SECURITY :

Translated from Russian

REPORT

OF THE COMMISSION

OF THE KOREAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

ON CRIMINAL MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS AND ATROCITIES

PERPETRATED BY THE AMERICAN AGGRESSORS AGAINST

CAPTURED OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE KOREAN

PEOPLE'S ARMY

SECURITY :

REPORT

28 November 1953 Pyongyang

A Commission of the Korean Red Cross Society, consisting of Choi Eun Suk, Associate Member of the Academy of Sciences of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Chairman, and Goo Min Soon, Professor of Surgery, Kim Sun Joon, physician, Pak Pun Heum, surgeon, and Sun Joo Yun, surgeon, members, has investigated evidence of atrocities and criminal medical experiments perpetrated by American doctors on captured members of the Korean People's Army in Hospitals Nos. 14, 14 & 3 and 64.

The Commission based its investigations and this report on the oral and written depositions of the following doctors, former prisoners of war, who worked in the above-mentioned hospitals: Yan Hi Hwan, P.O.W. No.80284 (worked in Hospital No. 14 & 3 from 2 December 1950 to 27 December 1951), O Pin Kap, No. 73542 (worked in Camp No. 4 of Field Hospital No. 14 & 3 from 20 November 1950 to 9 July 1952), Kim Mun Joon, No. 32670 (worked in Camp No. 4 of Field Hospital No. 14 at Pusan from November 1950 to January 1952) and Choi Choon Yul, No. 90087 (worked in Camp No. 5 of Field Hospital No. 14 from 20 January 1951 to 14 August 1952); and on the depositions of repatriated prisoners of war now undergoing treatment in hospitals of the Korean People's Army who were tortured, gassed and subjected to criminal mutilating operations.

As a result of these investigations this Commission has drawn the appropriate objective conclusions with regard to the evidence of the use of prisoners of war of the Korean People's Army by the American aggressors as subjects of medical experiment, murder, mutilation and other criminal atrocities.

The following are some typical examples of the many known instances of such atrocities committed by the American aggressors against prisoners of war of the Korean People's Army.

1. In American Field Hospital No. 14 & 3 at Pusan, the American doctors Conroy and Kenfield, as an experiment, deliberately perforated the intestines of a number of prisoners of war and then operated on them.

The rate of post-operative mortality was 80 per cent: of 40 prisoners operated upon, 32 died. Three of the patients were operated on again by the same doctors and five were discharged from the hospital before they had recovered. All eight survivors were permanently disabled (testimony of Yan Hi Hwan).

2. In the same hospital, No. 14 & 3, Major Moore, head of the orthopedic ward, conducted experiments in freezing. For this purpose, in December

1950 and January 1951, sick prisoners of war were kept almost without food and exposed to cold. The prisoners lay on the frozen ground without mattresses or blankets, and without warm clothing. As a result, large numbers of them were frozen.

For experimental purposes, the American doctor, Major Moore, criminally amputated extremities, where the fingers or toes were attacked by first-degree frostbite. Repeated amputations by segments were performed on a number of prisoners for purposes of experiment. For example, in the case of the prisoner Kim Soon San, who was merely suffering from first-degree frostbite of the toes, Major Moore carried out nine re-amputations, finally removing the entire hip.

Major Moore and his assistants carried out criminal operations of this kind within the short period of three months, from January to March 1951, on more than 80 prisoners of war, disabling them permanently. The operations were conducted criminally: muscles were severed flush with the bone so as to make the fitting of an artificial limb impossible (testimony of Yan Hi Hwan).

3. The officer in charge of the Danish hospital visited Field Hospital No. 14 & 3 and performed experimental skull and brain operations on prisoner of war Kim Chi Yun and many others. On the pretext of removing splinters from the brain tissue - although the prisoners of war, who were operated on by force, had never been wounded - he performed a number of criminal operations, with a mortality rate of more than 50 per cent. The survivors were permanently disabled by post-operative paralysis, speech disorders and other complications (testimony of Yan Hi Hwan).

4. Schneider, a physician and head of the eye ward of Field Hospital 14 & 3, performed the barbarous and criminal operation of removing the eye of a patient who complained of a slight pain in the eye - although the operation was not indicated and was wholly unjustified. In the single month of December 1951 Schneider performed similar operations on Moon Bong Sun and fifteen other prisoners of war (testimony of Yan Hi Hwan).

