appreciate that.

Senator POTTER. Did you witness them taking any other pictures for propaganda purposes?

Sergeant TREFFERY. They tried several times to take pictures, sir, for propaganda purposes, but as soon as you would see a camera, you would scatter and take off some place to hide.

Senator POTTER. I noticed you stated that if someone carried the red flag into the square and you all had gone along without any disturbance, that the others might have thought of you as a progressive?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

Senator POTTER. Did you have any progressives in the camp?

Sergeant TREFFERY. A very small minority, sir. I would say about one out of a hundred.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, you have certainly gone through a harrowing experience at the hands of the Communists. Would you care to comment on communism as a way of life?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I am glad you asked me that question, sir, and I was hoping you would. I wish the Communists in the United States, I wish I had them under my thumb here, if it was possible,

and crush them into the table. For anybody in the United States to turn to communism, they are either crazy or out of their head, either one. I think they should all be shipped to Siberia and let them live there for the next 20 years and feed them strictly a rice diet. Then if they want to stay there, okay. But if they want to come back and live like a citizen of the United States should live, and be proud to be a citizen of the United States, bring them back. Otherwise keep them over there.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, if I may, I have before me here a magazine which is captioned "United Nations POW's in Korea," published by the Chinese People's Committee for World Peace, Peking, China, 1953, consisting of 92 pages.

Sergeant, I would like to have you look at this—and, Mr. Chairman, I would like to have it marked for identification at this time and introduced as an exhibit.

Senator POTTER. It will be so marked in the record.

(The magazine referred to above was marked "Exhibit 9," and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Mr. O'DONNELL. I would like to have you examine this to see if this is a true picture of the purported treatment that was received by our PW's in camp No. 1. This particular pamphlet purports to indicate that all of our prisoners received excellent treatment. I would like to have you pay particular attention to page No. 47, to see if that is the particular play that you mentioned a few minutes ago, because it is used here as positive propaganda of good treatment. Would you care to look at this, please?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes.

Senator POTTER. This is a publication put out by the Communists of North Korea and China.

Sergeant TREFFERY. That picture on 47, sir, is part of that play; yes.

Mr. O'DONNELL. That is the actual play where they threw them off the stage for making disparaging jokes about the Communists and here they are using that to show that the boys are getting good treatment.

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir; I can see that.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Would you glance through some of those photographs and give us a general comment as to whether or not you agree with the particular statements that are portrayed there as to the treatment, good or bad treatment that our boys were receiving?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Well, sir, here you see you have not more than a very small minority of the prisoners of war in a group at a time. Those men, I would say, are picked men to go along with them. They had such a group as that. They had one group they picked to make these pictures. And these other ones here, as you can see, a big group, most of the men don't even know they are being taken.

I would say the biggest majority of these are strictly picked, picked men to pose for the picture.

Mr. O'DONNELL. While at camp No. 1 did you know of any instances where a group of American PW's would be taken out on a given day and given excellent treatment such as an unusually good ration of food or taken out to participate in sports which would be an unusual event for a 1-day proposition which would permit them to take photographs and use them as a propaganda at a later date?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir, I have heard of such a group of men, which then was the 7th Company. We called them the movie platoon, the movie stars. But I never got their names, for some reason, never could find out who they were. But the Chinese would take them out, feed them like a king, with wine and beer and feast them up, and then play along with them without really realizing what trouble they was getting into, the wrong they was doing.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Could you give us a general comment as to whether that particular magazine indicates the actual treatment that was received by American PW's?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Here is a picture, for example, with men sitting at a table, with apples on there and eating chicken. That is a good picture referring to these picked boys.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Sergeant, I would like to get a general statement, if you will, as to whether or not those photographs actually portray the actual treatment being received by PW's at Camp 1 over a period of time.

Sergeant TREFFERY. Nothing like this ever happened at Camp 1 while I was there. At Camp 5, I would bet my life on it.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Sergeant, one other question: You were actually captured by the Chinese troops, correct?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. And the prison camp, Camp 1, was under the jurisdiction and operated by the Chinese Communists?

Sergeant TREFFERY. True; yes.

Mr. O'DONNELL. You subsequently went to Camp 4, is that correct?

Sergeant TREFFERY. From Camp 1 to Camp 4. In August 1952 we moved to Camp 4.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Camp 4 was under the jurisdiction of the Chinese Communists?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Everything you have related this morning were offenses, inhuman acts, perpetrated by the Chinese?

Sergeant TREFFERY. The Chinese; yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Jones?

Mr. JONES. Sergeant, you mentioned earlier that you attended these Communist indoctrination classes, is that correct?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir. Certain ones, sir, just the ones held within the mud hut. The other ones I couldn't make because I couldn't walk then.

Mr. JONES. Was it the civilian who was the chief of these indoctrination classes?

Sergeant TREFFERY. No, sir; he was in a Chinese uniform.

Mr. JONES. He was in a Chinese uniform?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir.

Mr. JONES. He wasn't the Russian Commissar type?

Sergeant TREFFERY. No, sir. I never seen a Russian civilian while I was there.

Mr. JONES. You did not see a Russian civilian?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I seen pilots and Russian ack-ack, but no civilians.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Carr?

Mr. CARR. Sergeant, while you were a prisoner, did you observe any of the prisoners of war being used for medical experiments by your captors?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir; I did. I witnessed quite a few of those certain incidents, where they would cut them in the side, put in what we call a monkey gland, actually it was a chicken liver, I believe.

Senator POTTER. What did you call it, a monkey gland?

Sergeant TREFFERY. We called it a monkey gland, but actually it was a chicken liver. They would put that in there and sew it up, and they said that it would increase your appetite for maize, I believe, but they said it would increase appetite, make you more sprier, stronger, make you healthier, and everything else would increase.

Mr. CARR. Did you observe the results of any of these experiments?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir; I did. This one certain man in my squad at that time, he took his coat off, and when he was taking his coat off he stretched a little too much and that broke open. When it broke open it was festered so bad that the stuff just run down his side.

Mr. CARR. Did you know if any of the men were killed as a result of this?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Not to my knowledge; no, sir.

Senator POTTER. They claimed it was for the purpose of getting a better appetite?

Sergeant TREFFERY. That was the purpose, so they told us. They said it would make you more sprier, stronger, and healthier and everything.

Senator POTTER. Did the men volunteer for this experiment?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I don't believe so; no, sir. The doctor just said you were going to have it done, and that is it.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Sergeant, you were repatriated when?

Sergeant TREFFERY. April 25 I came across to freedom at Panmunjon.

Mr. O'DONNELL. That was operation known as Little Switch?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. You were repatriated because of your particular condition?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir; physically.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Would you tell us your weight situation from the time you were captured until the time you were released?

Sergeant TREFFERY. I would say I weighed at least 155 when I was captured. In May 1951 I was down to 70 catty. That would be less than 70 pounds on American scales.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Less than 70.

Sergeant TREFFERY. When I was released, I weighed 132, around there.

Mr. O'DONNELL. You are still undergoing hospitalization?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. As the peace talks got under way, did your treatment improve?

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, sir. It improved slowly, very slowly. As soon as the peace talks started up, I believe on July 10 they brought pigs in, they looked like wild boars. They butchered those and gave us just a small amount of meat. You were lucky if you got a piece

of meat as round as a quarter. Then they started giving us rice now and then. It increased a little bit as time went on.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, in the Little Switch operation, the Communists were to return all wounded prisoners of war. Do you have any knowledge as to whether they left any of the wounded back in camp? That is, in the prison camp you were in? Or did they send all the wounded back on Little Switch?

Sergeant TREFFERY. In my compound, in my platoon, or shall I say—yes, platoon—the ones that came out of there to come home was just about, I would say, the worst ones. There were some minor cases, but the ones that came out of my platoon were the worst ones. But I read of some cases that come out of Big Switch from Camp 5 and Camp 1 that certainly should have come out in Little Switch.

In some cases that come out in Little Switch they certainly shouldn't have come out until Big Switch.

Senator POTTER. Are there further questions?

Sergeant, I want to thank you for appearing before the committee. I know you have been through an experience that you would like to forget.

Sergeant TREFFERY. Yes, I would.

Senator POTTER. But you will have to keep going through the rest of your life with a constant reminder which will probably keep you from forgetting it in its entirety. Many men demonstrate great feats of heroism on the battlefields. I think that you and these other men that have been before the committee exemplify the same type of heroism in the prisoner of war camps. You are a credit to our great country.

Thank you.

Mr. Kinard? Would you raise your hand and be sworn. Do you swear that the testimony you shall give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. KINARD. I do.

TESTIMONY OF CHARLES EDWARD KINARD, QUINCY, FLA.

Senator POTTER. When did you go to Korea, and with what outfit were you with at the time?

Mr. KINARD. I arrived in Korea on July 4, 1950, with the 24th Division, the 21st Infantry Regiment.

Senator POTTER. Would you briefly tell the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Mr. KINARD. I moved up to the lines. We were fighting a delaying action with the 21st Infantry Regiment.

Senator POTTER. What was your duty at that time?

Mr. KINARD. At that time I was leading a squad in my company. We had been fighting very fiercely for several days, from the 4th until the 10th, and at that time our supplies and our men had been almost exhausted. I was ordered by one of the officers of the company to take a few stragglers and myself and try and relieve some of the pressure off of one of our other battalions. As far as I know, I was the only one to get there in that particular area, and in doing so as I say, I found myself there without any help. So I started

to withdraw and withdrew back to the battle line which we had been fighting on that night. There I found a few other fellows. We were still trying to withdraw. As I said, previously, we were fighting a delaying action. I asked some of the other fellows to drop back and cover me. I would cover them while they dropped back and they would cover me going in a leapfrog action.

At the time I protected this lieutenant and another couple of boys, and as I raised to come out of the hole myself, I caught a slug in the left shoulder. Well, I never seen those fellows afterward, and after I come to myself, in a matter of minutes or so, I come out of the hole and as I did, the North Koreans were on top of me. With my rifle and hand grenades, I fought my way free at that time.

This was about 10:30 in the morning. I continued to go along until night, almost nightfall, the early evening, at which time I was crawling down a ditch trying to get back to our lines. I tried to get with some of the other fellows in some units of some nature. As I was crawling down this ditch from time to time I posed dead to let some of the Communists walk by or whatever the case may be. They were everywhere. They were panicky, blowing whistles and horns and carrying on with their usual noise. All of a sudden it was like there was a hundred of them on top of me. So I raised up, and like anyone would do, the feet says run and the head says stay there.

So immediately they moved in about a couple of steps and caught hold of me and made gestures for me to raise my hands. I couldn't get my left arm up. So they had taken one of my shoe laces out immediately and tied my hands behind me and started giving me the rifle butts. I still have several scars on my legs today, and they hit me on the face and spit in my face, and did several things, the usual treatment, I should say.

They moved me up to a little CP—I am getting a little ahead of my story.

Just before they moved me up to the CP there was another GI that was in a ditch running parallel to mine, crawling, and I didn't know he was there at the time. He saw what had happened, and saw he was completely surrounded, and he raised up and raised his hands over his head. At such time, they shot him with one of our American 45's.

Senator POTTER. They shot him after he raised his hands up in the air to surrender?

Mr. KINARD. Yes. And as soon as he was shot, 15 or 20 of them walked over and shook hands with him and said how are you, GI. All this time, I couldn't see, but I could hear English voices hollering stop firing, and very soon thereafter you didn't hear any other voices.

Well, to go along with my story, they taken me on up to the CP and I went in and there they stripped me. I had a considerable amount of money on me, having been shipped over unexpected like, and my watch, and they lifted all those articles, and passed some cigarettes to me, like they were going to give them to me and then refused me. Several cookies and crackers. At that time they had just overrun the CP in Seoul and they were fairly well equipped with food and various supplies.

They would make gestures to give these supplies and food to me and then refuse me. I was taken out to the hills at that time and

when I was taken out to the hills they give me some more treatment. First they put rocks in my shoes and they would chase me around until I would fall. I had lost quite a bit of blood and when I would would come to, they would be giving me the cigarettes to my feet and legs and various places.

Senator POTTER. They would put a lighted cigarette—

Mr. KINARD. Yes, burning me to get me to go again.

Senator POTTER. To your bare feet?

Mr. KINARD. That is right. Then giving me all this, they decided they would try something new, at which time they had taken the C ration can opener which was on a dog tag hanging around my neck. They inserted that into the wound in my left shoulder and give them a half twist and one of them said "ptomaine poison." I don't know where he heard the word.

After he inserted this into my wound, then I taken it out. He slapped me and hit me on my shoulder, on the wound, with the butt of his rifle and put it back in there. Well, I decided it would be best if I left it in there. At that time, I was returned to the CP again.

When I went into the CP there were several high-ranking officers in this CP. The CP that we had formerly occupied, my unit had occupied for their battalion CP.

The fellows there were dressed in their shorts with their jackets on and they had their insignias from their neck to the tip of their shoulders. They were drinking saki or some form of liquor that they used. The boys were eating green peaches. They give me the works then and again with the can opener. They twisted it on up in my shoulder fairly well.

Senator POTTER. Is this the type of can opener that you have reference to?

Mr. KINARD. That is it, that is correct.

Senator POTTER. This is the can opener that they put into the wound of your shoulder, twisted it and made you keep it there?

Mr. KINARD. That is right. That is the can opener. Most GI's normally wear those on their dog tag chain in combat because it is so handy for them to open their C ration cans with. It came in very handy for the Communists to use in their treatment.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How did you get that out of your shoulder when you did take it out on that one occasion?

Mr. KINARD. As I said a moment ago, I taken it out one time, after they inserted it, and when they give me a little rough treatment and throwed it back in there and give it a good push on up into the wound. I left it there.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How did you get it out that one time?

Mr. KINARD. That one time I caught it by the chain and pulled it out. I had it on the chain as he has it there.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Caught it by the chain how? With your teeth or what?

Mr. KINARD. No; with my right hand. They had taken this strap off my hand to make me raise my hands for some pictures. They had taken some pictures of me, and they wanted me to have my hands up for the pictures. Well, as soon as I had taken the can opener out, they put it back in there, and as I say, they went and tied me up

and taken me back down to the CP where they were eating the green peaches and enjoying their liquor.

There they had another GI, a medic. So I went in and asked him where he was from, and he said he was a medic, and he wouldn't have much to say. I spoke to the officers in Japanese, trying to impress them a little bit, and at that time they jumped on me all hands and feet, pulling my ears and hair and they were really rough with it.

Mr. O'DONNELL. These were the officers?

Mr. KINARD. These were the officers; yes. And then they pushed this medic out of the window for answering, they pushed him out of the window and 1 of the others grabbed his .45, one of our American .45's, and was going to kill him. Some of the other officers stopped him. From that they taken me back to the hills and continued the same routine. This routine continued right on as long as I was with them. They carried this other GI that I mentioned that was in this hut with us along with me. They wouldn't let us talk. I would say something every now and then and try to get him to talk. He wasn't wounded. I wanted him to make a break for it sometimes and try to get away. That night we were going along the road and through the valleys that they carried us through, we walked over a lot of GI's that we heard hollering and then we would hear volleys of fire, and that would be the end of that. That evening, or early night fall, we heard that for hours, and they told us they had captured many, many GI's that day. In going north, they would turn on their tank lights frequently, and we could look down and recognize the American faces lying on the ground. They seemed to steer us in the exact direction in which they had caused these boys to fall.

This treatment continued all the time from that to other things, taking you out and shooting over your head, then your legs, and telling you they would going to kill you. The next day they captured some of our 4.2 mortars, and they seemed to be leery of the operation. So they approached me, 1 from the front and 1 from either side with his burp gun and put it right to my head and come back with the string. He said, "You shoot." Well, I was reluctant in doing anything. I didn't exactly know what they wanted me to do, but finally I understood that they wanted me to fire this 4.2 mortar, and at which time I did. It seem that I set the mortar where it fell on some of their troops, and they gave me the works again. They didn't bother this other boy too much because he seemed to cater to what they wanted done in the way of keeping quiet and being a good boy, so to speak. I was kind of hard to get along with, I guess, because I just fell into an unfortunate situation there.

We went along that night, the rest of the night, and the next day they carried us right along through the roads and through the woods, marching us.

Senator POTTER. Still with the can opener in the wound?

Mr. KINARD. Still with the can opener in the wound and my hands tied behind me and my friends hands tied behind him.

Senator POTTER. Did they feed you?

Mr. KINARD. No food whatsoever and no water. We did get some water a couple of times when we waded through some streams. We would just reach down and drink as we waded through. As we were

walking, the water would be up shoulder deep and we would take a drink out of the water.

It was awfully hot in July, and we really suffered for water. On that day, and that night, they never did leave you alone. If nothing else they would have you get over on your back when they stopped a minute to talk to somebody, to change guards, lay down on your back and sit up again, and continually harassing you and they would say, "If I kill you, Mommy cry and Daddy cry."

I had a partial plate in the top of my mouth and the partial plate is of gold, metallic gold, and they had a lot of fun in trying to get that out, prying at my teeth and messing it around.

Fortunately they never did find out how to get it out. Some of the so-called morons were the ones that were doing that.

