

File: 3153-2

Title: Camp History, *Setts. of Hirohata Sub. Group*

Origin: Osaka *Group (Hirohata Sub. Group)*

Dates: 1945

Authenticity: Originals signed

Source: Recovered Personnel team

Extracted by W.D. Date 11/18/45 Microfilmed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

AG-KI Form 91 (20 July 1945)

3153-2

Title: Camp History  
Osaka

Osaka Group (Hirohata Sub. Group)

1945

Originals, Signed

P.P.T.

A 91

D 2

Classification:

*[Handwritten signature]*

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NP 883078

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority ND 883078

X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X

ARCHIVES FILE NUMBER 3153-2

TITLE CAMP HISTORY

ORIGIN OSAKA GROUP *POW Camp* (~~HIROHITO SUB CAMP~~)

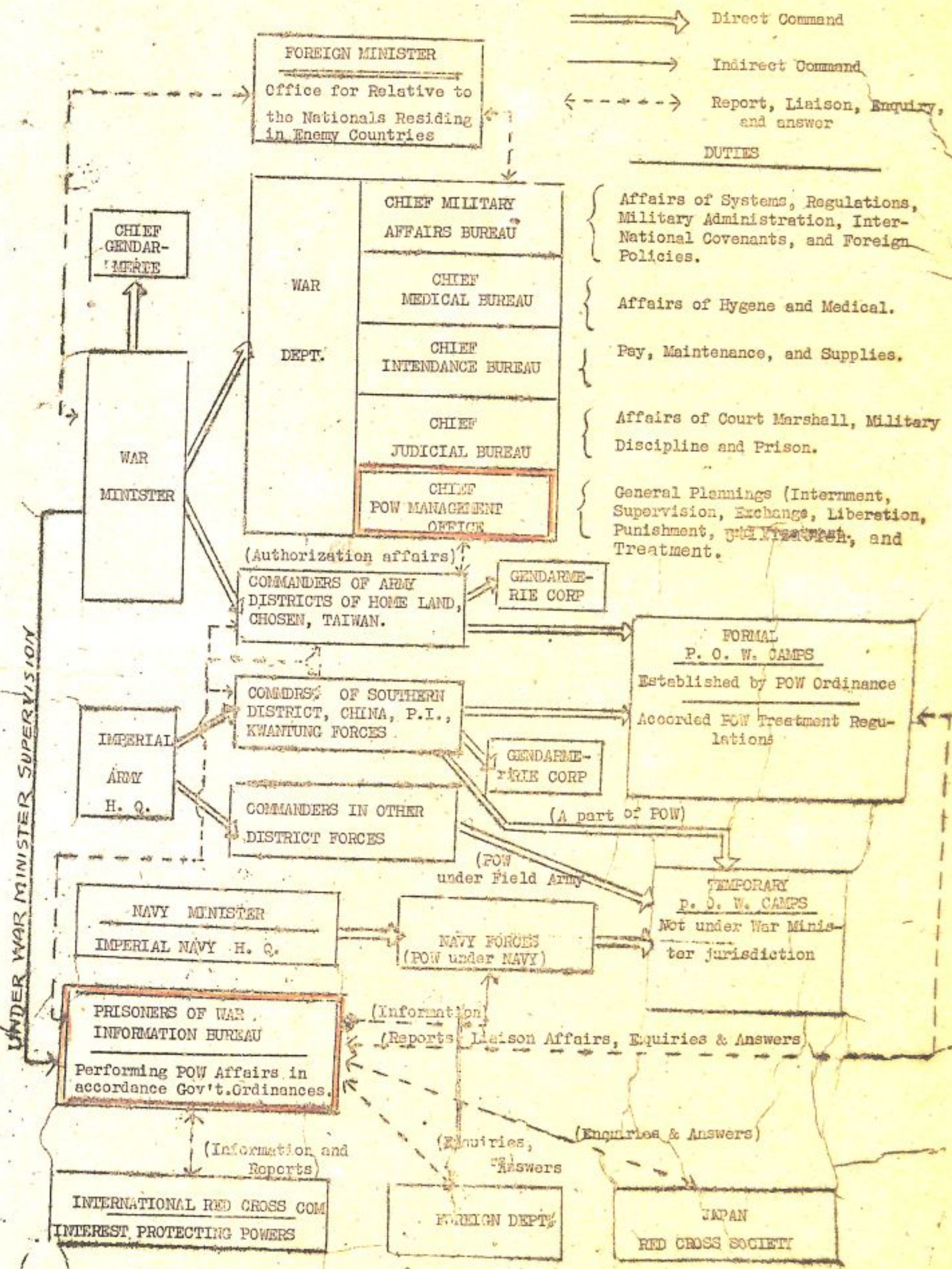
DATES 1945

AUTHENTICITY ORIGINALS SIGNED

SOURCE RECOVERED PERSONNEL TEAM

X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X

A GENERAL CHART OF SYSTEMS OF THE INTER-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS  
RELATIVE TO THE P.O.W. MANAGEMENT AND THEIR RESPECTIVE DUTIES



OSAKA PRISONER-OF-WAR CAMP  
Hirchata Sub-Camp  
Hirchata, Japan

September 1, 1945

TO: International Red Cross

FROM: Air Craftsman WILLIAM HARRY BLACKMAN, R. A. A. F.