5. In December 1950, an American medical sergeant in P.O.W. Camp No. 2 of Hospital No. 14 & 3, in an experiment to determine the morbid effects of injecting large doses of anti-typoid vaccine, innoculated a number of prisoners with extremely large doses of the vaccine, making them seriously ill. Prisoners who refused or protested against this inhuman method of "preventive innoculation" were imprisoned (testimony of Yan Hi Hwan).

6. Major Penny, in charge of the therapeutic ward of American Field Hospital No. 14 & 3, and Berry, the officer commanding Camp No. 4 of that hospital, organized a group of agents from among a number of captured doctors, including Song Yun Hwa, Chun Ki Won, Chun Su Oo, Pak Chan Won, Kim Moon Shik and Chu Yun Moon. These "doctors" - agents and spies - interrogated prisoners of war, using torture. On 12 February 1951, for

example, Lee Hoon Con, a captured medical officer, died after four hours' interrogation under torture at the hands of these six agents, for the sole reason that he was an officer of the People's Army.

The American doctors Penny and Berry ordered agent Song Yun Hwa to make a false diagnosis in order to conceal the real cause of Lee Hoon Con's death. On the same day a torture chamber was set up in the hospital.

The foregoing facts are confirmed by the former prisoners of war doctors O P'un Kap, Lee Hwan Hun, Shin Ch'a Hwan and Kim Ki Chuk, and by the sick prisoner of war Kim Ho.

7. Peaswith, the American doctor in charge of the central camp at Pusan, forbade any treatment of sick prisoners of war for 40 days, from 15 April to 25 May 1952, because some of them had allegedly been singing. He cynically added: "We Americans have the medicines; you need them; so medicines are a weapon in our hands." As a result of this order more than 500 sick prisoners were deprived of treatment, and many of them died. This is confirmed by doctors O P'un Kap, Cha Dun Huk, Kan Ho Din and Lee Soon Ju.

Not content with this, Peaswith ordered that not only medicines but even food and water were to be withheld for ten days, beginning on 25 May 1952. A few days later the Americans exposed the sick prisoners to asphyxiating gases; as a result 241 prisoners were asphyxiated and 8 died. Peaswith ordered patients suffering from asthma to run about, while American policemen jabbed them in the hips and buttocks with bayonets.

8. The American doctors, Captain Maiden and Captain Solomon, continued their brutal treatment of prisoners even after the armistice. Fifteen days after the armistice, for example, Maiden and Solomon imprisoned a group of the most seriously sick prisoners, suffering from tuberculosis complicated by tubercular meningitis, in order to hasten their death. Two days later American policemen and Syngman Rhee soldiers broke into the prison and beat up the prisoners. Many of these later began to cough blood and three of them died. On 8 July 1952 more than 900 prisoners suffering from tuberculosis were discharged from the hospital in a serious condition and transferred to camps on Koje Island (testimony of o'Pun Kap).

9. American doctors took steps to spread infectious diseases in the camps of Hospital No. 14, so as to increase the mortality rate and weaken the prisoners physically. For this purpose they created conditions conducive to the spread of disease, and of dysentery in particular. For example, dysentery cases were not isolated, the camps had neither washing facilities nor drinking water, and the prisoners slept on the ground, the sick and those not yet infected under the same blankets. Owing to the lack of treatment, more than 20 prisoners died of dysentery every day between October 1950 and May 1951, 91 dying on 23 November 1950 alone.

American doctors frequently published accounts of their experiments in medical periodicals. In the Medical Journal for 1953 (No. 4, page 39), the American doctor, Colonel Richard Masson, describes his "clinical" observations on 1,048 dysentery cases. In the prisoner-of-war camps on Koje Island, he writes, dysentery was so prevalent that the Americans hospitalized only some two per cent of the cases. As an experiment, moreover, all the dysentery patients were divided into six groups, one of which, numbering 252 patients, was used as a control group and received no treatment, as a result of which the mortality rate in the group exceeded 90 per cent.

The American doctors received remmeration for testing various medical preparations, deliberately selecting the most serious cases and concentrating them in a "control group" in order to increase the "natural" mortality rate among the patients not given treatment.