But during all of this period there was an officer that would instruct the guards when they changed over and what have you. They would bring in a new shift of the ground troops of the infantry troops and they would come by and each one, he had his little treatment that he wanted to give you, as you heard in previous treatment. They would just march by and all take a hand in giving you some type of treatment.

That day they continued the treatment, that night the treatment, and the next day we were still getting the treatment.

Mr. O'DONNELL. By treatment you mean beating with rifle butts, kicking, and spitting and so forth?

Mr. KINARD. Yes. That never let up. I mean, I was bruised fairly well, when I got back, and scarred up. They changed guards frequently and they made you travel fast. When they would get a little tired they would keep a guard on you for 45 minutes or an hour and you would get a new one, a fresh guard, and then he wanted to give you some of what he had to offer.

The third day there, we had gotten up the line pretty well, somewhere in the vicinity of Seoul. Well, after we got up there they turned and brought us back a way. I don't know. They told us, some of the guards, that it was the Han River. I have good reason to believe that it was. Late that afternoon they stopped us at the river, and they let us alone for an hour or two. Then they come back and give us some other treatment and told us that we were going to be taken to Manchuria. So we waited and waited to see what was going to happen, and I got another word in with this boy and asked him to try and make a break for it. He wouldn't. He said, "We are going to a concentration camp."

Then they came in and overheard the chattering and cut loose again with their little treatment. That went on until sometime in the night, I imagine it was about 3:30 or 4 o'clock. We were sitting right beside a ponton bridge, their type, logs and what have you that was put in there by them to get tanks across the river. By that time, these fellows come in with their tanks. I don't know, but there was better than a hundred tanks that crossed there.

Some of the boys told me they come from Russia, some of the guards, and I do know that they had some of the drivers that were not North Koreans and were not Chinese, that were driving the tanks.

Well, about 4:30 I imagine, they taken us down to the river and the boy that was with me he was still quiet, wouldn't talk, and there was one guard right near us. Of course we were surrounded by tanks.

We got on down that river a piece and we ran into—I don't know, it looked like a herd of cattle only it was men of all descriptions. It was dark and it was hard to tell, but I know there was Americans there, and South Koreans, because I asked the boy again to make a break for it right at that moment, and fire cut loose from all directions. When the fire cut loose from several directions, there was a lot of fellows that subsequently started falling. It is just human nature. They would try and make you make a move and I was right at the bank of the river or stream or whatever it was, except that there was a sheer cliff down to the water. You couldn't see it but you could hear it. It was some 10 or 15 feet down there. That was what I estimated that I fell. As I said, they cut loose and you could hear voices everywhere. It sounded like there was well over a hundred people screaming and yelling. It was night, but the bulk of the crowd looked like it could have been more than that. That is a small estimate.

I jumped into the river. I didn't know if there was rocks or what was down there. When I jumped into the river, I was in a bad situation again, because my hands were tied behind me.

Senator POTTER. Your hands were tied behind you back?

Mr. KINARD. All the time, with my shoelaces. Then they taken—

Senator POTTER. All this time then your hands were behind your back?

Mr. KINARD. That is correct.

They shined lights in the river and began to do a lot of firing into the river, because I suppose they detected some sound in the river and figured some of the fellows got in there. The stream carried me quite a long way from where I got into the river, it was very swift, and all I could do was tread water with my feet.

I treaded water with my feet, like riding a bicycle, for an hour or so, I suppose. My arms were bleeding already from having snapped and jerked at this leather.

However, I was fortunate inasmuch as the leather was slick when it got wet, and slimy, and began to give some. When this leather gave enough, I eventually got untied and headed back for our lines. I got out of the river at about daylight. The sun was just barely coming up when I got out of the river and headed back for our lines.

Senator POTTER. You made it back to your lines, to your own lines without too much difficulty?

Mr. KINARD. No; I was captured again going back to our lines. I continued the rest of that day until late that afternoon, at which time I gave out and I laid down for about 30 minutes and when I laid down I went to sleep and woke up from gunfire and they were cutting a pattern around me with burp guns and they took me and tied me up again and really beat me to where I couldn't hardly wiggle. They taken me to a little old hut where they were assembled and threw me in a hut and fastened the door. When they fastened the door I just fell over. Our planes were strafing the particular village at that time, and I heard their tanks and their horsedrawn field pieces moving. So I stayed there for a couple of hours after nightfall and in this little hut they had a pole that this old woman used for hanging her pots and pans on it, it had limbs on it, with little pieces going out that were cut for hanging cooking articles.

Most of the shacks in Korea have a straw roof with mud walls, and I climbed through the roof of this hut, after I got myself out of my tied-up position. I got out of that and headed on in and swam the Han River at daylight the next morning and came in contact with our 19th Infantry Regiment, at which time they took care of me and put me back into G-2 hands and from there into the hospital.

Senator POTTER. It is certainly a harrowing experience that you went through. Were you hospitalized for any length of time?

Mr. KINARD. Yes, I was hospitalized from August until November for that, and I come back to the States after another wound, for another wound, and stayed in the hospital at Benning for 3 months.

Senator POTTER. Are there any questions?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Just 1 or 2, Mr. Chairman.

What was your rank at the time you were captured?

Mr. KINARD. I was a corporal at the time I was captured.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How long were you a prisoner?

Mr. KINARD. I was actually in the hands of the enemy about 4 days, to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Can you give us the date of your escape?

Mr. KINARD. About the 15th, to the best of my knowledge, of July.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Of 1950?

Mr. KINARD. That is correct.

Mr. O'DONNELL. And your date of capture?

Mr. KINARD. It was the 10th, to the best of my knowledge, of July.

Mr. O'DONNELL. One other question, Mr. Kinard, if you will. During the 4 days that you were a PW, with the exception of whatever few brief moments, your hands were tied behind your back?

Mr. KINARD. Except one time, when they taken pictures of me with my hands up, with one up. I couldn't get one up at all.

Mr. O'DONNELL. During the time you were a PW did you receive any food at all?

Mr. KINARD. No food at all, not even a mouthful.

Mr. O'DONNELL. And the only time you received water was when you took the march and went through the stream?

Mr. KINARD. That is all.

Mr. JONES. Are you still receiving medical attention?

Mr. KINARD. No, I am not. I am discharged from the service now, and I do go to a doctor occasionally, but I am not under any particular medical care.

Senator POTTER. Are there any questions, Mr. Carr?

Mr. CARR. No, sir.

Senator POTTER. I wish to thank you for coming here and giving us this information, relating this horrible experience that you went through. You have seen the workings of the Communist mind firsthand. Do you have any comments that you would like to make concerning communism as a way of life?

Mr. KINARD. Well, I would talk a long time on communism, the way I feel about it. Most people make it brief. To me it is a rotten word. Communism is as rotten a word as a man can use. They are all bad and there are no exceptions.

The ones in the United States are worse. If a pig wants to get into a pen for slops or for its feed, I will open the gate and let him in. And any time the Government is ready to move them out of the

United States, I will pay my pro rata share of the transportation to see that they are moved out.

Thank you.

Senator POTTER. Thank you kindly.

The committee will be in recess until 2 o'clock. I understand, however, they were honored yesterday afternoon by having Mr. Vishinsky attack this committee, and we will have a statement at the beginning of the hearing this afternoon. It will apply to Mr. Vishinsky.

(Whereupon, at 12:13 p. m., the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 2 p. m. the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Senator POTTER. The committee will come to order.

This morning I learned that Andrei Vishinsky, the Soviet spokesman at the United Nations, denounced the efforts of this committee to make known the truth of the horrible atrocities to the American troops. Vishinsky stated that the Potter committee was part of a coordinated effort to explode the peace talks at Panmunjon. Of course, again, Mr. Vishinsky is fearful of the truth. Otherwise, he would accept Ambassador Lodge's request to establish an important investigating committee to learn the truth. I want to say to Mr. Vishinsky, and indeed to all the Soviet leaders, that we cannot build a permanent peace if the beastlike acts are swept under the table or under the rug as if they didn't happen.

The foundation of an enduring peace is justice. We seek justice for Sergeant Weinel, Sergeant Treffery, and for thousands of other GI's who fought for freedom. They, too, want to see justice carried out.

Mr. Vishinsky, it is now your move.

The first witness this afternoon is Sgt. Barry F. Rhoden.

Do you swear that the testimony you are about to give this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Sergeant RHODEN. I do, sir.

TESTIMONY OF SGT. BARRY F. RHODEN, HEADQUARTERS, FLORIDA MILITARY DISTRICT, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, would you identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present Army assignment?

Sergeant RHODEN. I am Sgt. Barry F. Rhoden, RA14329093. I am on duty with the headquarters, Florida Military District, in Jacksonville, Fla., sir.

My home is Macclenny, Fla.

Senator POTTER. Is that your home address?

Sergeant RHODEN. Just Macclenny, Fla.

Senator POTTER. Like mine is Sheboygan, Mich.?

Sergeant RHODEN. Right sir.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, would you tell the committee when you went to Korea and the outfit you were with at the time?

Sergeant RHODEN. I was a member of Company C of the 23d Infantry Regiment of the 2d Infantry Division, sir. We were stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., when the Korean war started. After

the Korean war started and we were alerted for shipment overseas, we left the States the 22d day of July, we landed in Korea the 1st of August, sir.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, will you tell the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Sergeant RHODEN. Well, sir, we were on the line just below Taeju, around the Pusan perimeter, when on the night of the 30th of August the North Koreans hit us, and I was cut off with my squad from the rest of the company.

Senator POTTER. What was your duty with the squad at that time?

Sergeant RHODEN. I was an assistant squad leader of a 57-mm. recoilless rifle. We were cut off from the rest of the company, and after the North Koreans overrun the positions, just about annihilated the company, I understand now, sir, we were cut off and had expended just about all of our ammunition, and we decided to try to get back to our lines, to see if we could slip through. We were moving along the edge of a lake, in an effort to reach our lines, and we could hear the fighting over in the village not too far away, when a bunch of North Koreans opened fire on us from up in the hills. We didn't have but very little ammunition and we were outnumbered and we started running, sir, just enough to stay out of their rifle range. They were coming behind us. When we rounded a bend in the trail, I saw out across the rice paddy what looked to be like maybe a couple of companies of infantrymen. They had on the GI uniform, even our boots, sir, and steel helmets. After looking through the binoculars, we were all certain that it was the American troops pulling back, and maybe it was even some of our own company. As the North Koreans behind us moved up close enough they began to fire on us and we found out that the ones in the rice paddy were also North Koreans and they opened fire on us. There was a lake behind us and the hills in front of us. We started to go to the hills and they opened fire on us from the top of a little hill and we were hemmed in and taken prisoner.

As they closed in on us 3 of the fellows were killed, and the other 4 of us were taken prisoner. After they milled around with us, right after they captured us, while they were closing in on us, one of my buddies was wounded, a bullet coming through his helmet, just creasing him along the side of his head, and he fell, pretended that he was dead.

One of the North Koreans, one of them came up to him—the blood had covered his face all over—they went up to him put the rifle to his temple and shot him a couple of times. The other two fellows were bayoneted and shot 3 or 4 times each, sir.

The other two fellows, I believe, was dead, but this buddy of mine, I know that he was playing dead. After they had been at it and shot the fellows, sir, they moved out.

First they took our boots, our fatigue jackets, or mine, and all of our identification, our dogtags. The officer who was in charge of the group, sir—I guess he was making a collection of dogtags as he had a nice roll of them, with chains, sir. He had all of our watches, rings, everything we had. He was like a kid at a Christmas tree. He was getting a big kick out of it. They had taken our boots. They tried to trade us some of their shoes for them, but none of them would

fit. They loaded us down with their ammunition and some of their personal belongings and worked us all day.

Senator POTTER. Carrying ammunition?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir; we were carrying North Korean ammunition.

Senator POTTER. Of course that is also a violation of the provisions of the Geneva Convention, to use a captured personnel as carriers of ammunition.

Sergeant RHODEN. I believe so, sir.

During the day they made several attempts to shoot us, sir, but there was this one officer. I take it that he was the political officer by the pamphlets that he was carrying with him. He would stop them and let them beat us with their rifle butts, spit on us, abuse us around, but he wouldn't let them shoot us.

When it come down to that, he would stop them.

Several times during the day we were questioned about how many planes we had, how much artillery we had, how many men was in Korea, and none of them could speak English. All of the questions was by drawings on paper and signs. He would draw a picture of a tank on a piece of paper and want us to mark how many. We marked 7 or 8 and we got a beating. But we would start marking and continue marking until he made us quit and it seemed to satisfy him.

That night, sir, we had moved up and set up a roadblock around an outfit that they had surrounded and one infantry company started to attack.

Senator POTTER. When you say "We" did that, who are you referring to?

Sergeant RHODEN. The North Koreans, sir, that had us prisoners. They had the roadblock set up around the company that they had surrounded, or the outfit, and one infantry company started up in a skirmish line and the North Koreans left behind a force to fight the delaying action and the main body began to move back north, I guess it was, sir, and after going for quite a distance, I guess maybe 3 to 5 miles, they stopped and again questioned us, sir.

The officer had me up questioning me. It was a different officer from the one that had been protecting us, sir. I guess he stayed behind. He had me up questioning me, and he would give me a small piece of paper when he finished, I don't know, just a real small piece, and on it was mimeographed the words "You are about to die the most horrible kind of death."

That was the only statement there was on it that I could read. There was some Korean writing on it, sir. And the rest of the North Koreans had gathered around to watch him. After reading the piece of paper, he motioned for me to go back to where my buddies were, and they were standing a short distance away, sir, approximately the distance from me to you, and as I turned around, sir, I was shot in the back. The force of the bullet knocked me down and I lay there pretending that I was dead and praying while they shot the other fellows.

After they shot the other fellows, they stepped over me, bayoneted the other fellows a couple of times and after a while they left. After they had left, I began to move around, when I thought it was safe, and I knowed that the other fellows were alive, sir, so I made them as

comfortable as I could, and I blacked out, sir. When I come to, the fellows were dead. There was one of the fellows that I understand now, sir, made it out of the four of us, another one, but at the time I had it figured that he was dead, sir. I did check and in my own mind, sir, I figured that this fellow was in the bunch that was dead.

I moved up and tried to get back to our lines. When I got to the stream, sir, I drank a lot of water and I blacked out. I don't remember anything until it was early morning. I was wandering around in a rice paddy, calling my buddy, the one they had shot that was playing dead when we were first taken prisoner, and a patrol of North Koreans again found me. They made me walk up the side of a hill and they had me stand there while they formed a half circle around me, kind of, and they were playing the cat and mouse game. One would put his rifle up like he was going to shoot me, then take it down. They would laugh and another one would go through it.

After a while I was tired, sir, and at the time I was in a lot of pain and I was hoping they would do it and get it over with. So I sat down, trying to get them to do it, and it made them awful mad. They would try to make me stand up. I spit back at them. I was at the time in such pain, sir, I wanted to provoke them into shooting me.

They saw that they couldn't make me stand up, so they backed off and I figured that was it, when the planes started strafing, one of our marine planes, sir, and the officer in charge of the group was hit by one of the bullets and rolled right where I was sitting. He had a little pot about so big that they mix their rice in. I don't know why I picked the pot up, sir, but I grabbed the pot and seeing the plane, sir, it give me a little extra push. I started again to try to get away, and I was walking off down the hill as fast as I could, and at the bottom of the hill two of them come from behind the rocks with burp guns. They wanted to know in signs as to where I was going.

I motioned that the ones on the hill were sending me down to the stream to get some water for them, and at the time the planes were strafing them up on the hill, sir, and I guess I had a pretty good story and the little pot helped to convince them and they let me go. When I got to the stream, it had pretty steep banks, and so I made my way up the hill and hid in a small peapatch. They came looking for me but didn't find me. The rest of the time I would hide out during the day and move at night, until I made it back to our lines, sir.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, was it an officer that gave the order for you to be shot?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir; it was the officer in charge of the group that shot us.

Senator POTTER. The officer actually did the shooting, then?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir; he had the burp gun like the one on the table here.

Senator POTTER. Would you hold up that?

Would you have him identify the type of burp gun used?

Sergeant RHODEN. It was the one with the drum.

Senator POTTER. I am sorry, one of our Senators has borrowed our equipment.

Sergeant RHODEN. The officer had it slung over his shoulder, sir, and he is the one that shot us. He mentioned for me to turn around to go to where the fellows were standing and as I turned around I done an about-face and he shot me. But the officer is the one that

done the shooting. I know that he was in charge of the group because he had runners coming to him all the time. There was North Korean GI's coming up and when he gave the orders, the fellows jumped around. So I know that he was an officer.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, it has been pretty much of a pattern, with the testimony we received from the other witnesses yesterday and so far today, that in a majority of the cases, either the officers fired the weapons themselves that murdered our men, or else it was on their orders that the firing was done. It would seem to me that it establishes quite a definite pattern that it was a policy, a command decision on the part of the Communists to mistreat and to murder American prisoners of war.

Sergeant RHODEN. The officer, sir, the one that I said that I believe was the political officer, he had the little leaflets that he would give us to read and all day this officer, he would let them beat us, but he would stop them from shooting us. Every time they would start to shoot us, he would stop them. In the afternoon, when the infantry come, was coming in the skirmish line, the officer got away from us some way, sir, but during the day this officer, this political officer, sir, in questioning me there was one of them that questioned us and he would get a little rough, on beating us around, and he would come up like he was real mad about it and he would run them away.