SUBJECT: Request to be Transported to America

1. I request that under the heading "Remarks" on the data card submitted a few days previously in my case the following notation be entered: --

"I desire to be transported to the Continental limits of the United States of America rather than being returned to my own domicile in Australia."

2. I agree to defray the expenses of further transportation from the United States to Australia from my personal funds, if so required.

日本製鐵株式會社廣畑製鐵所

*William Harry Blackman*

William Harry Blackman  
Air Craftsman First Class  
Royal Australian Air Force

-----  
1st Endorsement

OSAKA PW CAMP, Hirchata Sub-Camp, Hirchata, Japan      Sept. 1, 1945.

TO: International Red Cross

FROM: Commanding Officer

SUBJECT: Request to be Transported to America in case of Australian subject.

1. Forwarded, recommending approval.

2. Subject man has been held in the Camp as one of the only two British subjects present. The remainder of the men, numbering approximately 400, are all United States subjects. From his associations with this large group of Americans he has formed comradeships which he naturally desires to continue.

*F. M. Flinias*

F. M. FLINIAS  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Army  
Commanding

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: ND 883078

SEP - 3 1945

SEP - 3 1945

Ikuno Sub-Camp,  
Osaka P.O.W. Camps.  
2nd September 1945

TO:- SENIOR ALLIED COMMANDER,  
Occupying Military Forces.

Sir,

There are in this sub-camp 83 (eighty-three) cases of Medical Supplies, received from the American Red Cross through the International Red Cross Committee for the use of prisoners of war in the Osaka Prisoner of War Area. If transport is available, it is highly desirable that these supplies be removed from this camp prior to the evacuation of the personnel detained here. It will be almost impossible for these personnel to carry this quantity of supplies on leaving this camp and if abandoned here they will not easily be retrievable.

*A.C. Houghton*

A.C. HOUGHTON.  
Major. R.E.

*Said Truck  
also Camp II Kobe  
to Björkstén?*

*All Red Cross stuff should  
be handed over to I.R.C  
representative*

SWISS CONSULATE, KOBE  
SECTION FOR FOREIGN INTERESTS

3-

CONSULAT DE SUISSE

SECTION DES INTÉRÊTS ÉTRANGERS

Osaka Hq.

No. 8 YAMAMOTO-DORI 2-CHOME  
TEL. FUKIAI 2956

News.

KOBE.

Swiss Legation desires information on  
Philip Ellis Hubert SAMUEL  
Whereabouts unknown.

Please let me have a statement exonerating  
Mr. Max Brigel (Swiss, Interpreter) from  
the motor car accident of 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 9 am  
at Wakinohama, when a girl was killed on  
Highway. Henning of Camp II was driving.

SWISS CONSULATE, KOBE  
SECTION FOR FOREIGN INTERESTS

*Hubert*

OSAKA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP  
Hirohata Sub-Camp  
Hirohata, Japan

September 1, 1945.

To: International Red Cross, Kobe, Japan.  
From: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Requesting the Transmittal of Information to Next of Kin, via Radio.

1. It is requested that the entire roster of American Officers and men held as Prisoners of War in this camp, which is embodied in a separate report, be transmitted by radio to:

Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Washington 25, D.C.

2. It is desired that a message accompany this transmittal by radio of the camp roster to the effect that the Prisoner of War Information Bureau take the necessary steps to inform the next of kin of each Officer and man concerned that these men are alive and well, and expect to be returned to their homeland in the immediate future.

3. Data concerning the next of kin, and home address of all Prisoners of war are on file in the Prisoner of War Information Bureau and need not be included as part of the radio message.

*F. M. Flinn*  
F. M. FLINIAU  
Lieut. Colonel, U.S. Army  
Commanding.



DECLASSIFIED  
Authority (ND) 883078

OSAKA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP  
Hirohata Sub-Camp  
Hirohata, Japan

September 1, 1945.

To: International Red Cross, Kobe, Japan.  
From: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Requesting the Transmittal of Information to Next of Kin, via Radio.

1. It is requested that the entire roster of American Officers and men held as Prisoners of War in this camp, which is embodied in a separate report, be transmitted by radio to:

Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Washington 25, D.C.

2. It is desired that a message accompany this transmittal by radio of the camp roster to the effect that the Prisoner of War Information Bureau take the necessary steps to inform the next of kin of each Officer and man concerned that these men are alive and well, and expect to be returned to their homeland in the immediate future.