As a result of these experiments, conducted over a period of seven months, more than 2,000 men died in Camp No. 4 alone. Lack of treatment was not the only reason for this high mortality rate among the dysentery cases. The American doctors, who had a material interest in proving the "effectiveness" of a particular preparation, kept the patients in the control group at a low temperature, causing frostbite and other complications. The following incident also occurred: in the winter of 1951 the American sergeant Stehare carried a number of patients out of doors, still in their beds, despite their protests against this barbarous treatment, undressed them and sponged them down with cold water. As a result of this torture and "experiment" the patients died on the same day (testimony of Hong Soon Ok).

10. The head of the laboratory of Field Hospital No. 14 carried out experiments on patients, for his own profit, to test the effects of a number of medical preparations. For this purpose he first reduced the patients to a state of extreme exhaustion and then administered the medical preparations, to test their effectiveness. This increased the mortality rate among the patients and artificially prolonged the period of sickness of those who had reached the stage of convalescence.

American research doctors took particularly cruel advantage of the sick Chinese volunteers. For example, their treatment reduced volunteer Li Sunchu to a state of complete exhaustion. In addition, the Americans in order to study the effects of gases on the weakened organism, several times exposed these exhausted patients to gases.

The Americans carried out experiments in the use of terramycin - on Li Sun-chu among others. When Li Sun-chu had recovered sufficiently to be able to walk, and left the ward, the American doctor in command of Camp No. 4, a major, noticed him sitting on a bench, snatched a rifle from one of the guards and fired a shot at his chest, killing him. The purpose of this was the experimental study by post mortem examination of the effect of terramycin (testimony of Hong Soon Ok).

11. The head of the surgical ward of Field Hospital No. 14, Major Lackey, carried out experimental lung operations all of which ended in the death of the patient. A few men resisted, refusing to go to certain death, but were beaten to unconsciousness by the Syngman Rhee agents. Then Lackey, as he told the prisoner of war doctor Han Ch'a Pin, operated on them "according to plan". The patients died on the same day (testimony of Han Ch'a Pin).

12. In Camp No. 5 of Field Hospital No.14 an American doctor, Captain Rack, carried out criminal experiments on tubercular patients. On the pretext of testing the effect of streptomycin (a drug whose effects have long been established) he separated off a control group of patients in the advanced stages of tuberculosis and denied them all treatment. As a result of this criminal experiment, more than 1000 tubercular patients died in Camp No. 5 of Field Hospital No.14 between July 1951 and June 1952. Thus the American doctor Rack's specific experiments caused the mass destruction of these tubercular patients (testimony of Choi Choon Yul).

13. In Camp No. 5 of Hospital 14 [illegible] 3 at Pusan, Lee Ok Gun, a hired South Korean doctor, treated tubercular patients by the method of pumping air into the abdominal cavity, and in many cases for purposes of experiment inflicted wounds on the abdominal aorta, resulting in the patients' death. The other patients made a complaint and asked that doctor Lee Ok Gun should be prevented from using this dangerous method of treatment. Captain Solomon, the officer in command of the camp, and Doctor A.D. Rack replied by stopping all treatment in advanced cases of tuberculosis. The result was 100 deaths in two months (testimony of Choi Choon Yul).

14. In the hospitals as well as the prisoner-of-war camps the Americans quite gratuitously made systematic use of poisonous chemical warfare agents for experimental purposes with a view to observing the effects of these agents on the human organism.

On 13 August 1952, in Camp No. 2 on Yuncho Island, two platoons of American soldiers drove 500 prisoners of war into a narrow compound between two wire barricades not more than 100 metres apart and bombarded them with poisonous chemical warfare agents. More than 1000 chemical grenades were projected, the purpose being to study the physical effects of exposure to intensive bombardment with poisonous chemical warfare agents. About 350 men suffered serious burns, 44 lost consciousness, 4 died, 3 lost their hearing and 6 their sight.

With a view to the observation of these experiments the Americans denied the sufferers any treatment whatsoever (testimony of Yan Hi Hwan).

15. For purposes of experiment American doctors subjected men suffering from chronic recurrent dysentery, despite their protests, to criminal operations with a view to the opening up of an artificial back passage. Patients who protested were beaten into unconsciousness by the Americans and then operated on in that condition. The patients Lee Pun King, No. 16145, Yoo Yun Ok, No. 181693 and Kim Shin Hun, No. 27739, were subjected to this criminal experimental operation in Hospital No. 64.

