

Jap. Army Sanctioned Cannibalism

TOKIO, Sunday (AAP).—Japanese Army records captured by the Allies show that on December 31, 1944, Major Morimoto and troops of the battalion of the Japanese 18th Army Headquarters ate the flesh of two Australian fliers killed in action, but the area is not specified.

A special American investigation unit, which identified the executioner of the Australian, Fl. Lieut. Newton V.C., found Japanese Army orders approving of cannibalism. The troops could eat flesh of Allied dead, but were executed if they feasted on their fallen comrades.

Supporting evidence was found among the thousands of documents about Japanese military operations, personnel and atrocities.

Several days before joining his men in eating the flesh of the Australian flier, Major Morimoto directed the execution of five Japanese soldiers for cannibalism against their own dead comrades.

AUSTRALIANS EXECUTED ON AMBOINA

SYDNEY, Sunday.--The Japanese executed 16 Australian soldiers on Amboina Island in 1942 and 1945, Sgt. Percy Elsem, of Brighton, Victoria,

and 1945, Sgt. Percy Elsem, of Brighton, Victoria, a returned prisoner of war, said yesterday.

He said 11 were executed in November, 1942, for attempting to escape, four in April, 1945, for stealing food and one later in April for attempting to escape.

The men were made kneel with their hands tied behind their backs, and with their heads bent forward, while a Japanese officer executed them with a sword.

Elsem is one of 115 Amboina survivors who returned to Sydney on Saturday in the Wanganeia. He is one of two survivors of 18 men accused of escaping in October, 1942.

Notifying Relatives

MELBOURNE, Sunday.--Relatives will soon be officially notified of the fate of the Australian soldiers reported missing in the early days of the New Guinea campaign.

Army officials said that while the war was on it was impossible to complete investigations into the fate of a large number of men in the New Guinea and other campaigns, but this was being done now.