3. Data concerning the next of kin, and home address of all Prisoners of war are on file in the Prisoner of War Information Bureau and need not be included as part of the radio message.

*F. M. Flinnau*  
F. M. FLINNAU  
Lieut. Colonel, U.S. Army  
Commanding.

6

OSAKA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP  
Hirohata Sub-Camp  
Hirohata, Japan

September 1, 1945.

To: International Red Cross, Kobe, Japan.  
From: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Requesting the Transmittal of Information to Next of Kin, via Radio.

1. It is requested that the entire roster of American Officers and men held as Prisoners of War in this camp, which is embodied in a separate report, be transmitted by radio to:  
Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Washington 25, D.C.

2. It is desired that a message accompany this transmittal by radio of the camp roster to the effect that the Prisoner of War Information Bureau take the necessary steps to inform the next of kin of each officer and man concerned that these men are alive and well, and expect to be returned to their homeland in the immediate future.

3. Data concerning the next of kin, and home address of all Prisoners of war are on file in the Prisoner of War Information Bureau and need not be included as part of the radio message.

*F. M. Flindau*

F. M. FLINDAU  
Lieut. Colonel, U.S. Army  
Commanding.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: ND 883078

OSAKA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP  
Hirohata Sub-Camp  
Hirohata, Japan

September 1, 1945.

To: International R. & C. Cross, Kobe, Japan.  
From: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Donations in cash received in this camp during the period  
October 6, 1943 - September 1, 1945.

1. About February 1944, this camp was informed that a certain sum of money had been donated by the Vatican City for the use of welfare activities of all prisoner of war camps in the Osaka district. No information was furnished Prisoner of War authorities at this camp as to the amount of such donations, or the manner in which the funds would be used. Local representatives of the Prisoners of War were caused to submit in writing, letters to the Vatican City expressing appreciation for their gift. No disposition of the fund is known, and no amount in cash has been received in this camp.

2. The above constitutes only such donations of which this camp was informed.

*L. W. Flinn*

F. M. FLINIAU  
Lieut. Colonel, U.S. Army,  
Commanding.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: *NP 883078*

OSAKA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP  
Hirohata Sub-Camp  
Hirohata, Japan

September 1, 1945.

To: International R. d Cross, Kobe, Japan.  
From: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Donations in cash received in this camp during the period  
October 6, 1943 - September 1, 1945.

1. About February 1944, this camp was informed that a certain sum of money had been donated by the Vatican City for the use of welfare activities of all prisoner of war camps in the Osaka district. No information was furnished Prisoner of War authorities at this camp as to the amount of such donations, or the manner in which the funds would be used. Local representatives of the Prisoners of War were caused to submit in writing, letters to the Vatican City expressing appreciation for their gift. No disposition of the fund is known, and no amount in cash has been received in this camp.

2. The above constitutes only such donations of which this camp was informed.

*F. M. Flinnau*  
F. M. FLINNAU  
Lieut. Colonel, U.S. Army,  
Commanding.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: ND 883078

OSAKA PRISONER OF WAR CAMP  
Hirohata Sub-Camp  
Hirohata, Japan

September 1, 1945.

To: International R. & Cross, Kobe, Japan.  
From: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Donations in cash received in this camp during the period  
October 6, 1943 - September 1, 1945.

1. About February 1944, this camp was informed that a certain sum of money had been donated by the Vatican City for the use of welfare activities of all prisoner of war camps in the Osaka district. No information was furnished Prisoner of War authorities at this camp as to the amount of such donations, or the manner in which the funds would be used. Local representatives of the Prisoners of War were caused to submit in writing, letters to the Vatican City expressing appreciation for their gift. No disposition of the fund is known, and no amount in cash has been received in this camp.

2. The above constitutes only such donations of which this camp was informed.

*F. L. Flinn*  
F. L. FLINNAU  
Lieut. Colonel, U.S. Army,  
Commanding.

Subject:- Evacuation of Prisoners of War (British).

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority ND 883078

To:- Officer Commanding,  
Evacuation Operations,  
OSAKA. / NAGOYA.

Sir,

Herewith enclosed the following reports and rolls in respect of troops in this Camp:-

1. Nominal Roll of 284 Officers and men.
2. General Report on Health of Camp.
3. Brief Report of Medical Officer.
4. Report of Entertainments.

It is pointed out that no delegate of Allied forces or Red X has visited us yet, nor have any Red X supplies been dropped by aircraft.

However, the Commanding Officer, Captain J. Thornhill, proceeded to Osaka to-day with a view to obtaining information.

Nagoya No 4 Sub Camp, (Iruka),  
Japan.

*J. Wadsworth*  
..... Lieut, R. Sigs,  
Adjutant, British Troops, No 4 Sub Camp,

5 Sep, 45.

REPORT ON ENTERTAINMENTS AT IRUKA SUB-CAMP, Aug 17 - Sep 5, 45.

