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A. given maybe one or two blankets. And if it was cold, cont'd most of the men weren't in a condition to stand that.

Q. What was the main object of this set-up you told us about?

A. Well, the main object was to try and keep the petty things away from the Nipponese and more or less give us a little more piece of mind and.....

Q. To keep the Japanese from knowing about the petty offences?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, can you remember at the time of Christmas 1944, was there an issue of Red Cross parcels to the prisoners?

A. Yes sir. Before Christmas we had a half-parcel per man and on Christmas Day we had an issue of a parcel per man.

Q. And the men had been looking forward to the issue of that Christmas parcel, is that right?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. At that time were there many petty offences?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And did they endanger the issue of this parcel?

A. Very, very much, sir.

Q. Can you remember an incident at that time involving a soldier called Lynch?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Would you tell the Court about that, please?

A. I am not just sure whether this happened exactly at that time but I believe it was a case of where Pte. Lynch, along with many more of us--I guess I was as much involved as the rest. We were unloading a barge of vegetables and we had to carry the vegetables about four or five hundred yards up into a storehouse. And in this storehouse they had bags of dried fish and also bottles of some kind of pickle. And, of course, we managed to get the--one fellow to get the attention of one of the men up at the corner of the building who was supposed to be watching us, while we put our hands down into the bag and got a few dried fish. And I believe Lynch got some pickles. I am not just sure whether it was pickles or fish, but, he got caught.

Q. He got caught anyway?

A. Yes. But the Japanese soldier in charge of us was one of the men from camp, and a very slippery individual--most of them were--and he lined us all up. Well, we were quite unaware of the fact he knew about it. Just as we were going back to camp he lined us up and we thought we were going to camp; and instead of that he had us open ranks and had four or five Japanese civilians and Hanchos search us. And of course, some of us who had more experience than the others ate the fish, and the rest of them had the fish in their pockets.