He sat down with us and he would point to me and to himself and do like that [indicating], and I would do this [indicating], meaning I didn't know what he was talking about, that I didn't understand. He went through the motion again, and again I motioned. I didn't know what he was meaning. Then he reached out and touched me again, and himself, and he shook hands with me. He was meaning buddy-buddy, sir. You get pretty good at this sign language after a while.

I knew I had been stalling long enough and the other three that were with me told me he was trying to get friendly. "Ask him for something to eat." I motioned that we wanted to chop-chop, sir. They had their rations with them. When I did, I got a beating from this officer. He wouldn't give us anything to eat. Then they told me to ask him for some water and I did ask him for some water and he sent a little pot off to have them bring us some water and they returned with about this much [indicating] in the pot. I split the water among the other fellows and he was astounded by it. He didn't know what to think. The water was for me. But the point I was trying to get to, sir, is he would let them beat us around, but he would stop them every time they started to shoot us.

Senator POTTER. That is the man who you think was a political officer?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Do you have any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to just get one thing straight.

You were shot the end of the first day of your capture, is that correct?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How long did it take you to find your way back to our lines?

Sergeant RHODEN. I was shot, sir, on the 31st of August in 1950, and I made it back to our lines on the 7th of September 1950.

Mr. O'DONNELL. During the time you were trying to find your way back, you were seriously wounded. What did you live on for food and drink?

Sergeant RHODEN. The North Koreans, while we were a prisoner, as they passed through the gardens, they would get what they could out of the gardens, and while I was trying to get back to the lines I looked through some of the gardens but they had been through the area. I found one little cucumber about so big that I ate. That was the only thing that I did have to eat.

Mr. O'DONNELL. During the entire 6- or 7-day period that is all you had to eat?

Sergeant RHODEN. The bullet fractured my spine, nicked my spinal cord and through my bladder. It split my pelvis bone.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How long were you hospitalized?

Sergeant RHODEN. Approximately 6 months, sir.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Carr?

Mr. CARR. Sergeant, since your return to this country, have you received any mail from, shall we say persuasive types of persons?

Sergeant RHODEN. I did receive, sir, I was on this public appearance tour right after I returned, and I received some mail from around the State of Florida, sir, where I was touring at the time, from people, trying to discourage me, sir. It was the same kind of stuff as the political officer had given us to read, sir.

Mr. CARR. You mean that you were subject to Communist propaganda even after you returned to this country?

Sergeant RHODEN. Yes, sir. That is what I figured it was. One of them, sir, I do remember them calling President Truman a puke from Missouri, and I don't remember just what they did have. They were all along the same pattern.

Mr. CARR. You turned these into your G-2 or to your officer?

Sergeant RHODEN. I turned them in to our public information officer and he turned them in to the G-2.

Senator POTTER. Do you recall the postmark on the letters?

Sergeant RHODEN. There was 1 or 2 from Daytona Beach, some from Miami, and St. Petersburg, I remember, sir. It was all in Florida, sir.

Senator POTTER. Any other questions?

Mr. Jones?

Mr. JONES. No questions.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, I will ask you the same question I have asked the other witnesses before the committee. From the experience that you witnessed firsthand at the hands of the Communists, what do you think of communism as a way of life? What do you think of people in this country who advocate overthrowing our Government by force and violence and establishing a Communist regime?

Sergeant RHODEN. How anyone as educated, sir, as the American people can fall for the Communist line, I just can't see, sir. If they could just see the way the people are living under the Communists, I think that it would be enough for them right there, sir. How they can fall for it I just can't see. Personally, I want no part of it. I was fighting them in Korea, and to me the people here in America who should know better that will fall for the Communists, I want

no part of them, sir. I feel no different toward them than I did the ones in Korea.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, I want to thank you for appearing before the committee. I want to say that as each witness comes before the committee, I take greater pride every minute in being an American. You do credit to yourself, to your family, and to your country.

Sergeant RHODEN. We certainly have, sir, and I wouldn't trade anything we have here for anything over there that the people have to offer. Thank you, sir.

Mr. O'DONNELL. May the record show that the files of the Judge Advocate General's Office of the Army reflect that there was another survivor, an American PW, whose statement fully corroborates Sergeant Rhoden's.

Senator POTTER. Captain Buttrey?

Will you raise your right hand, please. Do you swear that the testimony you are about to give before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Captain BUTTREY. I do, sir.

**TESTIMONY OF CAPT. LINTON J. BUTTREY, HEADQUARTERS,
MRTC, CAMP PICKETT, VA.**

Senator POTTER. Captain, will you identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present military assignment.

Captain BUTTREY. My first name is Linton, the middle is J., B-u-t-t-r-e-y.

Senator POTTER. I wonder, Captain, if you could sit a little closer to the table. Thank you.

What is your present assignment?

Captain BUTTREY. My present assignment is with Headquarters, MRTC, Camp Picket, Va.

Senator POTTER. Camp Picket, Va.

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. What is your home address?

Captain BUTTREY. My home address is Nashville, Tenn.

Senator POTTER. When did you go to Korea and what unit were you with at the time?

Captain BUTTREY. I was with a medical company, the 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, and we arrived in Korea, Pusan, the 4th of July 1950.

Senator POTTER. Will you describe to the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir.

I was not a prisoner of war, as these other gentlemen have testified. I had the unfortunate circumstance of having patients shot on the litters.

Senator POTTER. I think in order to fully understand the situation, if you will tell us a little bit of the military situation at that time, as far as your unit was concerned; it would help.

Captain BUTTREY. Well, this particular drive, I suppose, or battle, began on Sunday morning, about daybreak, up on the Kum River area, just north or northwest of Kumchon, sometimes called Kensa. We were completely surrounded, inasmuch as the American troops at that

time were few in number, these North Koreans would infiltrate at night and surround our entire forces wherever we were, and whatever number we may have had. This particular morning we were—that is, we, my particular job was first battalion aid station. I am a medical service corps officer.

Senator POTTER. You were an administrative officer with a medical corps; is that correct?

Captain BUTTREY. That is right, yes, sir. And had the battalion aid station. We were moving out, originally, that is, my platoon were, when we were completely surrounded, and I went back in and took my platoon with me. This battle continued until about 12 or 1 o'clock that day, when it sort of cleared up and we pushed them aside, and the battalion began to get their convoy in position to get out that evening.

However, the battle continued to rage off and on all the entire afternoon. So when nightfall came, they mobilized again to fight our way out, and they got our convoy on the highway, just below the Kum River there, and there were stopped along about midnight, I suppose. In moving, I asked them to move the patients over a hill, which they did, to get away from this roadway in case the enemy moved in the next morning at daybreak.

During the night we moved over there. I suppose we got on the south of the hill at about 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning. There were a few trees there, about five or six in the area, that was a Korean cemetery. They had mounds there, and we could use them to put the patients behind, and also during the hot summer day—it was in July—if I had to move the patients around the next day, which would have been Monday, I wanted to just use the foliage on the trees, what little there was, to protect the patients while they lay there in the sun.

During the night, whenever the troops were getting out, they would go out usually about four together, and I would ask each group, each four, to take a litter. That would be one patient we would get out. So daybreak came, I had several patients left, I don't know, 15 or 20, and the chaplain was with me, too, at that time, he and myself in the last few minutes, and he looked across the hills and saw the wave of enemy coming. He signaled to me that they were coming. He was administering spiritual rites to the patients. They just flooded us and shot the patients on the litters.

Senator POTTER. They did what?

Captain BUTTREY. They shot the patients.

Senator POTTER. Were you wearing an arm band as a member of the Red Cross?

Captain BUTTREY. The Red Cross brassard, yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. And did the chaplain have on his white cross?

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir; he did.

Senator POTTER. Did they shoot at you?

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir; they shot me also, and I became a casualty there.

Senator POTTER. What was the nature of the Communists when they came in? Were orders given to shoot the patients or how did that happen?

Captain BUTTREY. Well, I don't speak Korean, sir, and they weren't, of course, talking in English. But their job was so thorough and so completely done that they had management. They had leadership.

Senator POTTER. They certainly knew that these men were wounded men?

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Were the patients on litters?

Captain BUTTREY. Yes, sir; they were, and some of them struggled and one in particular, in trying to flee, he couldn't—his leg was broken, but he had to hobble on one leg and they shot him in the neck and apparently broke his neck as he tried to flee.

Senator POTTER. How did you manage to get back to our lines?

Captain BUTTREY. After I was wounded, sir, whenever I was shot, I fell and pretended that I was dead. I lay there until they had gone and then I got up and just crawled to a little ravine about 10 or 12 feet away and lay there. However, they were all around and snipers would continue to shoot at you all day long. This was about 7 in the morning, presumably 7 or 7:30.

Senator POTTER. Do you mean after they left the scene, they were still shooting back into the—

Captain BUTTREY. No, sir; they were all over the hills, in all those hills, all around you. We had had wounded in there, too, trying to get out. They had gone out during the night and some of them had died on the litters. But the guerrillas, or whoever they were, the snipers, continued to snipe at us all day long.

Senator POTTER. Well, how did you finally get back to our lines?

Captain BUTTREY. Sir, I was about 10 miles, I suppose, in front, and I had to walk out. I was lucky. My leg wasn't broken.

Senator POTTER. Where were you hit?

Captain BUTTREY. I was hit in the left leg, sir, in the thigh.

Senator POTTER. Any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Captain Buttrey, could you tell us whether there was any resistance of any nature, whether any use of arms were used by our wounded at that time?

Captain BUTTREY. I didn't understand your first remark.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Did any of the wounded, yourself or the chaplain, offer any armed resistance?

Captain BUTTREY. No, sir; we didn't. The chaplain wasn't armed. I had a .45 which I had already given to one of the fellows who had lost his armpiece.

Senator POTTER. It was just another case of murdering wounded American prisoners?

Captain BUTTREY. That is exactly what it was.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Actually, how close were these North Korean troops to the wounded when they actually killed them?

Captain BUTTREY. Sir, they were within 3 or 4 feet of some of them. Even when I was shot, the soldier who shot me couldn't have been over 6 or 7 feet away.

Senator POTTER. Any questions? Mr. Carr?

Mr. CARR. No, sir.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Jones?

Mr. JONES. No.

Senator POTTER. I wish to thank you, Captain, for appearing before the committee and giving us your statement.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may the record show that the files of the War Crimes Division in the Judge Advocate General's Office reflect other eyewitnesses to this crime, although not any survivors.

All of the men were killed but a master sergeant witnessed the entire incident through field glasses.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant Matta?

Sergeant, will you raise your right hand, please? Do you swear that the testimony you shall give this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Sergeant MATTA. I do.

**TESTIMONY OF SGT. GEORGE J. MATTA, 1202D ASU, ARMY BASE,
BOSTON, MASS.**

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, will you be kind enough to identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present unit assignment?

Sergeant MATTA. M. Sgt. George J. Matta, now stationed at 1202d ASU, Army Base, Boston, Mass., assigned as a recruiting sergeant.

Senator POTTER. What is your present home address, Sergeant?

Sergeant MATTA. 15 Grover Avenue, Brockton, Mass.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, when did you go to Korea, and what unit were you with at the time?

Sergeant MATTA. I was with the 2d Division, 38th Infantry, and went over August 17, 1950.

Senator POTTER. Can you give the committee a brief description of the circumstances when you were captured?

Sergeant MATTA. Well, it all started on the night of February 11, 1951. We got word to get ready and move out because the Chinese had overrun the South Korean positions and were starting to surround us. So we packed most of the vehicles we could, and the ones we couldn't bring along we destroyed. We was making our way out of this pass, which was south of Kwangju, and we fought out all that night, and many times we had to stop and fire pointblank artillery at the Chinese on the hill to stop them from surrounding us. Then we situated in this one field there, and tried to reorganize.

The mortar shells and artillery was very bad. So they decided that we would try to make it out the best we could. I got on a three-quarter ton, for my machine gun platoon, and we was making it out of the roadblock, and we had about 500 to a thousand yards to go over this bridge. If we got over that bridge we would have had a halfway chance of making it out. But our vehicle got hit about 500 yards before the bridge, and we took off to the right of the road into this ditch.

We was firing across at the Chinese on the hill. There was 4 of us in this ditch, and about 10 minutes afterward about 20 Chinese come from around the bend on our right.

At first we started and we didn't know what to do. There was only about 4 of us and about 20 of them. So we laid our weapons down, but at that time, if I ever thought that I was going to go through and see what I did, I would have fought it out there and then. Then they took us from there across to this hill and we stayed there that day. While we was there, our own planes strafed us and we couldn't move or anything because they would point their rifles at us. When the planes went away they took us around these hills to what was supposed to be their CP, I think, and there they sat us on a hill among these trees.

There was about 50 of us at the time, I think, and we stayed there about 3 days in all. We couldn't move. We tried to go and defecate and the guards would jump on us. If we had to go we had to go inside of us, and they wouldn't let us move.

Our planes were over the area at all times and they were probably scared that they would notice us and strafe us. So we moved out of there and all that time there we did not have no food. Quite a few of us were weak and there were a lot of wounded with us. We moved all that day and this night we stopped in this village and they put us in these rooms, about 12 by 12, and put about 50 of us in there. After we got the wounded laid down and taken care of, we was lucky if we could even stand, it was so crowded. If we tried to go out the door, there was a little porch there, and we figured some would sleep on there, but the guards would push us back in with their bayonets. It was pretty miserable. We would have to spend the whole day there and if you had to defecate, it was pretty rough. A lot of men at that time got dysentery and so we had to use one little corner for that. This kept on for about 4 days until we got to this village by the river.

Me and three of my buddies and this South Korean who was posing as an American Japanese, we decided we would try to escape. So as they marched us out along the river there, we jumped over into this little bank and took our pants down and made believe we were going to defecate. We stood stooped in that position until the whole column passed on. When they passed us we got back on the same path and was going to make it for the road and take our left and try to get back to our own lines.

We was doing good. We got out on the road. Just before we got out on the road, there was these two Chinese and North Korean civilians that stopped us. Stewart started talking in Japanese, and this North Korean understood him, and they thought he was one of the guards that was taking us up with the others. So they told us the column was up to the right. We get up on the road and we take our left. We had this big pass. It was about 5 miles. We figured we would have to go through that on the road because the valleys was too steep and the hills were too high. We was doing good, we was marching right down the road, right along with all the Chinese and their mule carts and everything, and we would smoke cigarettes and Stewart would keep talking to us in Japanese. We would stop when a big crowd of Koreans or Chinese would come by the road, we would stop and be smoking cigarettes. We did good.

We was about 50 yards out of the pass and we figured we would take to the hills when we got out of there. But there was two North Korean guards that stopped us. The Korean started talking to them in Japanese and trying to make him think he was our guard, but he didn't have nothing to show, no papers or anything, and they finally brought us into the room and searched us and tied our hands behind us. While we was in there, this Korean, he was talking with the North Koreans, and they told him they had an alert out for these two GI's that were escaped and were caught and then overpowered the guards and took their burp gun and pistol away and escaped again. And they thought we was them. So they took us from there and marched us about 10 miles to this little village and they put us in this cement dungeon. All it was was a cement building about 8 by 8 and they put us in there.

They had a steel door and a hole about this big for all the air we had.

Senator POTTER. About 6 by 4, is that right; a hole about that size?

Sergeant MATTA. Six inches by about four inches would be about right. They put us in there and we stayed in there for about 3 days. If we had to defecate or urinate, we had to do it in there. They wouldn't let us out. We would just about be asleep, trying to get a little rest, because we didn't know when we was going to move out and then would come the pounding on the steel door. You would be just about asleep and they would scare the heck out of you because you didn't know what was happening, because when the stones hit the door it would sound like shots. Actually, we were so scared that if it was shots we would all edge over to the side. All that time we was in there, all we had was a bean ball which consisted of soybeans, half cooked, and sorghum. It was about the size of one of our baseballs, about this big (indicating), and that is all we had in that 3 days.

Senator POTTER. Would you have one a day?

Sergeant MATTA. No, sir; just 1 for the 3 days in there.

Senator POTTER. Were you beaten at all while you were in that confinement?

Sergeant MATTA. Not there. They took us from there, they tied our hands behind us with this wire and we marched, I think it was a good 20 miles from there with that wire tying our hands behind us, with that wire, and they would have about 4 feet of space in between and have another man tied behind there. They had a couple in front of me that were pretty weak and when they would fall they would pull my wire down and pull me, and then the guards would come up and beat them with the butts of their rifles and try to get them to move again. We would get up as close as we could and help them.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, during this time had they relieved you of any of your clothing?

Sergeant MATTA. Not at that time. They did a few of them before. I should bring this up:

While we was in that dungeon, they caught the two men that did escape with the burp gun and pistol, and they had them in with us. They had took their boots. They had these paratrooper boots, and the Koreans and Chinese go for them boots. They beat one other man on another occasion because he wouldn't give his boots up. They would give him a pair of their shoes, which was sneakers, and a sole about ripped out, and he had to tie it together. But for me, they didn't take the clothing because I didn't have too much clothing at the time.