Sir,

On 17 Aug we learnt officially that the war was over. It was realised immediately that the first consideration would be to keep the minds and bodies of the men fully occupied until such time as we were evacuated. I accordingly appointed Sgt P.A. Warner, Royal Corps of Signals, NCO i/c entertainments. This NCO had already done exceptionally useful work during our POW life in turning out first class Plays, Revues and Concerts for one of the best amateur concert parties it has been my lot to meet throughout my POW life, and I have been in many camps of far greater strength than this. Together we discussed many ideas and then Sgt Warner was left to draught out his own programme, subject to medical and my approval. Prizes were allotted in the shape of surplus Red X Boots etc, and a useful donation of £20 by the C'mag Officer and myself.

Programme:-

0600 hrs.	}	PT (Voluntary) - Civilian and Army methods, including
0630 "		Atlas, Maxwelding and Loughurst Systems:- an excellent
1645 "		turnout.
0830 - 1000 "		Dancing classes - first rate individual tuition. Two experimental dances - members of concert party acting as women and playing hostess. Harmonica Band & Guitar.
1030 - 1100 "		Swimming Classes:- Learners and advanced. These took place in the camp reservoirs (15' x 7' x 4') and were quite a success.
<del>1400 - 1400</del>		
1400 "		Citizen's Advice Bureau - to solve men's post-war problems:- Subjects:- Marriage, Divorce, buying a home, purchasing clothes, cars, motor cycles, taking holidays at home and abroad, opportunities in commerce. Some answers given in forms of lectures.
1500 "		Lectures and Boxing lessons on alternate days. On one occasion, a 3 round exhibition match, and later a burlesque on same, and later whist and Tombola on alternate afternoons.

EVENINGS

Concerts, Tombola, Talent Competitions, Sports, etc. Very popular. In addition there were musical competitions, essay competitions, drawing competitions, all attracting big entries.

A Race Meeting was held - complete to the race-cards - with horse and jockey pick-a-back. This was very successful.

Drill, organised marches, walks and swimming, were very popular. There have been no incidents outside, and the behaviour of the British troops has been exemplary. Lack of news and contact with the outside world (a Red X Representative here would have done wonders for the morale of the camp) was, and is, our greatest problem. Eventually ~~maxxk~~ after two failures we have obtained a small radio, which by a 24 hour watch and super-delicate tuning received snatches of broadcasts from Hawaii and KSAI. News-sheets were published.

A sweepstake was held on the time of arrival of the Red X plane, but sad to say it is long overdue; The Japanese supplied us with a film, a harmonium, a gramophone and records.

It is proposed to fill the remainder of our time here with morning runs for P.T. classes, walks, drill, hill-climbing, talks, swimming, cards and concerts. Naturally the men are bound to get impatient as the days go by and no real news is forthcoming. Twice we have been going to move, twice it has been cancelled, however, up to the moment there has been no untoward incident. The men are reasonably contented, but the difficulty will be maintaining the same if the stay is to be much longer protracted. Finally, I cannot commend Sgt. Warner too highly on the amount of good work he has put in on this Entertainment Programme.

5th Sept. 1945.

*J. Wadsworth*  
 Lieut., R. Sigs.  
 Adjutant, (Entertainments Officer), British troops, Iraka.

Sir,

Iruka POW Camp opened on the 29th. of Jan, 44 with the arrival of 300 British Troops (including 5 Officers). from the working camps of Thailand. Major S. E. McLaughlin was the medical officer. The following is a brief summary of the health of the camp described under 4 headings:-

1. Serious Sickness (July to Dec, 44). The health of the men on arrival in Japan was bad; most of them were riddled with malaria and many of them had beri-beri. These two main diseases together with sporadic diarrhoea, various small illnesses and a multitude of small work injuries provided a ~~high~~ sick parade of over a hundred men. In addition there were a few cases of black water fever and pneumonia. The drugs provided by the mining company were, on the whole, satisfactory, but for the first two months there was a shortage of quinine and atarlin, also plasmaquin - this shortage was later rectified by the Red X.

The satisfactory treatment of disease was generally hampered by the Nipponese authorities permitting only a limited number of men to remain sick in camp. No scope was allowed for the observation of doubtful cases, with the result that every day several men developed malaria at work and had to remain in the work rest room until the party returned in the evening. Wherever possible the mining coy doctor visited these patients and administered the necessary treatment. There was no such thing as convalescence, owing to the rapid turnover - many sick, who were improving but still not medically fit for work, had to be returned to their jobs to allow the necessary vacancies in the sick figures for the more serious cases of the fresh sick. A case of malaria had to be very bad to get more than three complete days off work. This policy of limiting the sick is to be greatly deplored, it not only increased the suffering of the Prisoner of War but prolonged his illness and in many cases undermined his health. During this period Major McLaughlin had many fights with the Nipponese authorities over sick figures etc; his efforts in this respect did much to improve the lot of the sick men in the future. I arrived here from Kobe POW Camp on 11 Nov. The sick rate was still high but Major McLaughlin was gradually getting the situation under control and up to the end of December 15 men had died (including two accident cases).

