

- Q. Now, would you explain to the Court your medical facilities, just without going into too great a detail?
- A. Well, they were pathetic. As I described once before the only thing in abundance was a very cheap Vitamin B powder.
- Q. What was your accommodation for sick patients?
- A. That was also very pathetic too.
- Q. In what way?
- A. First and foremost, the hospital building was much on the same lines as the other buildings regarding accommodation--sleeping accommodation. The patients had to lie on these tectans and covered with blankets. There was no such thing as sheets or cots or anything normally associated with hospitals. They were just sort of brought into the hospital, laid down on the tectans and covered with a blanket. And there were no facilities for toilet at all, except there was a toilet attached to the hospital--one of the wards--but a very sick patient who couldn't use one had great difficulty. It must have been several weeks at least before we got anything like bedpans or bottles, or anything like that too. We would have to get the orderlies, for instance, to carry the patient to the toilet for some considerable time; and all in all we weren't encouraged in any way regarding the patients' state. It was almost deprecated by the Japanese, and any suggestion regarding improving conditions for the patients was met with a very cold reception.
- Q. Was the accommodation for patients ample to the needs?
- A. Originally; and then very shortly afterwards, no, decidedly not.
- Q. Now, what, apart from Red Cross parcels, what were the food conditions in that camp?
- A. I can quote the general opinion of the men. Originally, when they were asked by the Camp Commander what they thought of the food they were getting, compared with the food they had been receiving in Hong Kong, they would say it was better--more palatable--but insufficient. The food was like that. There was rice and barley and beans. There would be oil and a certain amount of sugar; and originally we got excellent vegetables. We gathered, naturally, that they tried to create a good impression first of all, because at no other time did we get such good vegetables as originally--but, never enough of them. That went on until about Christmas or January 1944; that is, a reasonable amount of vegetables, some oil in our food, and the sugar. And then it fell off very suddenly and never came after that, I am sure.
- Q. Well, did it become worse?
- A. Yes, it did. I think from January, February, March, April, at least, our main soup was made with seaweed--I think seaweed.
- Q. And did it become progressively worse or did it become static?