Then from there they marched us what was supposed to be, they said, to what was a hospital. We got there and they had about 12 or 15 men in the room that couldn't move. They were wounded, a lot of them had dysentery in there, and they told us that was the hospital. There was nothing but a place, to my estimation, for the men to lay and die. So the one of us—

Senator POTTER. Did they administer any medical treatment to the prisoners at that hospital?

Sergeant MATTA. No, sir. And the only food we got there was a barley soup. In other words, it was what you would call a dishwater soup. That is what it tasted like and what it actually was. When we were there, the ones of us that could get around took our underwear, and figured we didn't need that, and we washed it and made bandages the best we could, and we tended to the wounded.

We stayed there about 5 days and they took about 50 of us that were able to march, still march. They told us they were taking us back to the rear where it would be safer. We left there and we started this march. There was 50 of us when we started. On the way, each day the men would get weaker and weaker. We tried to help as many as we could. We were so weak ourselves we didn't know when we was going to give up.

On this march we buried one man. At first they wasn't going to let us bury them, but we finally got them to give us a shovel and they took two guards out with us to bury them. We dug the hole as best we could, we buried them, and I kneeled down and the rest of the men kneeled down with me, and we started to pray for the men. That is when the guard come and started beating us with the ends of the rifle and moving us away. That is something they couldn't see, us praying. But we went back there and we kept on the march. Two or three would die and we did our best to bury them. On one occasion on this march one died and they made us leave him in the room. We begged with them to let us bury him, to give him a decent burial and they wouldn't listen to us.

Senator POTTER. He was left in the room with the men who were still alive?

Sergeant MATTA. No, sir; when we moved out, they left him in the room. We was out about 4 days on this march, and we stopped in this village and it seemed funny.

They put us in a big building. The first night they actually gave us a little room, but we were so cold then we huddled up together anyway. We were marching out of this village, and I was on the tail end. The interpreter took about four of us and he sent us back to get some food. We were going back and we get up there into the village again and there is this Chinese there sending us back. So we didn't know what to do. One told us to get the food. Two of the men stayed there, and me and this other man started back for the column to try to get the interpreter and find out what happened, why they were sending us back. So me and him is going up the road—it actually was a path—and we heard firing, three shots. So we hit the ground. We thought they were firing at us. When the firing stopped, we got up and looked around and there was nobody around. So we kept on going to catch up with the column. As we had gone 100 yards there were these three Chinese who were dragging these bodies into the bushes. They left before we did. As I got there I looked over in there and I could see the men's heads and blood coming out of their heads. I knew that none of the men had head trouble or injuries in the head. I knew what happened, but I kept on going—

Senator POTTER. They were Americans?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. I kept on going as fast as I could past them and we got up to the column. This Chinese interpreter asked me, he said, "Did you see them two men back there?" At first I was

going to answer him, but then I thought, I said, "What two men?" He said, "The two men back there." I said, "The other two getting food?" And he said, "No, the other two."

I said, "No, I didn't see any. Why? Did they escape?"

Then he sent me up to the front of the column with the other men. As I got talking with the men, they told me that he told that they were going to leave them two men behind and put them in a house until they got better and was able to walk.

Senator POTTER. In other words, just an example of what we have heard before of where they would take the men who couldn't keep up or who violated some of their minor regulations, take them back and shoot them?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. That didn't only happen on that one occasion, but it happened on many. The men would stay back. We would beg them to let us take them or some of us stay with them and they wouldn't. You would get up two or three hundred yards, sometimes maybe more, and you would hear the shot, and sure as God it was them men being killed.

Senator POTTER. If you had told them you saw those men, the chances are they would have administered the same thing to you at that time?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir, because a few of the men made the remark, they said, "You were lucky you didn't tell them you saw them, because you would probably have gotten the same thing."

Then after that incident we kept on and we arrived at what is known as the bean camp. They put us in these barracks. I think they were the Japanese barracks that the Japanese used there when they occupied it.

Senator POTTER. Do you know the location of Bean Camp, Sergeant?

Sergeant MATTA. Well, sir, the best I can say is it is about 10 or 15 miles going south before you get to Pyongyang.

Senator POTTER. South of Pyongyang?

Maj. FRANK M. FINN. I might say, sir, that there are about a dozen camps scattered through the area, and even up in here [indicating], known as bean camp, Death Valley, or the mining camp. Each group of men would name that valley. There is a great deal of confusion as to which of 5 or 6 valleys might be this particular bean camp or might be a particular death valley.

Sergeant MATTA. Sir, I think from hearing buddies of mine and everything, the bean camp and the mining camp to my knowledge is the same camp. What I recall at the bean camp is while we was there, all we got was the bean balls with sorghum, and the beans was always half cooked soybeans, and they would give you a ball in the morning. The best way to describe it is about the size of our baseball.

Senator POTTER. About the size of our baseball.

Sergeant MATTA. Then they had what they called a fish soup we were supposed to get. The men that were cooking it would tell us. They would give them three fish to put in over 200 gallons of water. How they can call it a fish soup, I don't know. All it actually was boiled water. That is where it got the name as the bean camp.

We had dysentery. Most all of us had dysentery. We would get up to go to the latrine and on many instances the Chinese guard would

stop the men and they would make them take all their clothing off and they would make them stand there and they would search their clothing for watches, rings, or anything they had. It was very cold at the time, and many men actually got pneumonia and died from that cause, too.

I got to the bean camp about April 17, and we moved out April 24. They told us they were taking us to the rear so our planes wouldn't bomb us. There were two groups that actually left. I left in the first group. We marched about 3 days after we left out. In that time, each day the men were so weak from walking and marching and cold, at least 1 or 2 of them died each day on the march. Then, I think it was about the third day, we got into these trains. But they were actually coal cars. They piled us in. They piled so many of us in that we couldn't actually sit down. They had one part of it they had these logs in it and the Chinese guards sat there, while we stood up and did the best we could. A lot of the men were weak and they would faint or pass out, but there was actually no room where we could even move our feet to make room for them to lie down.

We had to carry them on our shoulders. We rode on this train for two nights. During the day we stopped and they put us in a tunnel. The whole train would go into the tunnel. This one day they put us in this tunnel and they kept the engine running. After about 3 or 4 hours the gas started getting in there, the coal from the engine, and we all started to feel weak. We figured the best thing would be to get out of the tunnel. We started out and there was guards at the entrance and they was trying to stop us from coming out. But eventually we made them realize that the gas was going to smother us all anyway. So they let us out and we got outside and got some air and we would go back in for the men that couldn't make it out. We would bring them out. In that incident three men died in the tunnel. We brought them out and we wanted to take them and bury them. The best they did is they let us take them about 500 yards away and put them in this bomb crater and wouldn't let us bury them. I tried to take the dogtags from one of them so I could have his name and turn it in, but this Korean guard wouldn't let me. I started to take it and he pushed me away.

Then we left there on the train and we got off at Sinanju, and from there we marched a couple of days. All this time we were marching we never did stop over and have a rest. One time it rained so hard we had to stop. It was on May 17 that we were going up this steep hill and I was pretty tired. I made that hill okay, and I figured it will be easy going downhill. But it seemed that day we only had one-sided hills in Korea. We would get up to the top of this hill and staring directly in front of us is another hill. I am going up that, and halfway up there I am all out of breath. I sit down to get my breath, figuring when the rest of the men catch up that I will take off, and this guy comes up and hits me across my forehead with the butt of his rifle, and he knocks me down. I am dazed and everything, and I got that feeling, "To hell with it, go ahead. Finish it. Kill me." I didn't care. I just laid there. Thanks to two of my buddies, they came up and they helped me up, carried me up the top of the hill.

As we was going downhill, I started to regain my strength, and we got into this town which later was known to be camp No. 1. We

got there and the men were weak and tired and ragged and didn't wash ever since we was captured. Most of us had big, long beards by then. They put us about 10 or 12 in a room about 8 by 8. The rooms were nothing but mud huts, some of the walls broken in, and half of them didn't have doors. We were so tired we just laid there and figured it was another stop on the death march. But that was our place to stay. So the first day we didn't do nothing, and the second day we was a little rested, so we figured we would get up.

It was the first time I took my clothes off since the time in the hospital when we give our underwear for bandages for the wounded men. I have always had a lot of hair on my body, but when I took my clothes off this time I didn't have a bit of hair on my body. It was all bare, and in place of the hair was lice. Our clothes were filled with them, our bodies were filled with them, and we knew that we had to get rid of the lice because they would suck the blood from our bodies.

We would sit there with our clothes and squash the lice in between our thumbs. We eventually got what we called the lice-killing campaign. Everybody would get out of the room, squash all the lice on his clothing and off his body.

Eventually, as days went by, we realized that we was going to stay there. So we started to fix up the place a little bit. One of my buddies there who was in camp with me, was stationed with me in my company, he had a wound and on the march it got infected and everything, and maggots set in. So we went to this Chinese doctor and we asked him for some alcohol to wash the wound with. He wouldn't give us nothing. So we figured that we would try some of the old remedies we used to hear about. One of the boys went to this Korean garden and stole some onions. We boiled the onions and put it on the top of the wound. That helped a little, but the maggots were still there, so we tried tobacco. We got this Korean leaf tobacco and soaked it in water and put that over the wound. It helped a little. So the fellow said try again to see the doctor. They explained to him that if he didn't get some medicine to kill or disinfect the wound, that the man would die.

The doctor told us he didn't have any, and standing right in front of us was the medicine that we was asking for. All we wanted was a little alcohol. He wouldn't give it to us.

We kept after the leg the best we could, but a few days after that infection set in and he died. That was the same deal. The men were dying each day from dysentery, malnutrition, and infections from their wounds. It was just like a guessing game, who is going to be next, would it be me or would it be the next guy.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, did they attempt to interrogate you while you were at camp No. 1?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. I would say we was there about 2 weeks. They were actually interrogating us every chance they had on the way up, but this one was a school they were supposed to have for us, and they picked so many men from each squad. They had to go to this school and that is where the men actually got their first case of what we call brainwashing now. At that time it was just a bunch of bull to us, what we called it, until later when we come home and found out the real meaning, brainwashing. They gave us all kinds of litera-

ture, and told us how we were duped in going to fight over there, how we were being used by the warmongers, and like that.

Senator POTTER. Did they ask you anything about your home life, what your parents did?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. Well, not right at the beginning. At the beginning it was more or less where they had this school, but after the peace talks got started and they had us more settled down—like they would ask me what I did before I came into the Army. All I told them is I was in the Army, and this actually started on what they called autobiography. It had a big bunch of things on there. To us it was a joke. I mean, the questions they asked. One of the questions was “Who is your best friend?” At that time we was fed up with it. We didn’t care what they did with us. So I put “The only friend I have wants to borrow money.”

Then they went along and asked other information such as “Who was your commander,” and I put on there, like most of us put, “Military secret, can’t be given.” A few were humorous.

This is one thing I would like to bring up. What makes me feel proud to be part of America is no matter how bad they had us down, no matter how bad we were, as long as they were around, we never showed them we was down. That is one thing and they could never understand, how we could still laugh and joke in the conditions we were in. So that is why, as I say this, we were not in a good mood when we did it, but it is just the way an American GI reacts. This one kid put on his paper “I filled out something like this before and I ended up in the Army.”

Another one put “This is too much for me. I request transportation to go back and have my lawyer fill it out.”

It was all humorous things like that, and it kind of teed the Chinese off but we didn’t care.

Senator POTTER. Did they have a cell for confinement or a place for confinement at camp No. 1 for the prisoners of war that violated some of their minor rules?

Sergeant MATTA. Well, yes, sir. They had one was what they would call the turnip bin. It is a hole dug in the ground where they would keep the turnips in the winter. If men didn’t go along, they would put them in there. They put one GI in there, and he caught pneumonia and he almost died. There was one British there. They gave him this peace petition for the men to sign and he wouldn’t take it around and he told the men not to sign it, and many occasions like that.

Another one that they had, and one of the men from my company went there, was actually like a monkey cage, about this high and about as wide as this table, with blocks of 2 by 4’s in there. They had him in there and he couldn’t stand up. He had to stoop over. They kept him in there for quite a while.

One thing I forgot to bring out that I think is important is we left the bean camp and roughly 760 of us left there. From the death march and the men that died in camp, there was 760 of us and one day we sat down and tried to figure how many of us were alive from that. I can truthfully say that I don’t think there was more than a hundred of us left from that 760. We ran into occasions like my buddy Sergeant Treffery mentioned, the dungeon. There is another dungeon I would like to tell you about.

They called this a hospital. It was up on the hill and had a Chinese temple, the old temple like, just a big building, and then on the side of that there was another building with four rooms where the men that had dysentery and were not able to get round or the ones that had beri-beri and couldn't get around, they put them in there. In other words, we called it the dungeon because they put them in there and didn't look after them or nothing, and it was just a place waiting for them to die, so they could take them on the hill and bury them. We tried many times to go in there, those of us who could get up and around, to try to go in there and help the guys, but the Chinese guards would push us away.

I think, and I am pretty sure, I would almost stake my life on it, that over 200 men went into that dungeon and I think there was 1 man that lived through that, that actually come out of that room and is still alive.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, we have heard testimony concerning how they would dress the place up to have pictures taken. I think a sergeant told about the motion pictures of putting dynamite in the bomb craters and so forth. Do you have any knowledge of them staging something just for propaganda purposes?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. Like Sergeant Treffery said, "Making the truth." That is what they always say when they do something. I was at the hospital at this time because from the blow from my head I kept getting fainting spells and blood kept coming out of my nose. We was up there this one day, and they got us up in the morning, and they come around and put a nice white tablecloth on the table. That struck us funny. They never did that. Then in comes the nurses—they were supposed to be nurses. They had white uniforms, a white hat with a little Red Cross armband. It is the first time we ever saw them like that. Anything that ever happened good or something good like that that we would see, the first thing that would come to our minds is the Red Cross must be coming up. They come up that day and started scraping the wall and cleaning it, and they pasted big numbers up there and gave us two decks of cards. Gee, that was something because the only cards we had before was what we used to make out of these tobacco boxes, to cut them out and make our own cards. We sat down and was going to play a good game of bridge. We were all figuring "What is coming off with all of this here."

In about 10 minutes our question was answered. In walked the cameraman with a camera, these big lights coming in there. I see this and me and my buddy get up and we go outside. They come in. The nurses and all get inside, one of them would get down beside a man, hold him up and start feeding him. That is the only time I saw them doing that.

Before they would come and give you the food and didn't care whether you ate it or not.

Another was shown giving this GI a shot. All were pictures like that that were taken, then to top it off, when me and my buddy got up from the card game, these two Chinese sat down and had the cards in their hands and they were taking pictures of them there. It struck me funny because they never did understand our card games. The other two men that sat there, I don't say they were going along with the Chinese. I think they were too dumfounded to know what to do

and just sat there. This doctor, which we called the water doctor, come out and tried to get me to go in there and have my picture taken. I told them no. He said "Why?" So I told him, I said "If they did that every day," I said, "I would be glad to go in there and have my picture taken. But when will we see that again? As soon as they stop taking pictures it will be the same old routine again."

I stayed out and he couldn't get me to go in. Then they come in with two big trays. One was all filled up with tobacco. That struck me kind of funny because we was issued tobacco the day before. And there was a nice big tray of apples, then come in. So they took pictures, of nurses holding the trays of apples and tobacco. They took pictures all around the boys laying in bed. They had white sheets over the beds and everything. Jesus, that was something good. They finished and the doctor tried to get me in again. The reason I think he wanted to get me in there was because actually I looked and was one of the healthiest one in there, I think. I wouldn't go in. They finished taking the pictures. I was looking through a few of the books here, what they would call like this one "POW's in Korea"—

Senator POTTER. That is the book put out by the Communists to show how well they treated our prisoners of war.

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. That is, allegedly.

Sergeant MATTA. In there it does show some but not the particular ones that I was in. It will give you an idea.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, did they leave the tobacco and fruit in there after they took the picture?

Sergeant MATTA. No. I am sorry I left that out. They did not. They took the apples back and the tobacco back. The white table cloth come off the table, the nurses were back in their old brown uniforms and we didn't see them again.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, in other words, they set this stage just for the taking of a picture to be used for propaganda purposes?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. And it had no relationship to the type of treatment you received at that camp?

Sergeant MATTA. No, sir. Like I stated, if they did that when we first were captured and were doing it right along, I wouldn't have seen no harm in them taking pictures like that. But when they were just doing it then and knowing it was propaganda, that is why I didn't want no part of it.

Senator POTTER. Some of those pictures in that magazine you have have been identified as pictures taken at camp No. 1.

Mr. O'CONNELL. Page 47, Sergeant, there is one photograph that was identified this morning by Sergeant Treffery.

Senator POTTER. I think most of them, however, were taken at camp 5.

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir; most of them. Yes, that is this picture with the three British there putting on the Hollywood scene. As Sergeant Treffery said, that is before this other British master of ceremonies got on and, as we say, broke up the show. As Sergeant Treffery said, it sure made you feel proud to be there because I was on that march when we marched down to the field there and as we was marching in you almost was singing God Bless America with tears in

your eyes, because you didn't think that you would have the courage to sing it when the guards are beating on you to stop. But it seemed the more they beat on you the more you wanted to sing it.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, how long were you in camp No. 1?

