

PLACE Jackson, Mississippi	DATE 9 Nov 69	TIME 1030 hrs	FILE NUMBER 70-CID011-00014
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME SIMPSON, Varnado (NMN)	SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NO.		GRADE Civilian
ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS			

PART I - WAIVER CERTIFICATE

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY Reis R. Kash
OF 1st MP Det (CI), OPMG, DA, Washington, D. C.
THAT HE WANTS TO QUESTION ME ABOUT murder, war crimes, destruction of property
OF WHICH I AM ACCUSED OR SUSPECTED. HE HAS ALSO INFORMED ME OF MY RIGHTS.
I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT AND THAT ANY STATEMENT I MAKE MAY BE
USED AS EVIDENCE AGAINST ME IN A CRIMINAL TRIAL.
I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL AND TO HAVE COUNSEL PRESENT
WITH ME DURING QUESTIONING. I MAY RETAIN COUNSEL AT MY OWN EXPENSE OR COUNSEL WILL BE APPOINTED FOR
ME AT NO EXPENSE TO ME. IF I AM SUBJECT TO THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE, APPOINTED COUNSEL
MAY BE MILITARY COUNSEL OF MY OWN CHOICE IF HE IS REASONABLY AVAILABLE.
I UNDERSTAND THAT EVEN IF I DECIDE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS NOW WITHOUT HAVING COUNSEL PRESENT,
I MAY STOP ANSWERING QUESTION AT ANY TIME. ALSO, I MAY REQUEST COUNSEL AT ANY TIME DURING QUESTIONING.
I (DO) (DO NOT) WANT COUNSEL.
I (DO) (DO NOT) WANT TO MAKE A STATEMENT AND
ANSWER QUESTIONS.

Varnado Simpson
(Signature of Person To Be Questioned)

INTERROGATOR: *R. R. Kash*
(Signature)

WITNESS: _____
(Signature)

REIS R. KASH, Criminal Investigator
1st CID (Typed Name and Organization)

(Typed Name and Organization)

PART II - SWORN STATEMENT

I, Varnado SIMPSON WANT TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT UNDER
OATH:
I volunteered for the draft 9 January 1967 and had my basic
training at Ft Campbell, Kentucky. Then I was assigned to Company
C, 1/20th Infantry, then in Hawaii. I went to Vietnam during
November 1967. I took part in the operation around MyLai(4), which
I remember took part in March 1968.
Before we went to MyLai(4) Captain MEDINA, our company commander,
gave us a briefing. During this briefing he said that when we went
to MyLai(4) we were to leave nothing standing and that we were to
kill everything in the village: men, women, children, cats, and dogs.
The next day we went to MyLai(4). I was in the second or third
lifts. Another Platoon, the First Platoon of Company C, went in
ahead of us. I was with my unit, the Third Squad, 2d Platoon. My
Platoon Leader was Lt BROCKS. My Squad Leader was Sgt LACROIX. My
Platoon Leader or rather Platoon Sergeant was Sgt ECHANON. Members
of my squad were LAMARTINA, BUCKER, (deceased), DELGADO, HUTTON,
HUTSON, WRIGHT, and MOWER. (HUTTO, HUTSON, and WRIGHT were the
machinegun team.)
After we landed we advanced by fire into the village. We started
on the left, but during the advance through the village the troops
were all mixed up. Some of the 1st Platoon got with the 2d Platoon.

EXHIBIT R	INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT <i>VP</i>	PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES
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ADDITIONAL PAGES MUST CONTAIN THE HEADING "STATEMENT OF _____ TAKEN AT _____ DATED _____ CONTINUED." THE
BOTTOM OF EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT AND BE
INITIALED AS "PAGE _____ OF _____ PAGES." WHEN ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE UTILIZED, THE BACK OF PAGE 1 WILL BE LIN-
ED OUT, AND THE STATEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF ANOTHER COPY OF THIS FORM.

and so forth.

Just after we got into the village, I came upon WOCD and STANLEY with four or five Vietnamese detainees. STANLEY said they were going to take them to the Platoon Collection area. They were asking these people some questions in Vietnamese. Then ROSCHEVITZ, who had come up with me, said to kill all the people and told me to kill them. I hadn't killed anyone yet, so I said that I would not. Then ROSCHEVITZ grabbed my M16 away from me and put it on automatic fire and killed all of the Vietnamese who had been standing there. These people were not armed and were not trying to escape.

Q. What happened then?

A. I continued on into the village and found a place where a boy had been shot by a well near a hut. A woman, carrying a baby, came out of the hut crying and carrying on. ROSCHEVITZ, LAMARTINA, and LACROIX were there. WRIGHT, HUTTO, and HUDSON were there also. I think BROOKS may have been around. BROOKS told me to kill the woman, and, acting on his orders, I shot her and her baby. I have been shown a group of photographs and I identify the photograph of the woman and the baby as being the ones I shot as related here. I remember shooting the baby in the face.

