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Dear Pav,

What a surprise and a delight to get your letter -it was so pleasant that I promptly telephoned you not realizing that it was 8am in your country.

I am afraid that my recollections of time of the famous transfusion are very shady. It was in the latter part of 1943, probably October or November but I could not be sure. I am certain of the location, Kinsayoke.

A call went out for volunteers to donate blood and Group O were required. As I had been a blood donor in civil life and had the right blood group plus documentary evidence to support it I was selected to make the donation. I was also in fair condition as I had had a relatively easy time for some weeks following my appointment as "camp carpenter". This meant that I remained in camp alongside the river with ready access to the traders and rackets involved therein enabling me - and my mates- to supplement our rations with eggs and fish etc.

It was after morning "tenko" and I was taken to the hospital area on the downstream side of the camp. There I was lain down on a bamboo platform nearby to the patient. From memory there were three doctors present - Ewan Corlette would have been one - and much discussion took place. A blood sample was taken from me and mixed on a glass slide and held up to the light and following further discussion it was decided to proceed. I gathered the impression that the decision to proceed was on the basis of "what have we got to loose" and that the patient had little chance without the transfusion and that with it some hope would remain..

The procedure as I recall was blood was taken from a needle in my arm and then the syringe was detached and taken to the patient. I think the procedure lasted some time. When the operation was completed I was told to remain prone for 20 minutes and was given a hot drink containing sugar. Following this I returned to the main camp with a bandage on my arm which impressed the Jap guards more than somewhat.