Sergeant MATTA. I was there from May 17, 1951, until August 15, 1952, where we moved from camp 1 to camp 4. A lot of us wondered why they moved us from camp 1 to camp 4. It all centered around this May first deal, where we refused. They took the British master of ceremonies away from telling that joke. As long as the officers and the sergeants were around, the men stayed in line and they listened to us. From that day they figured that we was too much of an influence on the men, because we just got done fixing the place up and making it halfway decent to live in, and they moved us out.

Senator POTTER. They moved the noncoms to camp No. 4?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. What were the conditions at camp No. 4?

Sergeant MATTA. Well, sir, they were what you would say to be pretty rough there. We got there and they had us in the buildings, and when they first got us there, it seemed they had, like camp No. 1, sergeants all by themselves, because we was classed as the reactionary sergeants. So we got there and we was behind barbed wire. They more or less wouldn't leave us alone. They had the men out building walls. That is what struck us funny. We were supposed to have built a stone wall between our company—our company was second—and first company. The excuse they gave us for us building that was to keep the cold out. A stone wall to keep the cold out. They wouldn't actually tell us it was so we couldn't keep in contact with first company.

Senator POTTER. How long were you in camp No. 4?

Sergeant MATTA. From August 15 until April 26, when I was released in Little Switch.

Senator POTTER. Was there much difference in the treatment between camp No. 4 and camp No. 1?

Sergeant MATTA. Well, the best way to describe that is they more or less were down on us. In other words, we could not do—we acted more free in the other camp. What I mean by free is we could go around and see each other and more or less get about. But in camp 4, they were guarding us like a bunch of dogs. If we would go out on a wood detail or anything, they would have about 50 or 60 guards on us.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, as the peace negotiations progressed, did conditions get better?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. When we first got captured, all we was getting was cracked corn, and the first part, the first couple of months, we was lucky to get a meal a day. Then when we got settled at camp 1, we was getting cracked corn and soybeans. The men's stomachs were getting pretty ripped up by the cracked corn because no matter how we boiled it, it was still hard. It was actually cattle feed corn, the corn we fed our chickens and things. Then it all started about July 8.

Senator POTTER. What kind of meal did they serve you there?

Sergeant MATTA. It was two meals at that time, and it would be cracked corn and it was, I would say, about this glassful of cracked corn would be actually what a man would get.

Senator POTTER. Would that be cooked?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, cooked, sir, but you could never cook it enough where it was edible. Like I say, it was more or less like our chicken feed corn. The men's stomachs were getting cut up pretty bad. They would go and be defecating blood and pus. Then there came around a strong feeling. The men could feel it, we could feel it. A truckload of pigs came in and then they say they are going to give us half rice and half sorghum and then about every fourth meal we would get a whole meal of rice. You could feel the difference. We knew something was up. There was the old saying the Red Cross must be coming or something.

Senator POTTER. Did the Red Cross ever come?

Sergeant MATTA. No, sir. The closest we ever seen of anything from the Red Cross was in about October 1952. We got a pair of socks and it was marked "Made in Japan." There was strong rumors that that was what we got from the Red Cross package. Whether it was true or not, I don't know. But we couldn't understand where they got the socks marked "Made in Japan." I have been asked many times about why I thought they didn't want our Red Cross. The only reason I can give, my own opinion, is that they wanted the people of the world to think that they were taking such good care of us that we didn't need the Red Cross. But what the Red Cross would give us in 1 package they hadn't given us in over 2 years.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, were you exchanged in Little Switch?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. In Little Switch, the Little Switch operation, the Communists were supposed to exchange, as we did, all wounded prisoners. When you were selected to go on Little Switch, were there wounded prisoners left in the camp that didn't make the Little Switch operation?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. That was one thing, when I first came back I made sure I let my Government know that there were men there—the way I want to express this is I would have given my right arm to get out of there, but there were actually men there that should have been back before me and many of the men in Little Switch. The men such as the ones who had amoebic dysentery, were defecating nothing but blood, and needed immediate attention, which they couldn't give—wouldn't give. I don't say they couldn't give but wouldn't give.

And there were many cases where men had shrapnel and bullets in them that should have been returned. That is, to my estimation, another piece of their propaganda machine, because what they tried to do is get the people of the world to think that they took so good care of us that that was the only few they had.

Senator POTTER. In other words, they did not carry out their contract to return all of their wounded prisoners?

Sergeant MATTA. No, sir; because roughly—

Senator POTTER. You know that there were wounded prisoners left at your camp when you returned?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. Roughly, and I think it has been proven when the men were turned over in Big Switch, there should have actually been five to six hundred returned in Little Switch.

Senator POTTER. When your diet was cracked corn or a ball of rice, what were the guards eating?

Sergeant MATTA. Well, rice and they had what they called their side dish. It would usually be greens or some kind of a soup.

Senator POTTER. In other words, they had a different menu than you had?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. That also was in violation of the provisions of the Geneva Convention. They are supposed to serve the same type of food to prisoners of war that they serve to their own troops.

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir.

Mr. JONES. Sergeant, chapter 5, article 34 of the Provisions of the Geneva Convention say:

Prisoners of war shall enjoy complete latitude in the exercise of their religious duties including attendance at the service of their faith.

Are you prepared to comment on that?

Sergeant MATTA. Sir, one thing when I tell you this incident, I don't want you to think that I am trying to be no hero or anything, but it was just the way I felt and I think the way many other GI's felt. I was at camp 4, and I was in the hospital. I was getting terrific pains in my head and a lot of blood was coming out of my nose. I was lucky, I carried through with me at all times my rosary. When I got captured I had them and I had them then. They tried to take them away a couple of times on the way but I wouldn't give them to them. So this one time I was walking back and forth and didn't have nothing to do, and I had my rosary out and was saying the rosary. This guard come up and he tried to take them away from me and I wouldn't give them to him. So he started getting mad and tried to get them and I still would not give them to him. Then this interpreter come over and wanted to know what the trouble was. So I told him he wanted my rosary beads. He told me to give it to him.

I said no. I said, "The only way he is going to get these is over my dead body." The guard kept getting furious and he started pointing the bayonet toward me and I grabbed the bayonet and started to put it toward my heart, and I told him, "You would have to finish me before I give you my rosary."

The interpreter was getting excited because they were always, after the peace talks, after what they called the Chinese lenient policy. That was something from higher up, that Chinese lenient policy.

Senator POTTER. In other words, after that started, orders came down to take a little better care of you?

Sergeant MATTA. That is right, sir. And the main saying of that was that they had the Chinese lenient policy because we were duped into coming over there. But to get back on the incident, the interpreter sent the guard away and then he brought me up to his office, then he started asking me why I was willing to die for them beads. So I told them, I said "God died on the cross for me and I am not ascaerd to die for Him now."

He couldn't figure that out. So I explained it to him, what the rosaries meant and everything and then at the time I didn't care so I told him. I explained to him and then I told him about heaven and about purgatory and then about hell. I told him heaven was where all the good ones go and purgatory was where the ones that were a little good went and when they got good they went to heaven. I told him hell is where the bad ones roast, I said, "Like you people."

He didn't like that and he got kind of mad. I could hear the men in the back of the hut hollering to me to take it easy. But as I said, you got that feeling, you don't care whether you live or die. So I told him that.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, I have just one further question I would like to ask. You have seen communism in its rawest form. You have been in their hands for many months. You also were able to observe life under a Communist government by the civilians of North Korea. Would you like to comment on your views on communism as a way of life and what you think of people who have enjoyed the fruits of this great Nation who are trying to sell us down the river and our form of government and establish that type of machinery.

Sergeant MATTA. I am very glad you asked me that, because in a way that question would almost be like asking somebody how did they like cancer. To me that communism is a bad disease like cancer. What I think of communism: I lived with communism, saw what it was, and how the people lived under it, and how they cannot live their own lives and how badly they are treated. I saw how communism sent my buddies to their deaths by starvation, lack of medicine and proper foods, and by shooting the weak who couldn't walk. The whole thing was a deliberate Communist setup and they knew what they were doing. They wanted to kill us all off eventually. But thank God the peace talks started and saved the ones who were still alive.

Because as soon as the peace talks started, they brought in proper food and medicine which they could have done just as easy before the peace talks started. I have been asked many times "Haven't you had enough being wounded three times last war, and a prisoner over 26 months this one? Why don't you get out of the Army?"

My answer to them is as long as we have communism, I am staying in the Army in the hopes of getting another crack at them, as I cannot forget my buddies on the hill who died because we had such uncivilized people, who call themselves Communists. It may seem strange to some people to hear me say this, but I hope to get a crack at them again and a chance to fight communism again. But they would never take me prisoner again as I don't think any man can live through it twice. Don't get me wrong, I am not trying to be a hero, as I am just as scared as you are to die. But if you saw what we saw, seeing your best buddy who was with you for over 3 years, and others, die right in front of you, knowing he didn't have to die, you would have the same feeling, too. It is very hard to get the people to believe these stories that are being told, but they are as true as God made us. I would like to let the parents and families of our buddies who died as prisoners know they should always feel proud of them as they showed they were true Americans and were not scared to die for the country they loved.

What I would like to see done is that everyone who is a Communist in the States be shipped to Russia and China, and leave them live under a Communist government for a while and let them see if communism is what they want.

In closing, I thank God for being a part of America, where I can walk down the street in freedom, do what I please, and go where I please. And that is something you can't do in a Communist country. I know, I was there.

Senator POTTER. Thank you very much, Sergeant.

Do you have any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask one question: Sergeant, you have had an opportunity earlier before you testified to examine that particular pamphlet or magazine which was identified in evidence this morning as being one issued by the Chinese committee in China concerning the treatment that our boys received while prisoners of war. Do you have any general comment as to the truth or falsity of the items that appear in that pamphlet?

Sergeant MATTA. Well, sir, I couldn't tell you by my own words, while I am on the speaker, but to me it is nothing but a bunch of bull, like in this picture where it shows—this is what I meant when I was telling you about the Korean and Chinese nurses in the white uniforms. That is the only time they wear them, when they take these pictures.

Senator POTTER. In other words, it is propaganda?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes, sir. I would like to go back, because many other people have asked me about the food there, I want to go back to one picture.

Right here, anybody that would look at that picture would see that man with about eight chickens in his arms. Well, they say, "Boy! They have it pretty good as a POW," but the picture doesn't tell that they make chicken for over 500 men. What we do when we get them eight chickens, to get the best benefit out of them, the cooks cut them up in little pieces and boil them and make soup out of it so in order to get the benefit of the broth. The meat, you was lucky if you got a little piece as big as your thumb.

That is all that is. Showing these men issuing the rice, they wouldn't say that one little panful is for over four or five men.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Actually, Sergeant, those were all props which were used for propaganda purposes by the Communists?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, how much did you weigh when you were captured?

Sergeant MATTA. Sir, I weighed 208 pounds when I got captured.

Senator POTTER. How much weight did you lose as a result of your confinement?

Sergeant MATTA. I went down to 150 pounds and when I was released I think I was about 165 or 170 pounds and at present, thanks to good chow in the States, I'm back up to 200 pounds and at one time I was up to 212, but the doctor put me on a diet.

Senator POTTER. We are happy to have Senator Welker here from the great State of Idaho. Senator, if you have any questions, feel free to ask them at any time.

Senator WELKER. I have no questions, only I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and this very fine sergeant who appeared before your committee. I am here merely as an observer. Thank you, very much.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Carr.

Mr. CARR. One question, sergeant. All the time you were a captive, you were a captive of the Chinese; is that correct?

Sergeant MATTA. Yes. There was only one space where the Koreans took us over for about 3 days. They marched us from one village to the other, but other than that I was under the Chinese at all times.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, I want to say to you as I have said to the others, you have gone through a great ordeal, an ordeal which, despite the explanation you have made here today, very few Americans fully appreciate the torture and experiences that you men have had. You have to live it in order to know it. It is not a way of life which is recommended.

However, I think the bravery and the intestinal fortitude of you and the others who have testified and will testify is a great omen for America. Thank you.

We will have a 5-minute break.

(Short recess.)

Senator POTTER. The committee will come to order.

Mr. Manring.

Mr. Manring, will you raise your right hand, please? Do you swear that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. MANRING. I do.

TESTIMONY OF ROY PAUL MANRING, JR., NEW ALBANY, IND.

Senator POTTER. Will you have a seat, Mr. Manring? Will you identify yourself for the record, Mr. Manring, giving your full name and present address?

Mr. MANRING. Well, my full name is Roy Paul Manring, Jr.; home in Chicago, Ill., but at the time I just got married and I'm living in New Albany, Ind.

Senator POTTER. I understand that you are a newly married man?

Mr. MANRING. Yes; this is part of my honeymoon.

Senator POTTER. I hope that the hospitality here fits in with honeymoon conditions.

Mr. MANRING. Not quite.

Senator POTTER. Can you tell the committee when you went to Korea and the unit you were with at the time?

Mr. MANRING. Yes. I went in Korea the first part of July. I was with the 1st Cavalry Regiment, H Company.

Senator POTTER. Will you give the committee briefly the circumstances under which you were captured?

Mr. MANRING. Well, on the morning of August 14 we got word over our PA set there was supposed to have been some South Koreans come and help hold our positions. The funny part about it they come from the back of us and like I said, we got word that they were supposed to have been South Koreans.

Senator POTTER. What year was this?

Mr. MANRING. This was 1950.

Senator POTTER. 1950?

Mr. MANRING. Yes, the first part of the war. And we started shooting at them and the company commander told us to hold our fire that they were South Koreans. They were supposed to help us hold our position.

We kept on shooting and he said, "The next man that fires is going to get a bullet in his head. They are South Koreans and are supposed to help hold our position." They come up and shook hands with us and come right around and grabbed our weapons out of our own hands.

Senator POTTER. What was your duty at this time? Were you a rifleman?

Mr. MANRING. No, sir, I was an ammo bearer.

Senator POTTER. Your company was captured?

Mr. MANRING. Yes. There was 26 of us at the time of the capture.

Senator POTTER. Twenty-six were captured?

Mr. MANRING. Yes.

Senator POTTER. What happened then?

Mr. MANRING. Then they knocked our helmets off. Then they marched us up the road to an apple orchard and they motioned for us to take our boots off. After we took our boots off, they tied our hands behind our back and first they tied us with the shoestrings out of the boots and they went through our pockets and took everything out of our pockets and the fellows that had wristwatches on, they just ripped them right off the wrist.

Senator POTTER. After they removed your boots and tied your hands behind your back, then what happened?

Mr. MANRING. They told us if we'd behave ourselves they was going to take us back across Noktong River and put us in a concentration camp, that we would be taken care of back there. So they started moving us out. They moved us about 3 miles up the road and kept us in a gully for the rest of the day, and when night came they motioned for us to get up again and they started moving us out and as we started moving out evidently our observers saw them. Our artillery opened up on us.

Senator POTTER. Did our artillery cause any casualties?

Mr. MANRING. No, sir. They come pretty close, but they didn't hit none of us because we was down in the gully, but we could hear the North Koreans hollering when they got hit.

Senator POTTER. What happened then? Your hands were still tied behind your back, is that correct?

Mr. MANRING. Yes, they were still tied behind our backs, and the next morning—well every other man they would untie his hands in—and in the daylight they would give us a cigarette, 1 cigarette for 3 men and maybe 1 apple for 3 men.

Senator POTTER. That was your ration of food?

Mr. MANRING. Yes. We was lucky to get that. A little later on that afternoon one of the fellows happened to get his hands untied and the Communists saw him, caught him, took a trench tool and hit him in the neck three times and knocked his head right off his shoulders.

Senator POTTER. Severed his head right off his shoulders with a trenching tool?

Mr. MANRING. Yes.

Senator POTTER. What happened after that incident?

Mr. MANRING. Well, they motioned for us to stay low and get behind the shrubbery. That was in the daytime. They kept us in that gully. When nightfall came they got us up again and they'd start moving us. On the second night we crossed a road and there was a little stream of water running on the other side and we told them we wanted some mezia—they understood it as water and so they let us get the water. Hardly none of us could drink it because we seen a dead GI laying approximately 50 yards up right in the stream, one of our boys.

Senator POTTER. Was this still just the 20-some prisoners of war?

Mr. MANRING. No, sir. That night they brought in a few more. It was approximately 45 in total.

Senator POTTER. About 45?

Mr. MANRING. We asked different questions up the line, who they was and everything, and the guards that was around us told us to keep quiet, but we didn't pay no attention to them. We couldn't understand them and they couldn't understand us. They come along and hit us with the rifle butts, so we knew then that we better keep quiet, but that didn't stop some of them, they kept on going, kept on asking where they was from and everything.

Senator POTTER. What happened after that?

Mr. MANRING. The next day we told them we wanted some water and they told us no, that a plane was up there. This was the second day. There was one fellow coming that could speak a very little bit of English and he told us not to worry that they'd take care of us. Well, we didn't know what was going on, because we ain't never heard nothing about the way that they murdered the boys over there. If I ain't mistaken this was about the first big massacre that they had, the one I was in.