2. Improvement (Jan to Apr, 45). Coinciding with the arrival of large supplies of Red X food parcels and medicines, the former in December and the latter in January, the health of the camp improved, first slowly then rapidly reaching its neight in April. The average weight increased to 59 kilos, beri-beri subsided, the ~~reapsee~~ incidence of relapses of malaria decreased and in spite of the winter there were only a few cases of pneumonia.

Major McLaughlin was transferred to Kobe on the 15th Feb and since then I have been Officer in medical charge of the camp.

3. Decline (May to August, 45). During this period the camp suffered as a result of a reduction in rations. Vegetables were almost non-existent, fresh meat had not been supplied since February and fish only in small quantities. Red X food stocks, therefore, had to be used in large quantities in an endeavour to supplement this deficiency until the Nipponese would provide a more substantial ration. These stocks were speedily exhausted. The health of the camp declined. General weakness and debility became a prominent complaint. The Nipponese Commandant was informed about this state of affairs. He stated that he was endeavouring to obtain vegetables etc, but that the food situation throughout Japan was acute and transport difficulties made matters worse. An epidemic of beri-beri threatened the camp, but the energetic use of the adequate supplies of Red X Taismine and multiple vitamins kept this deficiency disease quiescent. The symptoms of general weakness and debility, however, continued owing to the shortage of food, but fortunately the war ended before it became really serious. During this period the Nipponese attitude to sickness in general and to sick figures in particular greatly improved.

4. Return to Normal (Aug 15 - onwards). The weighing of the personnel of the camp on the 17th inst, revealed the fact that the average weight of the camp had dropped to 54.700 kilos. The rest from work and the increase in the rations to include adequate quantities of meat and vegetables and more than enough rice had a dramatic effect in the camp. Both the general health and spirit of the men improved rapidly by the 20th, the average weight had risen to 57;400 kilos. The main trouble at the moment is an increase in the incidence of malarial relapses.

Generally speaking the health of the majority of the men is satisfactory, there is between 12 and 15% suffering from various forms of sickness, but there are only two men seriously sick. Since the beginning of this year there has been only one death and this was due to accidental causes at work.

Iruka, 5 Sep, 45.  
Nugoye No 4 Subcamp:

.....  
R. Sigs, Adjutant, Bn. Troops.

..... Medical Officer,  
Flight Lieut, RAFVR.



PRESENT SICKNESS & TREATMENT:

After cessation of hostilities a rapid but very complete survey of the health of the men of this camp was carried out. A large percentage of the Camp was complaining from general weakness and other symptoms of malnutrition, but fortunately in most cases are of only mild severity and will rapidly recover with a change of condition. In this classification I disregarded these cases.

Out of the total of 234 Men, 224 were found to be reasonably fit physically; 36 men were below average and the remaining 24 unfit. The average weight of the camp on the 17th inst. was 54,700 kilos.

The rest from work and the increased rations have produced a wonderful alround improvement in the men both physically and mentally. A weigh in of the camp on the 28th instant showed an increase to 57,400 kilos. Since the 1st of September there has been a steady increase in the incidence of malaria, relapses. Anticipate some trouble from this disease on the journey to port of embarkation.

Approximate classification of sickness:-

1.	<u>Beri-Beri:</u>	(a) Moderate Severity:-	6	
		(b) mild Severity:-	15	
2.	<u>Malnutrition:</u>		10	
3.	<u>Retrobulbar neuritis:-</u>		5	
4.	<u>Chest: -</u>	(a) Pneumonia:-	1	(convalescent).
		(b) Clinically pthisis	2	
		(c) Doubtful "	10	
		(e) Chronic bronchitis	4	
5.	<u>Abdomen:-</u>	(a) Peptic Ulcer	2	
		(b) Appendicitis (i) Mild Catarrhal	1	
		(ii) Chronic	3	(all quiescent).
		(c) Hernia	2	
6.	<u>Malaria:-</u>		7	

There are three cases which will require a transfer to hospital after arrival at detrainning point; one is a case of anorexia nervosa who has been in the Camp Hospital for the past nine months; he is now in a very weakened condition. The other two cases are clinically pthisis. With regard to malaria no estimate can be made of the number of cases which may arise between now and leaving this camp; it would be wise to be prepared for 2 or three at least. From the rest of the camp I do not anticipate much trouble on the journey to the port of embarkation.

Treatment:

I have still adequate supplies of Med X drugs including quinine, atabrin sulphadiazine, sulphaguanidine, thiamine tablets and multiple vitamin tablets, etc. I am running short of concentrated solution of thiamine hydrochloride, having now five vials each of 5 cc. The hospital supply of milk is now only two tins.

The letter received requesting these reports did not state clearly the details required, I therefore hope that the above will meet with your requirements.

5th Sep. 1945.