Q. Would you initial and date this photograph for future identification?

A. Yes.

Q. What happened then?

A. There were four or five people -- mostly children -- still in the hut. HUTTO, WRIGHT, and WU HUDSON went into the hut and HUDSON fired the machinegun into the children. I had gone into the hut at that time and saw that the bodies were all torn up and I have no doubt they were all killed. There was a little old hole in the hut where the people took shelter from attack, and WRIGHT dropped a grenade into the hole, in case someone was hiding there.

Q. What happened then?

A. As we moved into the village we heard a lot of firing and then came on an area where the platoon ahead of us had rounded up 25 or 30 people and executed them. We did not see the shooting, but it had just happened. MEDINA was there when we got there, but I don't know if he had witnessed the killing while it was going on. I heard about another execution that day, not far from this scene, (but didn't see it either during the killing of the people or afterwards), and also found a ditch full of people at My Lai (4).

Q. What happened next?

A. We were on the left, moving ahead and burning huts and killing people. I killed about 8 people that day. I shot a couple of old men who were running away. I also shot some women and children. I would shoot them as they ran out of huts or tried to hide.

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Q. Did you see anyone else killed?

A. Yes. I saw WRIGHT, HUTTO, HUDSON, RUCKER (deceased), and MOWER go into a hut and rape a 17 or 18 year old girl. I watched from the door. When they all got done, they all took their weapons, M-60, M16's, and caliber .45 pistols and fired into the girl until she was dead. Her face was just blown away and her brains were just everywhere. I didn't take part in the rape or the shooting.

Q. Did each of these men - HUTTO, WRIGHT, HUDSON, RUCKER, and MOWER - have sexual intercourse with that girl?

A. Yes they did.

Q. Did each of them - WRIGHT, HUTTO, HUDSON, RUCKER, and MOWER - fire into the girl after the act of intercourse was completed?

A. Yes they did.

Q. Did you see anyone else killed?

A. I witnessed a lot of people being killed, but there was a lot of confusion going on and I can't relate details of every killing I saw. I estimate there were 400 people killed in MyLai(4). I would like to stress that everyone was ordered by MEDINA to kill these people; that the killing was done on his orders.

Q. You said you saw a ditch full of people. Please tell me about that?

A. The First Platoon had been there and gone when we arrived. We saw an irrigation ditch with 30-40 dead Vietnamese in it. They had all been just killed. Some had been killed in the ditch and some had made it to the top of the ditch, but they were all dead. I don't know who did this by name, but it was the First Platoon.

Q. Did you see a helicopter that day at MyLai(4)?

A. I saw a Huey land that day at MyLai(4). We were chasing some people through a field or they were moving ahead of us because they knew they were going to be killed and the helicopter landed between us and the people and took them out. I didn't see anyone talk to the people in the helicopter.

Q. Did anything unusual happen that night after you were in your night defensive position?

A. Yes, the National Police killed two or three Vietnamese and showed their bodies to some other suspects. I didn't see any Americans take part in this, but heard the next day from MEDINA's radio man that MEDINA had killed one of them by shooting around him to scare him and then shooting off a finger and then finally by killing him with a shot between the eyes.

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Q. I would like to show you a photograph album from Vietnam. Can you identify any of the photographs?

A. Yes, I identify the child and the woman as being the people I killed, as I said above. Then I see Sgt PHU. He was a nice guy and didn't kill anyone to my knowledge. I also see CARTER, WIDMER, and MEDINA. I also recognize the Sergeant from the M40 Mortar Platoon.

Q. Did you see CALLEY in the village?

A. I saw him but didn't see him do anything.

Q. How about BROOKS?

A. I saw BROOKS kill a Vietnamese man. I can't recall the details of this killing, but I am sure he killed someone.

Q. How about BUCHANON?

A. I didn't see him do anything. He was just a big fake.

Q. Do you have anything to add to this statement at this time?

A. No sir.

STATEMENT (Continued)

This portion of the statement form was not used.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Varnado SIMPSON

HAVE READ OR HAVE HAD READ TO ME THIS STATE-

MENT WHICH BEGINS ON PAGE 1 AND ENDS ON PAGE 5. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT MADE BY ME. THE STATEMENT IS TRUE. I HAVE INITIALED ALL CORRECTIONS AND HAVE INITIALED THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE CONTAINING THE STATEMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS STATEMENT FREELY WITHOUT HOPE OF BENEFIT OR REWARD, WITHOUT THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, AND WITHOUT COERCION, UNLAWFUL INFLUENCE, OR UNLAWFUL INDUCEMENT.

Varnado Simpson
(Signature of Person Making Statement)

WITNESSES:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a person authorized by law
to administer oaths, this 9th day of November, 19 69
at Jackson, Miss.

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

R. R. KASH
(Signature of Person Administering Oath)

REIS R. KASH, Criminal Investigator
(Typed Name of Person Administering Oath)

Art 136(b)(4), UCMJ

(Authority To Administer Oaths)

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT

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