The first night I don't see how they could do it. And they moved us out down the hill and as we went down the hill—just before they'd move us out they'd tie us 10 to a bunch and start moving us out. If one of the men would fall naturally he would pull another man down with him and we couldn't get up very easy because our hands were tied behind our backs and they'd stick us with bayonets and hit us with rifle butts and get us moving again.

Our artillery opened up on them again and they couldn't get us across Hill 303 up on the other side. Like I said, every time they'd move us the artillery would open up on us.

Senator POTTER. Where did they take you when you were bound up together?

Mr. MANRING. They just kept us in a ravine in the daytime. Then at night they'd move us across country.

Senator POTTER. How long did this go on?

Mr. MANRING. That went on 3 days and 2 nights. On August 17 about the middle of the afternoon they motioned for us to get up again, that they was going to move us out again.

That's when it happened. That's when I started hearing shots. I looked around and I saw my buddies was falling, getting murdered with their hands tied behind their back.

Senator POTTER. Did they hit you?

Mr. MANRING. Yes. The first time they hit me I got hit in the leg and the upper part of the arm. What caused me to fall was a fellow in front of me. When he fell then I fell and as he fell the wire that they had broke loose and left me by myself. My hands were still tied behind my back.

Senator POTTER. Did they think that you were dead?

Mr. MANRING. Yes, I guess they thought we was dead. As they left, a couple of minutes later I heard a sound like somebody was coming back, so I managed to wiggle my body underneath the fellow that was next to me—was dead—and they come by and they started kicking and you could hear the fellows hollering, grunting, groaning, and praying, and when they kicked me they kicked my leg and I made

a grunting sound and that's when I caught it in the gut, got shot in the gut at the time.

Senator POTTER. Then they left again?

Mr. MANRING. Yes, they left again.

Senator POTTER. We will be in recess for 10 minutes.

(Short recess.)

Senator POTTER. The committee will come to order.

Roy, how old are you?

Mr. MANRING. I'll be 22 the 30th of this month.

Senator POTTER. And your home is in Chicago or was in Chicago?

Mr. MANRING. Before I joined the Army it was in Chicago.

Senator POTTER. And now you will be living where?

Mr. MANRING. In New Albany, Ind.

Senator POTTER. What is your profession, Roy?

Mr. MANRING. Well, before I went in the Army I was a spot welder and right after I got a discharge I went back to work as a spot welder, but I just got rolled and I had to get me another job, so I am a weld cleaner now.

Senator POTTER. I sincerely hope that your new endeavor will be very profitable and successful.

And you were married 10 days ago?

Mr. MANRING. Well, it's 12 days ago.

Senator POTTER. You are an old married man by now.

Mr. MANRING. I don't feel it though.

Senator POTTER. Roy, we have a photograph that we would like to have you identify and then we will let you get back to your wife. I don't blame you at all. If I were married 12 days, I would be very jealous of the time I had taken away from my new wife.

Will you move over to the photograph that is on the easel, which is a photograph taken after the massacre took place. It depicts the men with their hands still tied behind their back, tied together. It is not a pleasant picture at all, but if you would identify that picture for our record, if you care to do so, we will appreciate it. If you don't, feel free to say so.

Mr. MANRING. I am O. K. now.

Senator POTTER. The photograph is on the easel.

Roy, can you identify that as a photograph of the scene where the massacre took place?

Mr. MANRING. Yes [indicating]. Right there is where I was lying.

Mr. O'DONNELL. What makes you remember the picture, Roy?

Mr. MANRING. Right here is the little path that I crawled up and here is the fellow that I was underneath. I can recall these bodies laying right here and right here.

Senator POTTER. Thank you, Roy.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may the photograph which has been identified be marked as an exhibit for the record?

Senator POTTER. Without objection, the photograph will be marked as an exhibit for the record.

(The photograph was marked as "Exhibit No. 10" and will be found in the appendix on p. 148.)

Senator POTTER. How many men were murdered in that group, Roy?

Mr. MANRING. There was approximately 41.

Senator POTTER. 41?

Mr. MANRING. Yes.

Senator POTTER. Roy, I want to extend to you my deepest thanks for relating a story which I know you want to forget. The only consolation that you can have from the testimony today is that maybe by the story that you have told you will awaken many Americans to the true nature and true character of communism that they otherwise would not know. I know that I am extending to you the very best in the future. I sincerely hope that the tragedies are all behind you, and to you and your new wife, the best that America can give you. Thank you.

Mr. MANRING. Thank you.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Thank you, Roy.

Mr. Chairman, may the record show that there were actually three survivors out of this mass murder. The other two survivors' statements completely corroborate the factual picture as presented by Roy Manring. May the record also show that this is undoubtedly the first major case of war atrocities that was brought to the attention of General MacArthur and which case was primarily responsible for the United Nations War Crimes Commission being put in operation by General MacArthur.

Senator POTTER. Colonel Todd, would you move up again? You have already been sworn, Colonel.

TESTIMONY OF LT. COL. JACK R. TODD, JAGC, CHIEF, WAR CRIMES DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE ZONE STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE, HEAD-QUARTERS KOREAN COMMUNICATIONS ZONE, KOREA

Senator POTTER. We have Lt. Col. Jack Todd who has been identified before as the Director of the War Crimes Commission. We have three photographs that we are submitting to you, Colonel Todd, for identification.

Colonel TODD. The first of the three is a picture of the victims of the hill 303 massacre. It shows 25 or 30 American GI's on litters in an aid station in Korea where they were brought for identification. They have been shot in the back and all have their hands tied behind them. All of these men are victims of the hill 303 massacre. That is K. W. C. 16, Korean War Crimes No. 16.

Mr. O'DONNELL. May that exhibit be marked as an exhibit for the record?

Senator POTTER. The photograph will be marked as an exhibit and made a part of the record.

(The photograph was marked as "Exhibit No. 11" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Colonel TODD. Photograph No. 2 is a picture of two American GI's, victims of the same hill 303 massacre. It is a closeup clearly showing their hands tied behind them and the wounds inflicted in the back.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may that photograph be marked as an exhibit for the record?

Senator POTTER. The photograph will be marked and made an exhibit for the record.

(The photograph was marked as "Exhibit No. 12" and will be found in the appendix on p. 148.)

Colonel TODD. No. 3 is another photograph from K. W. C. No. 16, the hill 303 massacre, which shows a closeup of one GI who had been

killed by being shot in the back and it is an extreme closeup of the hands showing them bound behind his back.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Mr. Chairman, may that photograph which has been identified be an exhibit in the record?

Senator POTTER. Without objection, the photograph will be marked as an exhibit and made an official part of the record.

(The photograph was marked as "Exhibit No. 13" and may be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Mr. O'DONNELL. Colonel, this morning Captain Buttrey testified concerning a certain war atrocity or war crime. I think there is a little bit of confusion as to whether or not the chaplain, who was administering the spiritual rites to the captain, escaped or was killed in that atrocity. Would you clear the record for us on that?

Colonel TODD. To the best of my recollection the chaplain was killed.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Thank you very much.

Colonel TODD. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Thank you, Colonel.

Colonel TODD. Yes, sir.

Senator TODD. Sergeant Sharpe.

Sergeant, do you swear the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Sergeant SHARPE. I do.

TESTIMONY OF SGT. CHARLES ROBERT SHARPE, 14TH ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY BATTALION, FORT MYER, VA.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, will you identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present unit assignment?

Sergeant SHARPE. I am Sfc. Charles Robert Sharpe. I am presently assigned to the 14th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion, Fort Myer, Va.

My home address is Pledge Street in Burlington, N. C.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, when did you go to Korea and what unit were you assigned to at the time?

Sergeant SHARPE. I landed in Korea the Fourth of July, 1950. I was a medical aide attached to the 19th Infantry Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division.

Senator POTTER. Can you give the committee the circumstances under which you were captured and your assignment at that time?

Sergeant SHARPE. I was a member of George Company, attached as a medical aide man, and along the Kum River we were having a battle. My company was just north of Taejon. My company was assigned to run a blockade and get the first battalion free.

We went on foot and they were in vehicles. We broke the blockade and the vehicles got through, but we were on foot. We couldn't get out.

So we lost communications between the platoons, and my platoon was the fourth platoon. We had lost all communications and at this time the lines—we were encircled—the lines were going back. We were approximately 20 miles behind when we realized we couldn't get back, so we decided that we would try to get back as a group and we were going south and we went through a little ravine or valley and they started firing.

It was a perfect place for an ambush. The enemy fired from both sides of the hill. A machinegun was in front of us and behind us. There was no escaping.

There were 43 men in the platoon and after 2 hours of continuous firing they killed all of the 43 but 4 men. The enemy came down to the group and searched our bodies, took most of the valuables, the shoes, the weapons, and left, thinking that the other 4 were dead.

The 3 and I went into the hills to try to get back at night and, after 4 days without anything to eat, I was the only one that wasn't wounded, I decided that I would go down into a village and try to get some food and while I was in that Korean village to get food, I had lost all caution. I had thrown it away because I was starving and I went down to a Korean farmer and I got some food and while I was at the house the North Korean guerrillas or police circled the farmer's house and when I came out they started firing in the air and up to this time I had seen at least two people with their hands tied behind their back and shot, so I decided that I would shoot myself and I took the pistol I had and tried to do it, but I couldn't shoot myself and I dropped the pistol and one of the guards rushed forward and kicked me and I fell backward and they beat me.

Finally, a North Korean officer stopped them from beating me and right off the bat he started asking me political questions.

What did I think about our President, the President at the time? What did I think about our military headquarters? That's the type questions he asked me.

From here I was taken to a prison in—

Senator POTTER. Was that an officer that questioned you?

Sergeant SHARPE. It was an officer.

From here I was taken to a police station in Taejon. At Taejon they separated the people and started interrogating them one at a time and they would take us in and they would ask us questions. Why do you fight for the Americans? They ride around in Cadillacs smoking cigars and everything and having a big time. Questions of that type.

They would get the colored fellows away and try to turn them against the white fellows.

Senator POTTER. How many prisoners were there at that time?

Sergeant SHARPE. Approximately at Taejon there were about 40 prisoners—40 at this time. At least one-fourth of the 40 prisoners were wounded. They were wounded.

One fellow had his foot broken off. They had no medical aid, the Koreans; none at all.

Senator POTTER. They received no medical attention at all?

Sergeant SHARPE. No.

Senator POTTER. Did the guards beat you?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir; they would beat us. If we did anything at all they thought was wrong, which we couldn't help, we had to go to the latrines and relieve ourselves at times, and when they would catch us downstairs they would beat us with the rifle butts.

And the officer in charge at this Taejon camp, he'd beat as much if not more than any of the soldiers. He was in on it, too.

Senator POTTER. How long were you there, Sergeant?

Sergeant SHARPE. Four days. After 4 days we left Taejon and we started north. We came into another little town just above Taejon, named Chochowan.

Senator POTTER. Had they removed your shoes?

Sergeant SHARPE. They had removed our shoes and most of our clothing. We only had a pair of fatigue pants on. They took us to Chochowan. It seemed they tried to put us in buildings that were conspicuous, that our planes would be sure to hit. They put us in a big building at Chochowan, and our planes, not knowing that it wasn't a military target, not knowing in any way, hit the buildings, and they had wheelbarrows to take out the people that were killed.

The only way you knew who was dead was to count who was alive.

At Chochowan, they didn't question us much about anything. They just kept us out for a short period of time. From Chochowan we went north to Chonan and at Chonan we went with South Korean prisoners. They put us in the same building with South Korean prisoners.

I remember an officer came in one day—he was a colonel; had three big stars, was equivalent to our colonel—and he had a big meal set before him and he had it and we didn't have anything to eat.

Our rations up to this time was about one rice ball a day, about the size of a baseball, and he sat down and ate his meal bit by bit and when we were watching him eat the meal he stood up and said, "My God fed me this meal. You ask your God to feed you and see what happens."

Senator POTTER. In other words, he meant that the Communist state was providing for him?

Sergeant SHARPE. And we couldn't have anything.

Senator POTTER. As to the march that you made, has this been on foot?

Sergeant SHARPE. All the way on foot.

Senator POTTER. In your bare feet?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir. They took all of my clothing and shoes.

Senator POTTER. What time of the year was this?

Sergeant SHARPE. This was in the summertime, in July. From Chonan we were taken to Suwon, which is just south of Seoul. At Suwon they kept us about 5 to 6 days and then they took us to Seoul. Seoul was the first any seimtype permanent camp we were in. We stayed there about a month and at Seoul they put us in a South Korean school for girls. It had previously been a school for girls—separated groups and started indoctrination.

They gave us Communist literature and magazines and they showed us movies that had been taken in Russia.

Senator POTTER. Was that the same camp where Mr. Kim was propaganda man?

Sergeant SHARPE. That is the same one. At this movie the thing was fantastic. They showed us how the Americans met the Russians at the Elbe River and how we would kick the Germans and beat the Germans and they would treat them nice, and how our officers were drunkards and their officers were fine, upstanding gentlemen, and in this movie they tried to actually make us believe this. We didn't believe a thing.

Senator POTTER. Was that a Russian-made movie?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir. I couldn't tell Russians. I know it was a Caucasian actor, acting the part. I just know that much.

At Seoul, Mr. Kim was the interpreter, and the word was that he was a South Korean and reportedly changed horses and had gone with the North Koreans. He was in charge of all the lectures and all of the things in Communist literature that we got.

Senator POTTER. How long were you at Seoul?

Sergeant SHARPE. I was at Seoul for approximately 1 month. They asked us where we were from. They seemed to be interested in what type work your parents did. They asked us did we have automobiles. And they didn't like white-collar workers.

They didn't like anybody but farmers, and it turned out that most of the prisoners were farmers.

Senator POTTER. I assume they became farmers when they asked them that question?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir.

The marines landed at Inchon about a month after we were there, and when the marines landed at Inchon they took us north.

The first night that we left we walked approximately 35 to 40 miles, and, as I recall, we only had about 2 breaks.

On this trip all the way north if a man couldn't make the trip he was shot.

Senator POTTER. Did you ever see the guards shoot?

Sergeant SHARPE. I witnessed two personally. And the junior lieutenant who was in charge from Seoul to Pyongyang did one of the shootings. He was the man in charge of the group.

Senator POTTER. It was an officer who did the shooting?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir; all the way up the march from Seoul on through Panmunjom and those cities we passed North Korean soldiers walking on the sides of the road. We would be walking in the middle, and they would be walking down each side, and in the night they would kick us and slap us with their rifle butts because no one could tell who was beating, and I don't think their officers tried to stop them anyway.

They would put us on this place in these cities—they'd go to the main, even go out of the way and take us to the main streets. They would set us down in the city and bring all the civilians around.

There were no restrictions on who could beat us or who could talk to us. They made fun of us. They spit on us. They would take their cigarette butts that they would smoke and throw their butts down and step on them in front of us.

I know in one case they took a cigarette butt and put it out on this man's forehead.

Senator POTTER. Ground the cigarette out in his forehead?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. And the guards made no attempt to keep these civilians from beating the prisoners or misusing them?

Sergeant SHARPE. No, sir; they made no attempt at all.

Senator POTTER. In other words, they did it for public display, for a spectacle?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir. Then we arrived in Pyongyang, and the approximate distance from Taejon to Pyongyang, I think, is 400 miles. I had no shoes.

Senator POTTER. Did you walk the entire distance?

Sergeant SHARPE. Entire distance. At Pyongyang we were put in a building and we stayed in this building approximately a week,

maybe a little longer, and they started moving us again, but before we moved out of Pyongyang there were considerable people dying and we were burying them and when these people would die they were not taken immediately out of the building.

Sometimes they would stay in the building for a while and the other sick men had to lay beside them. We had a special sick room set off and on the night that we started to leave the guards got all the men that were able to walk outside and they went back into the sick room and I was in the sick room because I was a medic and I stayed in the room a lot to help the fellows and they came in and from an order from an officer to take all these men outside they started beating them and the men couldn't get up, they were too weak to move, and they beat them in the head with their rifle butts and stuck them with their bayonets until they thought they killed everyone and then they left.

Senator POTTER. In other words, the ones that were too weak to move, they killed them by bayoneting them with rifle butts and bayonets.

Sergeant SHARPE. That is right, sir. We left Pyongyang and they put us aboard open cars, coal cars, and in the process of approximately 5 days winding backward and forward, we came to a tunnel at Suchon. In this tunnel we stayed overnight and the reason we were in the tunnel was to keep the airplanes from tearing up the train.

That afternoon they came out and they told us that we were going to the Korean village, that we were going down in groups of thirties, as the homes could not adequately serve more than 30 men, so they told us to fall out in groups of thirties.

Of course, they didn't count to see whether there was 30. There was some 30, 40, or maybe 50 in some groups. Most of the men that could walk went outside and lined up and they seemed to be happy because they hadn't anything to eat that day and they had their bowls, and they took my group to a little ravine just left of the tunnel and at this ravine they told us to go in and set down, that the food would be there in a moment.

There were approximately 30 men in the group.

Senator POTTER. About 30 men in the group?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes.

Senator POTTER. These are groups that are taken off the train?

