

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
MINUTE PAPER

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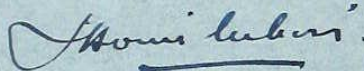
SUBJECT: TRIAL OF JAPANESE S/M. HONDO, Kazuma,
WAR CRIMINALS : Sgt. OKADA, Tomiyoshi.

D.P.W. & I (for Confirming Authority).

I have read through the proceedings of the Court convened under the War Crimes Act of 1945 for the trial of the above Japanese non commissioned officers who were tried jointly for murder in that they at Kaaten in or about the month of August 1945, murdered two prisoners of war, and Sgt./Maj. Hondo was found not guilty but Sgt. Okada found guilty and sentenced to death by shooting.

2. On the evening in question, two Ft./Sgts., R.A.A.F., who were prisoners of war held by the Japanese, were murdered by being chloroformed and one of them buried direct, and the other, as apparently the chloroform was not too effective, being first strangled and then buried. There is evidence to support the finding that Sgt. Okada was directly concerned in such murder and the finding and sentence may be lawfully confirmed.

3. I have also read the petition dated 27th January, 1946 against the finding and sentence and would recommend that it be dismissed.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL.

18.2.46.