*J. Wilson*  
 F/Lieut. RAF VR.,  
 Medical Officer, Iruka Sub-Camp.

MEMORANDUM

September 18, 1945.

To: Col. Marcus

From: U. Alexis Johnson

Subject: Report of Colonel S. Murata, former commander of the Prisoner of War Camps in the Osaka area.

There is attached a copy of a report on conditions in the Prisoner of War camps in the Osaka area said to have been prepared by ~~and~~ Col. S. Murata former commander of the camps in that area. This was handed to me by a Japanese Government interpreter just before my departure from Osaka and it is transmitted without comment.

On the previous evening I was present at an interview during which Captain Mason, Signal Corps, USA and former prisoner of war requested that Col. Murata deliver to him complete personnel records of all employees and personnel assigned to the prisoner of war camps in the Osaka area. It is my understanding that Capt. Mason desired to do everything possible to assure that such records were not destroyed prior to the occupation of the area by American forces.

UAJ

*Gen. Yamura - reports ashes of 1091  
at address on attached sheet - Radio dispatched  
to 6<sup>th</sup> Army Sep 21 to investigate, recover ashes  
and submit complete report.*

*Forward to Manila Office*

*UUAJ*

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
RECOVERED PERSONNEL DIVISION  
ROUTING SLIP

1945

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

TO:

Director \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst Director \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst Ex. Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
Allot & Benefits \_\_\_\_\_  
Plans & Operations \_\_\_\_\_

Adjudication Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
AUS ~~St~~-Section \_\_\_\_\_  
Civ ~~Ad~~-Section \_\_\_\_\_  
PS ~~St~~-Section \_\_\_\_\_

Invest. & Review Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Investigation \_\_\_\_\_  
Archives \_\_\_\_\_  
201 Files \_\_\_\_\_  
Liaison Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Finance Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
Disbursing Section \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

AG-KD Form No. 5 (7-23-45)

FOR:

Approval \_\_\_\_\_  
Information \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Appropriate Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Correction \_\_\_\_\_  
Note & Return \_\_\_\_\_  
File \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: ND 883078

"Juganji" temple

~~Ha~~ 8 chome, Tani-machi

Minami-Ku, Osaka

109/ ashes  
~~corpses~~

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority ND 883078

REPORT OF CONDITIONS OF THE  
OSAKA P.O.W. CAMP

1. Conditions during the first stages of the establishment of the Camp.

The Osaka P.O.W. Camp was established during the latter part of September 1942 and received the first Prisoners for internment during the middle part of October. The total number of Prisoners interned eventually increased and exceeded the figure 10,000. The Prisoners interned first were from the Lisbon Maru, 500 of which were scheduled to be interned in the Osaka P.O.W. Camp and the remaining 500 in the Tokyo Camp, but due to the sinking of the ship and the resulting hardships, they were suffering from dysentery, acute intestinal inflammation and diphtheria when they arrived. This made the removal of the 500 who were scheduled to go to Tokyo impossible and were interned in the Osaka P.O.W. Camp upon order from the Higher Authorities. I received 500 in the Kobe Camp and immediately returned to Osaka to receive the remaining 500 into the Osaka Camp. During the short distance from the Pier to the Camp much time was taken and many fainted as soon as reaching the Camp Grounds and one Prisoner died in spite of all first aid treatment and hypodermic injections. I immediately suggested to the Higher Authorities and received a large party of medical orderlies from the Osaka Army Hospital including an Army Doctor, and started the treatment. Since the 1000 men received for internment were literally all patients, there was immediately a shortage of medical supplies. There was no flinching on the part of the Japanese in the treatment of the epidemic cases. I recall now that some Japanese who were on duty at the time including myself brought our own household medical supplies like gauze and medicines and also benjo paper to be used in the treatment of the sick.

There was one death on the first day of arrival. This death grieved me very much because this honourable soldier had died after safely arriving at our shores after surviving many fatal hardships on the way after being sunk on the Lisbon Maru. A Preacher was called in the next day and a fitting funeral service was held to honour the dead with all of our personnel and the Senior Staff Officer of the Army Hdq of the Central Region Army in attendance.

After that a germ examination was made and the carriers were hospitalized in the Army Hospital and since there were many more such patients unable to be hospitalized one of the Army buildings were negotiated for and the patients were hospitalized with the Nipponese Army Doctors and the Prisoner Doctors in attendance. Prisoners not being used to the climate and the atmospheric conditions and furthermore the time of the year was such that there were sudden weather changes which all in all unfortunately caused many deaths through the winter period of 1942 till the Spring of 1943. All the personnel from myself down took up our quarters in the office and endeavored to such an extent that at times we worked on even forgetting our meals. During this period the Medical 1st Lieutenant Kishimoto became ill due to too strenuous a duty and had to be hospitalized and eventually had to be discharged from the Army. The detailed record of Camp doings were kept but were destroyed in the fire resulting from the bombing of June 1st, 1945.