Sergeant SHARPE. That is right. They took my group in the gully. They took another group down the track and they took another group right outside the tunnel.

Senator POTTER. Were you tied together at the time?

Sergeant SHARPE. No, sir; they didn't tie us. We sat down and we thought we were going to get something to eat. I heard a rifle bolt slide forward, that type rifle, slide forward.

Senator POTTER. What type rifle?

Sergeant SHARPE. It is the short weapon with the bayonet on.

Senator POTTER. That was the type rifle. Was that the type rifle also used to beat the prisoners in the prison camps?

Sergeant SHARPE. That's their standard bayonet. That's the type bayonet they used. That's their standard weapon.

Senator POTTER. And the stock end was used to beat them in the head?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes. The metal end. When I heard the bolt on the rifles slide forward, I jumped up and I threw my hands up—I don't know why—and they shot me in the arm and I spun around and fell down and started falling and one fell on top of me and they fired for about 20 minutes and they were standing on top of us and they were continuously firing. None of the soldiers, none of the fellows down there, let out a plea for mercy. None begged. None of the men begged. They went down in I'd say glory.

They didn't beg. They didn't beg the people. That's something they never could understand about us. How in the world we would help each other like we did. Why did we care about somebody else and help them, but we always managed to.

Senator POTTER. See the big difference. Our way of life is based upon the dignity of the man and their man is subjugated to becoming a cog in a diabolic Socialist machine known as communism.

Sergeant SHARPE. That is right.

Senator POTTER. Become part of the state.

Sergeant SHARPE. When they finished firing they hadn't decided that they had killed everybody, so they came around through the group and they started hitting people in the head with their rifle butts and they'd kick them and if they groaned, they would stick them.

I was lucky. My face was covered by another man and they broke three of my ribs with the rifle butt. They decided they had killed everybody so they left. I could move. I crawled away and waited until the next morning when General Allen, the general that they have had here before, found us.

Senator POTTER. You were in the group that General Allen found?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Any questions?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Sergeant, do you recall which group you were in?

Sergeant SHARPE. You mean number?

Mr. O'DONNELL. Number.

Sergeant SHARPE. I was in the first group.

Mr. O'DONNELL. Could you tell us the total elapsed time that you actually spent on that March?

Sergeant SHARPE. The total time? Well, I was captured on July 21, 1950, and I was in Taejon and we left Taejon approximately on the 31st of July, and we arrived at Pyongyang about October 8.

Mr. O'DONNELL. October 8. How much did you weigh when you were captured, and how much did you weigh in the Sunchon tunnel affair?

Sergeant SHARPE. I weighed 165 pounds upon capture and when they found me I weighed 76 pounds.

Mr. O'DONNELL. How long were you hospitalized?

Sergeant SHARPE. I was hospitalized about 5 months.

Senator POTTER. Sergeant, you have seen communism in the cold hard light of the experiences that you went through. Do you have any comments about Communists in the United States who would like to overthrow our form of government and substitute communism?

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir.

I think that I know communism just about as good as anybody else. I have lived with it. I have watched their soldiers. I have

watched when they were together. When they were by themselves they were talking to you, they were nice people, but when they would get together in groups they were afraid of each other.

They would inform on each other. That's communism.

As far as communistic people in this country, it is inconceivable to me to think how a person can hide behind the flag of a glorious country like ours and still stand for something like happened in Korea.

They are far worse in my opinion than the people we were fighting in Korea.

Senator POTTER. Is it not true, Sergeant, that Communists in the United States receive the orders from the same sources—

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. As the Communists in North Korea that massacred you in Sunchon?

Sergeant SHARPE. That is true.

Senator POTTER. That is, the group you were in?

Sergeant, I want to extend to you the thanks of the United States Senate and of the American people for appearing here and retelling an experience which I know you would like to forget.

Sergeant SHARPE. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. What I have said for the other men certainly goes for you.

You are a great man. You can go through life with your head high and we salute you.

Sergeant SHARPE. Thank you.

Senator POTTER. Thank you, Sergeant.

Senator POTTER. Cpl. Willie Daniels.

Will you raise your right hand?

Do you swear the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

TESTIMONY OF CPL. WILLIE L. DANIELS, 6006TH ASU, FORT LEWIS, WASH.

Senator POTTER. Corporal, will you identify yourself for the record, giving your full name and your present military assignment?

Corporal DANIELS. I am Cpl. Willie L. Daniels, RA38136347, now stationed at 6006th ASU, Fort Lewis, Wash.

My home is 823 58th Street in Oakland, Calif.

Senator POTTER. Can you tell the committee when you went to Korea and the outfit you were assigned to at that time?

Corporal DANIELS. Well, I left the United States on August 3, 1950. I landed in Korea August 17. I went over to 508th Field Artillery Battalion, Second Division.

Senator POTTER. You were with an artillery battalion?

Corporal LEWIS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Can you briefly tell the committee the circumstances under which you were captured?

Corporal DANIELS. On the night of the 11th of February 1951 we were attacked and just before we were attacked there was about a platoon of Chinese marched to our battery area, which our officer said were South Koreans. They were gone about 5, 10, minutes, I guess, in back of us, maybe about 500 yards.

At that time we heard bugles blowing. They blew on all four corners, surrounded.

Senator POTTER. Surrounded you?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Some of the officers walked around and said, "Take it easy. Don't get excited. You don't have anything to worry about," but those officers were replacements, just come from the United States. They didn't know.

But most of the guys said, "I have news for you, Buddy, you are surrounded. You might not know it, but you are surrounded."

When you hear bugles blowing, naturally you are surrounded. We got orders to move out. After we got our guns hooked up and started down the road, most of the fire power was coming from our left front and left flank.

The men were trying to shield themselves behind the armored vehicles and were running alongside tractors. One man pushed me and I fell, so I went to get up and one of my buddies got shot and he caught hold of me and pulled me down with him, so that separated me from the group.

So I tried to get away from there because the bullets were falling all around me, so I decided to hit the ditch head first.

I lay there about 5, 10 minutes, and I peeped up and saw about 15 or 20 men run across the field, so I saw they were American GI's and I decided I would join them because I didn't want to stay there on the side of the road all by myself.

I went down about a good 500 yards, I would say, and there was a stream of water which was frozen over at the time.

We walked off in it and some of the ice broke. Some of the guys fell through the ice. We made it across there and started on the hill and machine gun fire opened up on us. We ducked around the hill and some of us fought our way out of that.

So we walked till about 2 o'clock in the morning there was another ambush. Some more small-arms fire opened up on us.

We got out of that somehow or other. Some of the men got wounded. Some of the men got killed. Most of them got out.

So the next morning, about 8 o'clock, I suppose, we were attacked again by a large group of Chinese forces.

We tried to fight our way out of it. In fact, we had taken one side of a hill, but the other Chinese troops were coming up from behind us, and the side of us, and everywhere else, you know, and while we were on top of the hill we looked down and saw some of the guys, you know, with their hands in the air, were taken prisoners.

While we were on top of the hill trying to figure out what we should do, it seemed that the Chinese made up our mind for us. They fired on us with machine guns, just drive us down and make us give ourselves up.

Most of the men destroyed their guns. Some of them threw them away. Some of the men were searched, but me, I didn't have anything anyway, so they put us all in a group.

Senator POTTER. How many were captured, Corporal?

Corporal DANIELS. There were about 40 Americans.

Senator POTTER. About 40?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir; quite a few South Koreans. I don't know just how many. They put us in a group of about 20, maybe more, and marched alongside of a hill.

There was snow; kind of cold. In fact, it was cold. They kept us there all day. Our artillery was coming in. Our planes was strafing other hills along pretty close to us, so when dark came they moved us out about 2 miles back and was going to keep us there all night, I suppose, but during this time there was no shelter. They just kept us out in the woods all night until our artillery started coming in on us pretty close and then they moved us back a little farther out of range of our artillery.

They kept us there till next morning. Then they marched us back to our original position where all our guns was and put us in a little shack on the side of a hill about 500 yards from the position.

Knowing that our planes would come back and destroy all our vehicles and equipment—during the day the jets and bombers would come over and strafe and destroy the vehicles and pretty close to this shack and every time they would come over, one of the riflemen or some of the men would get up and shoot at them, shoot at the planes; wanted to let them know we were there.

They wanted to come down and destroy us along with the vehicles.

Well, they didn't get any of us that day. They kept us there all day. It began to get dark and they moved us out again. They moved us all night and we had to walk. They kept us in the woods during the day.

At night again they would move us out again. We didn't get no food until the third evening.

Senator POTTER. Until the third evening?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. What did the food consist of?

Corporal DANIELS. Millet.

Senator POTTER. What?

Corporal DANIELS. Millet.

Senator POTTER. How much did you get?

Corporal DANIELS. About that ashtray full there, not very much. We had to get that in a hurry because we was moving out because our forces was gaining on them or something.

Senator POTTER. Had they taken any of your clothes by this time?

Corporal DANIELS. No, sir; they didn't take any of mine, because during the night when I was moving back, you know, trying to get out of there, I had on an overcoat, but I stripped it off. It got too heavy. I wanted to travel lighter and left it alongside the road.

I wanted to travel light so I didn't have on very much.

They marched us round and round in the area several days.

The men began to get frozen feet, pneumonia, began to get sick. So a couple of men died during these 2 days.

Then we went to this camp, called Bean Camp.

Senator POTTER. Called Bean Camp?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Is that the same Bean Camp the sergeant identified here this afternoon?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Where were you captured?

Corporal DANIELS. I was captured about 20 miles north of Kwangju.

Senator POTTER. And the Bean Camp was located where?

Corporal DANIELS. About 15 or 20 miles south of Pyongyang, to my estimation. Before we got to Bean Camp, they marched us around from the 12th of February until about the 9th of April.

Senator POTTER. You marched from the 12th of February to the 9th of April?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir. When we passed some village, sometimes twice in a week, we just marched around in a circle. It took us quite a while to get to Bean Camp.

Senator POTTER. Did they do the same with your group? When they went to a town, did they stop there and let the civilians molest you?

Corporal DANIELS. Sometimes they would pull certain, you know, a number of men out, put them in the streets. Of course, they had us closed in. We couldn't see what they were doing to them, but they would keep them out there practically all day.

I don't know what they were doing to them. They called them out in several villages.

Senator POTTER. Did the guards beat you at all on this march?

Corporal DANIELS. Not to the Bean Camp; no, sir. Only camp No. 1.

Senator POTTER. How long were you at Bean Camp?

Corporal DANIELS. From the 9th of April to the 24th of April. At the time we were at Bean Camp quite a few men died.

Senator POTTER. Quite a few men died at Bean Camp?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. You left Bean Camp to go where?

Corporal DANIELS. Camp 1.

Senator POTTER. To camp 1.

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. How did you go—

Corporal DANIELS. When we left Bean Camp we was walking. We walked, oh, a couple, 2, 3 days and got on a train, coal cars. There was two boxcars on there, but not enough to hold all the men. Most of them got in coal cars.

We would ride at night and get in the tunnel at daytime. During the time we was in the tunnel I remember two men died there to my knowledge.

Senator POTTER. Did they die from the coal gas, or just because of lack of food and their wounds?

Corporal DANIELS. It was kind of stuffy in there, smell of gas, probably died from the gas, and also hungry, also starvation.

Senator POTTER. Were you mistreated going up to Camp 1 from Bean Camp?

Corporal DANIELS. Sir?

Senator POTTER. Were you mistreated on that march?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir. On that march it was a forced march. The march went real fast and some of the men was sick and weak. They couldn't make the trip. They'd fall out along side the road and the Chinese would say "Leave them back there for hospitalization and we'll give them some treatment."

Still we never would see those men any more.

Senator POTTER. That treatment finished them?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Also just about every time we stopped we had 5 or 6 men fall out who couldn't make the trip, but we never seen them any more.

Senator POTTER. When did you reach camp No. 1?

Corporal DANIELS. The 17th of May, 1951.

Senator POTTER. During this time were you interrogated at all? Were you questioned about your home conditions, or did the interrogation take place in camp 1?

Corporal DANIELS. Camp 1. Just before we got to camp 1, this tall hill we had to climb, that's the time I was beaten.

Senator POTTER. You were beaten then?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. How were you beaten?

Corporal DANIELS. I was breathing hard. I was weak, tired, couldn't make the hill, you know, and I fell out, passed out, fell out, and the guard come kicked me outside, and he hit me on the side with the butt of his weapon, and one of my buddies picked me up and helped me up on top of the hill.

Another time I was sitting in a room before we got to this hill, sitting in the daytime, sitting in the room, and a guard came up to a little square window about so square and stuck his butt in there and hit me on the shoulder with the butt of his rifle.

Senator POTTER. Hit you on the shoulder with the butt of his rifle?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir. He pulled back to hit me again, but I jumped out of his way. For no reason at all. We got to camp 1 on the 17th of May, our food was wheat. It was only cracked corn, a sorghum.

Most of the men couldn't eat the stuff. They didn't have no appetite for it. In fact, I couldn't eat it either, so I decided I would fry some of it. I'd make me a fire and make a little patty and fry it.

Senator POTTER. What were you going to fry?

Corporal DANIELS. This sorghum. I made patties out of sorghum and was going to fry it.

Senator POTTER. How were you going to fry it?

Corporal DANIELS. On a piece of tin. Of course, I didn't have no shortening along. But I found a plank laying outside the building and I broke it up for my wood and one of the Chinese guards caught me and put me in jail.

The interpreter told me I would be in jail for 3 days.

Senator POTTER. For 3 days?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir. Looked like he couldn't count very well. I stayed in jail 14 days. The only time I was in jail I get up early in the morning. They would get me up early in the morning before 5 o'clock and start me out on details.

The first day in the morning I was put on the wood detail about 4 miles in the hills. I come back and go on another wood detail. I come back and then I ate this one bowl of rice they give me, or sorghum, whatever it was.

Then we go on brush detail, come back and cut brushes for brooms, you know.

Then we come back off that detail. Maybe a couple of men had died and we would go on burial detail. Come back off of that and we would go on weed detail, which was dry weeds to start the fire with.

Come back and maybe some more men would die and we would bury them.

It was just like that until about 8 o'clock at night. Then we go to bed.

The next day the same thing. In camp 1, during that time, you would get up in the morning and maybe you'd see two men sitting up like they were talking, you know, facing each other, but you go push on them and they'd fall over, both of them dead, just like that.

You go down to the latrine, see men sitting down there like they were washing their feet, they're also dead.

Just dying like flies up there.

Senator POTTER. Dying because of—

Corporal DANIELS. Malnutrition, beri-beri, and dysentery.

Senator POTTER. Did they have any medical treatment there?

Corporal DANIELS. No, sir; not at that time; no, sir.

Senator POTTER. Would you tell the committee about your interrogations? Did they try to talk to you about communism?

Corporal DANIELS. Well, the first thing they wanted to know was my people. What did they do also, and did they have any cars. Did they own any homes.

Senator POTTER. About your people, your family?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir. None of my people didn't own nothing like that. In fact, they was farmers also, including me.

I had heard about what they like and what they didn't like. If you owned a car you was a capitalist, and they didn't like capitalists. So we was all Communists.

Senator POTTER. You didn't own a car?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. Did they try to raise the racial issue with you?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir; they did. This I didn't witness, but some of the men told me that another group, like on the 19th of June, a group, maybe 20 men, they take them out and give them wine, cigarettes, candy, let them celebrate the 19th of June. They would tell them that "We know that you are oppressed and have been oppressed all your lives. We are also the minority race, one of the minority races. We also been oppressed all our lives," such like that.

A few of them will fall for it, but not many.

Senator POTTER. In other words, they took some Negro prisoners and they put on a spread for them in order to try to sell them the Communist doctrine?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. I think it is a good criteria of what little effect propaganda had on them. I think of the 22 PW's that have refused to come back only 1 of them is a Negro.

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. That is a mighty fine credit to our Negro soldiers.

You have listened to the testimony of several of the other witnesses concerning camp 1. Do you have anything new or anything different that they didn't mention that you would like to comment on?

Corporal DANIELS. Well, in camp 1 there was also an incident that I witnessed about the treatment. They tell you after peace talks started they had a lenient policy and sometimes the Negro soldiers,

they like to steal some pepper or get something to eat, you know. They say, "They stole it. They'll get away with it a lot easier than the white soldiers." All they was up to most of the time was have them criticizing themselves before the company, and a lot of times the white GI, they would put him in jail or make him stand up or threaten him or some kind of way, inhuman.

Senator POTTER. When they forced them to criticize themselves, what did they have to do?

Corporal DANIELS. They had to write statements, "I am sorry that I did such and such a thing." Whatever they did, "and if the people will forgive me for it I won't do it anymore," something like that. Just kid stuff.

Senator POTTER. That was their doctrine of self-criticism?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. All right. Were you moved to any other camp?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, I moved to camp 5.

Senator POTTER. Camp 5 is the one that is called the university?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. There has been testimony about camp 5. Do you have any additional information that you would like to give us concerning camp 5?

Corporal DANIELS. In camp 5 they separated us. All Negroes in one company and whites in another company, the British all come to themselves, and so on; the Turks and Filipinos.