After their repatriation, patients with fecal fistulas were operated on in Hospital No. 55 of the Korean People's Army and were able to resume work fully recovered.

16. American doctors applied refined methods of brutal torture. For example, patients Lee Jun Ho, No. 61538, Choi Yun Hwan, No.31419, Kim Sun Ok, No.22837, and others were beaten on the eyes with a stick until the eyes were destroyed. This crime was committed by doctors at Field Hospital No.14.

Many patients lost their sight after the use of poisonous chemical warfare agents. On 16 June 1953, for example, prisoner of war Kim Kun Sun, No.46157, was subjected to repeated gas poisoning and as a result completely lost the sight of both eyes. On 26 July 1953 prisoner of war Song Ku On, No.67130, was subjected to gas poisoning for two hours at Camp No. 13 on Koje Island, and as a result lost his sight. Four other men lost their sight on the same day, and 350 prisoners of war suffered serious effects from gas poisoning. With a view to experimental observation of the effects of the gas the Americans denied the sufferers all treatment.

17. With a view to the mass infection of prisoners the Americans not only employed gas grenades but fired chemical shells on prisoners from tanks and guns. On 10 June 1952, according to testimony offered by Kim Jun Soo, No.128750, the Americans at Camp No.76 on Koje Island used 27 tanks and 12 guns to fire on 7000 prisoners. The barrage went on for several hours. 227 patients died, 572 suffered serious infections and 2000 minor infections.

For purposes of experiment the Americans fired grenades at a truck loaded with men. On 29 September 1952 the Americans loaded 24 prisoners of war on a truck and then fired 5 chemical grenades at them. The men in the body of the vehicle lost consciousness for one and a half to two hours.

In addition, individual experiments on gas infections were carried out. For example, on 2 July 1953, at Camp No.11 on Koje Island, the Americans donned their gas masks and infected individual prisoners with gases, using hoses at a distance of 1 metre. The prisoners lost consciousness for up to 2 hours and suffered asthmatic constriction; after ten to fifteen days abscesses appeared on the bodies of the infected men.

The truth of these charges of criminal experimentation on captured soldiers of the People's Army is proved by the depositions of a large number of prisoners who were repeatedly exposed to gas. Pan Yoo Hul, No.105738, testified that on 10 March 1953 Major Bosquet, the officer in command of Camp No. 15 on Koje Island, tested the duration of the effects of gases by bombarding prisoners with chemical grenades and firing chemical shells at the camp. Major Bosquet gave the signal for the bombardment at a certain time, and watch in hand checked the beginning and end of the gas bombardment and observed the duration of the effects of the poisonous substances and the intensity and degree of seriousness of the infections.

The foregoing facts bear witness to the unprecedented brutality of the criminal experiments carried out on prisoners of war by the Americans under the guise of medical treatment. The object of these experiments was to

determine the most effective means for the mass destruction of prisoners of war and to study the effects on the human organism of gases of various types (asphyxiating gases, vesicators, lacrimators and burning gases).

CONCLUSION

On the basis of these incontrovertible facts we, physicians of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and members of the Commission, appeal to all decent people throughout the world and to all scientific workers who serve the cause of genuine science and are men of clear conscience.

In the course of the war launched by them in Korea the Americans, in their attempt to destroy our country and exterminate our people, committed inhuman atrocities with all the means and instruments at their disposal. Among these atrocities were the criminal medical experiments carried out by the American aggressors on a mass scale among prisoners of war with the object of research into the means of mass destruction of human beings.

We love our country and our people. For that reason we strive and struggle for the prosperity and development of our country, for the happiness of our people, for a lasting peace and the security of all peoples of the world.

Today all honest scientific workers are protesting against the use of scientific discoveries for purposes of mass destruction. Yet in all the field and base hospitals in South Korea under American military command criminal experiments were carried out on living men in order to study means of mass human destruction.

Like all decent men and women throughout the world we are deeply indignant at these atrocities committed by the American imperialists in Korea. In order to prevent any repetition of such atrocities by the aggressive armed forces of the United States and its satellites, we demand the stern punishment of the United States Army officers responsible for these crimes and of all those who carried out their orders.

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