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War Crimes List Bars 16 Japanese From U.S.

By Pierre Thomas
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Justice Department yesterday banned 16 Japanese citizens from traveling in the United States, charging that the men conducted horrific medical experiments or forced thousands of women to serve as sex slaves for members of the Imperial Army during World War II.

The men are the first suspected Japanese war criminals ever placed on a government "watch list" created in 1979 to bar admission of aliens

suspected of acts of persecution under authority of Nazi Germany or its wartime Axis allies. The conclusive evidence needed to identify individual Japanese war criminals only recently became available.

The action was designed to show that the U.S. government "remembers the victims and their suffering, and that it wants to deter others from committing such heinous acts," Eli M. Rosenbaum, director of the Justice Department Office of Special Investigations, said in a statement.

Some of the men barred yesterday

from entering the United States were alleged members of the infamous "Unit 731," which "conducted inhumane and frequently lethal pseudo medical experiments" on thousands of . . . prisoners of war and civilians," the Justice Department charged. The atrocities included mass dissections of living humans.

Others placed on the list included persons suspected of involvement in the Imperial Army's battlefield brothels. At these centers, hundreds of thousands of "comfort women"

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