

KOREAN GUARD TO DIE FOR CRUELITIES

SINGAPORE, Wed.

Hayashi Eishum, a Korean guard, who was nicknamed "Maggot" by Australians on the Siam-Burma railway construction, was sentenced to death for inhumane treatment of Sergt. Whitfield, of the A.I.F., which resulted in his death.

The sentence was imposed by the first Australian War Crimes Court.

Hayashi held up the beginning of the trial with loud sobbing and collapsed to the floor but calmed and, when sentenced, took it impassively.

Whitfield was sitting with other M.O.W.'s in a tent at 131 kilo camp in Siam on the night of December 23, 1943. All were drinking tea when Kayashi walked in unnoticed by Whitfield who failed to rise and bow, whereupon Kayashi kicked him in the stomach.

Whitfield, who was three days previously discharged from hospital for dysentery, dropped in great pain and was taken to hospital. He died on January 4, when the Japanese ordered the cause of death to be shown as dysentery.

Six Japanese war criminals, including Mitsubashi Matachi, chief commander at Port Blair, were hanged at Chengi Gaol. They had been convicted of torturing Indians and other civilians, who spied for the Allies.