## 2. Establishment of the Hospital.

Realizing that a hospital would be required if more Prisoners were to be interned I put in an application to the Central Region Army Headquarters for a Prisoner Hospital and the Ministry of the Army were also very helpful and found a suitable site for us in Kamouchi-cho, Kobe. The location was such that there were mountains to the north and the sea on the southward side amidst fresh air and good view, all contributing to the hygiene conditions of the camp.

The facilities were complete and it was able to accommodate 150 patients. Internal medicine, surgery, ear nose and throat, X-ray, dental and microscopic departments were established making it equal to if not better than our own Army Hospitals. We were very fortunate in being able to muster the services of 1st Lieutenant Ohashi a renowned Professor of Surgery formerly on the Professor Staff of the Osaka Imperial University Medical Department. The said Professor is one of the foremost Doctors of surgery in Nippon with an exemplary character. He had the complete trust of the patients. Adding to this the foremost Prisoner Doctors were selected including the Medical Lieutenant Commander Page of the British Navy. These forementioned Doctors cooperated with each other in such a way that the health records improved immensely and there were cases of recovered patients refusing to leave the Hospital even after their recovery.

#### 3. Nurturing and Hygiene.

We were the very first in establishing a hospital of its kind in the country. Whenever the Prisoners were interned the suggestion of the Prisoner Doctor were followed to give the men rice gruel, soap and other soft food to help in the quick recovery of the men from their fatigue of the journey. It was unfortunate that many men were lost due to illness from the winter of 1942 till the Spring of 1943. From among those disembarked from the Lisbon Maru the worst cases were left in the care of Kokura and Hiroshima Army Hospitals.

#### 4. Rations of the Prisoners.

Since the living conditions, types of food and circumstances were different bean curds were made among other things to have the men assimilate their food properly for its calorific value and each of the Camp Commanders were made to compete with each other in obtaining rich vitamin fruits like the mandarin oranges. After the beginning of the Summer of 1943 the Prisoners became used to the rations, and spiritual relaxation were adjusted in such a way that they eventually became very healthy.

Sub-Camp Commander meetings were held once a month to muster their efforts in bettering the health conditions and general camp conditions. Rewards and letters of commendations were given to the Sub-Camp Commander whose camp had made the best improvement during the month.

#### 5. Removal of the Sub-Camp to the Interior.

Osaka, Kobe and Nagoya bombings began to increase from the beginning of this year. If the camps in the Osaka and Kobe areas continue it became imminent that most of our Sub-Camps would suffer resulting in making general prisoner life difficult. Therefore in March I immediately drew up plans for evacuating the camps to a safer area and submitted the plans to the Commander of the Central Regional Army and also to the Ministry of the Army. The Higher Authorities permitted the execution of the plans and evacuation was immediately begun and completed in May thus saving many Prisoner lives. The camps in the Osaka area namely; Chikko, Kobe, Yodogawa, Haruo camps Fusho, Sakurajima and Umeda camps all suffered explosive and incendiary bomb attacks and all were burned but due to the timely evacuations not a single Prisoner was injured.

The Kobe Hospital received heavy raids and three men were lost.

In the raid on the Chikko Camp one Japanese N.C.O. received bad burns on face and in the raid on the Kobe Camp three Japanese guards were killed by bomb explosion while evacuated

ing the Prisoners. There was no injury of Prisoners in the raid on the Kobe Camp.

It could not be helped but intern the Prisoners of the Chikko Camp in a temporary place after the raid of June 1st.

#### 6. Memorial Services

During the early stages funeral services were held each time there was a death occurring but since there were many deaths due to the epidemical diseases collective funeral services were held on December 2nd 1942. Since then a committee was organized to hold similar services each year in December picking a good day. In these funeral services all the Japanese personnel all the Chikko Camp Prisoners, representatives from the different ranks of the Prisoners in each of the Sub-Camps, representatives from the Central Regional Army Headquarters, and representatives from civilian and civic organizations all attended the service very solemnly and the services themselves were conducted by the foremost preachers and fathers of the Protestant and Catholic Faiths each Faith taking turns with each other every other time. Those dead were honored and remembered in the most solemnity and honor befitting servicemen who had died in service.

#### 7. Religious Services.

Religious services were left to the free will of the Prisoners. In some camps permanent places of worship were built. In order to satisfy the spiritual feeling of the Prisoners I obtained the services of the foremost preachers and fathers of both the Protestant and Catholic Faiths and appointed the Steward 1st Lieutenant Fukunaga to make the necessary arrangements and the services were held in each of the camps and I am sure that these services were appreciated by the Prisoners.

Especially the many visitations by the Archbishop Paul Marela and his many generousities were warmly received by the Prisoners.