When they was taking us to camp 5 when we left camp 1, the interpreter come out that morning and moved us about 500 yards from the company and said that we were going to camp 5. "I think your conditions will be better there for you," but we found out different after we got there.

Senator POTTER. It was just the same?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir. The least little thing you'd do they put you in jail. There's several guys they put in a dungeon. One case there was a man who tried to get out of camp or something. They put him in the dungeon. It was in wintertime. It was concrete block, concrete, under snow, was dug in a bank, and they let him in there with one blanket. If he wore his overcoat it was to his advantage but if he didn't he just didn't have it, just the one blanket. They left him in there 10 days without any heat and while he was in there the air would be stale and his blanket would sweat and it would freeze. That's all he had while he was in there.

When he'd come out he'd have frozen hands, frost-eaten feet, and just be about starved to death and everything.

Senator POTTER. How big was this dungeon?

Corporal DANIELS. Well, it wasn't so big. I only see it from outside. It looked like about 8 by 10, something like that, from the outside, from the front.

Senator POTTER. How long were you in camp 5?

Corporal DANIELS. In camp 5 from August 15, 1952, to April 19, 1953.

Senator POTTER. Did they at camp 5 try to give you some more indoctrination courses?

Corporal DANIELS. They gave us some literature, some magazines, and we had a camp magazine that was called Truth and Peace. They had that. They also did movies.

Senator POTTER. Propaganda movies that have been described?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. And then you were brought back on the operation known as Little Switch; is that correct?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. When you were ordered to come back on Operation Little Switch, do you know whether they left behind any wounded American GIs?

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir; I know they left quite a few back in my company and other companies in camp 5, but the story the Chinese had—they was too sick to travel. That's the story they gave us.

In fact, there was a lot of guys in there that were a lot sicker than what I was.

Senator POTTER. Of course, the provisions of the agreement were that they were to return all sick and wounded prisoners. We returned the sick and wounded prisoners we had.

Corporal DANIELS. Yes, sir.

Senator POTTER. And we found, of course, that they never complied with that.

Are there any questions, Mr. O'Donnell?

Mr. O'DONNELL. None, Mr. Chairman.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Carr?

Mr. CARR. No.

Senator POTTER. Mr. Jones?

Mr. JONES. No.

Senator POTTER. Corporal Daniels, I want to ask you the same question that I have asked the others.

You have suffered at the hands of the Communists. You have seen the life of Communists at first hand in camps behind the Bamboo Curtain. Do you have any personal views on communism as a way of life?

Corporal DANIELS. Well, sir, what I have to say about communism, it is a low life, sir. The people we have here in America that will stoop as low as to join the Communist Party well, I don't know what to say about them.

In other words, I don't believe they have any idea what the Communists mean, because they live in the United States of America, free country, still have their jobs, making plenty of money, still getting their food and clothes that we get here now, but the Communists over there, they're not getting any. Everything they get is issued to them.

Today they get soup issued to them, everybody gets the same thing, same food, everything.

I don't think they get anything myself. They're kind of low. In fact, they're real low, as far as I'm concerned.

The Communist life is no good.

Senator POTTER. Corporal, I wish to thank you for being with us to relate your experiences to us. I am sure it is an experience you want to forget. However, I think your statement can do more to blunt the edge of any Communist argument than anything I know of, and as a soldier and as an American, I am mighty proud of you.

Corporal DANIELS. Thank you.

Senator POTTER. Thank you.

This concludes the witnesses for today. We plan concluding at least this phase of the hearing tomorrow.

Here are the witnesses that will be heard from tomorrow:

Sergeant Waters, from Washington, D. C.

Sergeant Mullins, from Covington, Ky.

Frederick Herrman, from Evansville, Ind.

Lt. Col. James Rogers, from Greenwood, S. C.

Lt. Col. John Gorn, from Ann Arbor, Mich.

Arturo Jaramillo, from Pueblo, Colo.

Lt. Col. Robert Abbott, from Rochester, N. Y.

Captain Makarouns, from Lowell, Mass.

Major Locke, from High Point, N. C.

Col. James Hanley, from Mandan, N. Dak.

The committee will be recessed until tomorrow at 10:30.

(Thereupon, at 5:20 p. m., the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 10:30 a. m., Friday, December 4, 1953.)

APPENDIX

EXHIBITS

No. 10



An Army chaplain, kneeling on bank, says last rites for American soldiers lying in a ravine with hands tied behind their backs—shot by Communist-led North Koreans. August 18, 1950.

No. 12



Close up of bullet-riddled bodies of troops, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division; who were captured by North Korean forces, tied, then machine-gunned. August 19, 1950.

INDEX

	Page
Abbott, Lt. Col. Robert	147
AG (casualty figures)	81
Air Force (United States)	92, 102, 107
Allen, General	138
American 4.2 mortar	100
American .45 (revolver)	98, 100, 112
American Japanese	114
American PW's	77,
78, 84, 89-91, 93-95, 102, 103, 108, 110, 112, 117, 127, 144, 147,	148
American scales	96
Ann Arbor, Mich	147
Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion (Fort Myer, Va.)	133
Armed Forces (United States)	78,
80, 82, 86, 92, 96, 97, 102, 105, 107, 110, 113, 120, 126, 131, 133,	147
Army (United States)	78,
80, 82, 86, 97, 105, 110, 113, 120, 126, 131, 133,	147
Army Base, ASU, 1202d (Boston, Mass.)	113
Army chaplain	147
ASU, 1202d, Army Base (Boston, Mass.)	113
ASU, 6006th (Fort Lewis, Wash.)	139
Bamboo Curtain	146
Bean Camp	117, 141, 142
Bedcheck Charlie (plane)	92
Benning	103
Big Switch (prisoner exchange operation)	82, 83, 97, 124
Boston, Mass	113
British PW's	93, 120, 122, 123
Brockton, Mass	113
Burlington, N. C.	133
Buttrey, Capt. Linton J.: Testimony of	110-112
C ration	99
Cadillacs	134
Camp No. 1	118, 119, 122, 123, 143
Camp 1 (Changsong)	87, 89-92, 94, 95, 97
Camp 4	89, 90, 95, 123, 125
Camp 5	95, 97
Camp Pickett, Va	112
Case Analysis Branch (War Crimes Division)	78
Caucasian actor	135
Changsong (Camp 1)	87, 89-92, 94, 95, 97
Chicago, Ill	128, 131
China	126
China (Republic)	90
Chinese Communists	95
Chinese doctor	88, 89, 119
Chinese forces	86, 92, 93, 101, 113, 115, 127, 140, 142
Chinese guards	93, 117, 118, 121
Chinese interpreter	86, 91, 116
Chinese nurses	87, 127
Chinese Peoples Committee for World Peace	94
Chochowan	135
Chonan	135
Chosen Reservoir	86
Christmas (1952)	91
Command Staff (Judge Advocate, Headquarters, Armed Forces, Far East)	77, 78, 80, 110, 112, 132

	Page
Communications zone (Korea)-----	77, 78, 132
Communist doctrine-----	144
Communist forces (Korea)-----	83,
84, 86, 91, 93, 98, 101, 105-110, 112, 113, 115, 124, 127, 129, 147	134
Communist guards-----	91, 93, 114, 117, 118, 121, 134
Communist PW's-----	79, 80, 81
Communists (China)-----	94
Communists (North Korea)-----	94, 98, 126, 139
Communists (United States)-----	93, 103, 126, 138, 146
Company C, 23d Regiment (2d Infantry Division)-----	104
Corpus Christi, Tex-----	77
Counter Intelligence Corps (Graves registration officer)-----	81
Covington, Ky-----	147
CP-----	98, 99, 100, 113
DA-----	82
Daily Worker (publication)-----	90
Daniels, Cpl. Willie L-----	139
Daytona Beach, Fla-----	109
Death Valley-----	117
Elbe River-----	135
England-----	98
English language-----	79, 80, 106, 111, 130
Evaluated victims (War Crimes Division)-----	81
Evansville, Ind-----	147
FAG-----	83
5th Cavalry Regiment (1st Cavalry Division)-----	148
Filipino PW's-----	145
Finn, Maj. Frank-----	85
1st Cavalry Division (5th Cavalry Regiment)-----	148
1st Cavalry Regiment, H Company-----	128
1st Marine Division-----	86
508th Field Artillery Battalion (Second Division)-----	139
Florida-----	104, 109
Florida Military District, Headquarters (Jacksonville)-----	104
Fort Lewis, Wash-----	104, 139
Fort Myer, Va-----	133
45 (American revolver)-----	98, 100, 112
4.2 mortar (American)-----	100
Fourth of July (1950)-----	110
14th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion (Fort Myer, Va.)-----	133
G-2-----	81, 103, 109
Geneva Convention-----	84, 92, 106, 125
Geneva Convention provisions (ch. 5, art. 34)-----	125
George Company (19th Infantry Regiment)-----	133
Germans-----	135
God Bless America (song)-----	93, 122
Golden Gate-----	93
Gorn, Lt. Col. John W-----	147
Government of the United States-----	103, 124
Graves registration officer (Counter Intelligence Corps)-----	81
Graves registration officer (quartermaster)-----	79
Graves registration officer (reports)-----	82
Greenwood, S. C-----	147
Gregorian calendar-----	80
GRO (graves registration officer)-----	80
H Company, 1st Cavalry Regiment-----	128
Haedong murders-----	82
Han River-----	101, 103
Hanley, Col. James-----	79
Hanley, Col. James M-----	147
Herrmann, Frederick C-----	147
High Point, N. C-----	147
Hill 303-----	82, 130, 132
Historical and Order of Battle Stations (War Crimes Division, Historical Branch)-----	78
Hollywood scene-----	122

INDEX

III

	Page
Inchon	136
International Red Cross	84
Investigations Branch (War Crimes Division)	78
Jacksonville, Fla	104
JAGC	77, 78, 85, 132
Japanese barracks	117
Japanese language	100, 114
Japanese troops	117
Jaramillo, Arturo J	147
Judge advocate (Command Staff, Headquarters, Armed Forces, Far East)	77, 78, 80, 110, 112, 132
K-COM-Z (judge advocate, Headquarters, Korea)	77
Kanggye	87
Kemchi	93
Kensa (Kumchon)	110
Kim, Mr. (South Korean newspaper reporter)	135
Kinard, Charles Edward: Testimony of	97-104
Korean guards	114, 118
Korean interpreter	79
Korean language	80, 111
Korean nurses	127
Korean war	104, 105
Korean War Crimes No. 16	132
Korean War Crimes No. 76	85
Kum River	110, 111, 133
Kumcheon (Kensa)	110
Kwangju	113
KWC 16 (Korean War Crimes)	132
KWC 76 (Korean War Crimes)	85
Little Switch (prisoner exchange operation)	82, 83, 96, 97, 124, 146
Locke, Maj. William D	147
Lodge, Ambassador	104
London Daily Worker	90
Lowell, Mass	147
MacArthur, Gen. Douglas	132
Maccleenny, Fla	104
Made in Japan (label)	124
Makarouns, Capt. Alexander George	147
Manchuria	101
Mandan, N. Dak	147
Manring, Roy Paul, Jr.: Testimony of	128-132
Marine plane	107
Marines (United States)	86, 107
Matta, Sgt. George J.: Testimony of	113-127
May Day (1952)	92
MC (master of ceremonies)	93
MIA	83
Miami, Fla	109
Military District, Fla. (Headquarters, Jacksonville)	104
Millet	141
Minister of Home Affairs (Republic of Korea)	80
Missouri	109
MRTC, headquarters (Camp Pickett, Va.)	110
Mullins, Sgt. Orville R	147
Murphy Army Hospital (Waltham, Mass.)	86, 89
Nashville, Tenn	110
National Police Bureau (Republic of Korea)	80, 81
Negroes	144, 145
New Albany, Ind	128, 131
New China	90
New York Daily Worker (publication)	90
19th Infantry Regiment	103, 110, 133
Noktong River	129
North Korean ammunition	106
North Korean Army	84, 98, 101, 105-110, 112, 115, 127, 129, 136, 147, 148

	Page
North Korean civilians	114, 126, 134, 136
North Korean guards	114, 134
North Korean guerrillas	134
North Korean officers	134
Oakland, Calif	139
OB (order of battle)	79
Operation Big Switch (prisoner exchange)	82, 83, 97, 124
Operation Little Switch (prisoner exchange)	82, 83, 96, 97, 124, 146
Order of Battle Section	79
PA (public address system)	128
Panmunjom	96, 104, 136
Peking, China	94
Police Bureau (Republic of Korea)	80, 81
Potter committee	104
POW (camps)	82, 92, 97
POW (camp marking)	92
POW's in Korea (publication)	122
President of the United States	109, 134
Prisoner exchange (Operation Big Switch)	82, 83, 97, 124
Prisoner exchange (Operation Little Switch)	82, 83, 96, 97, 124, 146
Provisions of the Geneva Convention (Ch. 5, art. 34)	125
Pueblo, Colo	147
Pusan	105, 110
Pusan perimeter	105
PW's (American)	77, 78, 84, 89-91, 93-95, 102, 103, 108, 110, 112, 117, 127, 144, 147, 148
PW's (British)	93, 120, 122, 123
PW's (Communist)	79, 80, 81
PW's (Filipinos)	145
PW's (South Korean)	102, 114, 135, 141
PW's (Turkish)	145
PW's (United Nations)	77-81, 84, 89-91, 93-95, 102, 103, 108, 110, 112, 114, 117, 120, 122, 123, 127, 135, 141, 144, 145, 147, 148.
Pyeongyang	117, 136, 137, 138, 142
Quartermaster (graves registration officer)	79
Quincy, Fla	97
Red China	93
Red Chinese	84
Red Cross	84, 111, 121, 124
Reported victims (War Crimes Division)	81
Republic of China	90
Republic of Korea (civilians)	81
Republic of Korea (Minister of Home Affairs)	80
Rhoden, Sgt. Barry F., Testimony of	104-110
Ridgway, Gen. Matthew B	81
Rochester, N. Y	147
Rogers, Lt. Col. James T	147
ROK (investigations)	81
Russia	90, 101, 126, 135
Russian civilians	95
Russian commissar (type)	95
Russian construction	90
Russian movie film	135
Russian pilots	95
Russian type tanks	101
Russians	135
St. Peter	93
St. Petersburg, Fla	109
San Francisco Daily Worker	90
2d Division (508th Field Artillery Battalion)	139
2d Division (38th Infantry)	113
2d Division (23d Regiment, Company C)	104
Seoul	98, 101, 135, 136
7th Company	95
7th Division	86

INDEX

V

	Page
Sharpe, Sgt. Charles Robert, Testimony of	133-139
Sheboygan, Mich	104
Siberia	94
Sinanju	118
Socialist machine	138
South Korean Army	113, 128, 139
South Korean civilians	136
South Korean PW's	102, 114, 135, 141
Soviets	104
Stewart	114
Suchon	137
Suncheon Tunnel massacre	85
Suwon	135
Taejon	82, 133-136, 138
Taejon massacre	82
Taejon police station	134
Taeju	105
Tanks (Russian type)	101
Terryville, Mass	86
38th Infantry (2d Division)	113
Todd, Lt. Col. Jack R. : Testimony of	77-85, 132-133
Treffary, Sgt. Wendell	85, 104, 120, 121, 122
Testimony of	86-97
Truman, President	109, 134
Truth and Peace (publication)	145
Turkish PW's	145
21st Infantry Regiment (24th Division)	97
24th United States Infantry Division	78, 97, 110, 133
23d Regiment, Company C (2d Infantry Division)	104
TWX	82
United Nations	90, 94, 104, 132
United Nations Forces	90, 94
United Nations POW's in Korea (publication)	94
United Nations PW's	77-81, 84, 89-91, 93-95, 102, 103, 108, 110, 112, 114, 117, 120, 122, 123, 127, 135, 141, 144, 145, 147, 148
United Nations War Crimes Commission	132
United States Air Force	92, 102, 107
United States Armed Forces	78, 80, 82, 86, 92, 97, 102, 105, 107, 110, 113, 120, 126, 131, 133, 147
United States Army	78, 80, 82, 86, 97, 105, 110, 113, 120, 126, 131, 133, 147
United States Government	103, 109, 124
United States Marines	86, 107
Vishinsky, Andrei	104
Waltham, Mass	86
War Crimes (field investigations)	81
War Crimes Commission (United Nations)	132
War Crimes Division	77-82, 112, 132
War Crimes Division (Administrative Branch)	79
War Crimes Division (bodies recovered)	82
War Crimes Division (Case Analysis Branch)	78, 79
War Crimes Division (evaluated victims)	81, 82
War Crimes Division (Historical Branch)	78
War Crimes Division (Investigations Branch)	78
War Crimes Division (Office of Zone Staff Judge Advocate, Headquarters, Korean Communication Zone, Korea)	77, 78, 132
War Crimes Division (probable)	82
War Crimes Division (reported victims)	81, 82
War Crimes Division (survivors)	82
Washington, D. C.	147
Waters, Sgt. John L., Jr	147
Weinel, Sgt. Carey H	104
Wolfe, Col. Claudius O	78, 80, 81
Zone Staff Office, War Crimes Division, Judge Advocate Headquarters (Korean Communications Zone, Korea)	77, 78