#### 8. Storing of the Ashes.

The ashes of the loyal soldiers were handled most respectfully. I have a friend who is in charge of one of the temples of the Houwanji Buddhist Sect, called the Juganji. I entrusted the ashes to this kindly Priest and had him appointed guard<sup>and</sup> worshipper of the ashes, the ashes being placed in front of the main main Hall of Worship.



It may seem strange why Christian ashes should be left in the care of a Buddhist Temple, but the reason was that I myself am a Buddhist and I further believed that although religions may differ, the basic spirit is the same. Each Spring and on my Equinoctial Week I asked the Priest to have an impressive ceremony conducted for the Spirits of the deceased. The Priest being a personal friend of mine for one reason I visited the Temple many times to offer prayers in memory of the dead. In the major air raid of June 1st of this year the fire came to the next house but fortunately the Temple and the ashes entrusted there suffered no mishap.

#### 9. Recreation and Comfort for the Prisoners

The International Red Cross Committee's sympathy and kind aid was a great comfort to the Prisoners. The books donated by the Y.M.C.A. went a long way to satisfy the Prisoners' in their thirst for knowledge and also to comfort them. We on our part in order to assure fair distribution of the books appointed a Prisoner to take charge of the books as he or the others saw fit.

#### 10. Meeting with Prisoner Representatives

Meetings were held occasionally in each of the camps with the Prisoner Representatives. The requests of the Prisoners were put forth at these meetings and if it was within our limits of power requests were satisfied. In the Chikko Camp I've had meetings with the Representatives such as the Doctor Chief Boatswain's Mate Sanders (American), and W.O.1 Matheson (British) once a month in order to listen to and have their demands fulfilled.

#### 11. Food supplies.

The food supplied according to the Regulations, was equal to that of our reserve forces. It was equal in all respects if not better. Besides this, in order to satisfy the Prisoners the companies for which the Prisoners were working for were forced to give substantial amounts of additional food. As one illustration, the extra amount received from the companies for the Chikko Prisoners were equal to that of a whole day Japanese civilian ration, and as a result they enjoyed vigorous health.

#### 12. Conclusion

Throughout the three long years I practically lived in the Headquarters of the Camp so that Prisoners would not suffer mishaps. During the bombing raids I was always on hand in spite of the fact that I might have lost my life in order to protect the Prisoners. I also gave talks to the Prisoners occasionally to give them spirit and hope.

The Camp Staff and I did our best within our possible limits and only regret that we could not do more.

I respectfully submit the summarized report of camp conditions.

Paul S. Mount

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: ND 883078

DETACHMENT OF ALLIED FORCES  
HELD AS PRISONERS OF WAR  
Osaka Prisoner of War Camp  
Hirohata Sub-Camp  
Hirohata, Japan

August 30, 1945

From: Captain Sidney E. Seid, Medical Corps, U.S. Army, Camp Surgeon.  
To: International Red Cross Representatives.  
Subject: Report of Treatment while held as Prisoner of War.

1. From our arrival in Japan on October 6, 1943, until February 1, 1944, prisoners in this camp were badly starved. After sixty per cent of the men were reported as being too sick to work, the ration was investigated and pronounced inadequate by a Japanese Army Medical officer. One month later the camp was put on the Japanese Army ration. Most of the deaths in this camp were due directly or indirectly to this starvation period. Many men will have weak hearts, loss of vision, partial paralysis, and other disabilities which may be permanent because of this starvation period.
2. Prisoner Medical Corpsmen were set to work shoveling coal and iron ore instead of working as medical corpsmen.
3. Army Inspectors checked the quartermaster accounts and inventoried the storerooms, but failed to check and see if food, soap, et cetera were actually issued to prisoners as reported on the books or were diverted to private use.
4. Sick men were sent to work at the factory and subjected to beatings if they did not work hard, or if they were unable to run long distances when so commanded. When the men were sickest in the winter of 1943-1944, they were not permitted to rest, even on rest days. They were made to run to the river and beaten if they fell exhausted. They were made to stand in formations which took up the largest part of the rest day and left no time for rest. They were harrassed, exercised, and burnt by "Moxibustion" for their health, when their illness was known to be caused by starvation and could only be restored by proper food, vitamin therapy, and rest.
5. The soldiers and the Seitetsu guards directly and indirectly forbade us to report their misconduct and injustices to Osaka Headquarters officers, or to the Camp Superintendent, under threat of revenge on the entire prisoner camp. For example: We told Mr. Miyashi of the Osaka Headquarters that Seitetsu guards were beating the men at work and ordering them not to report punishment in camp. He thought this was wrong and gave orders to stop it. For the two weeks after Mr. Miyashi's departure, the Seitetsu guards harried the prisoners and beat them on the flimsiest excuses. They taught us not to report injustices to higher authorities because they would take a revenge worse than the injustices complained of and there was nothing we could do about it.
6. I have signed receipts for Red Cross supplies that were never received, for supplies that were partly received, and for supplies that were given and then taken back.
7. The medical corpsman, Miyazaki came to this camp when our health was worst, and stated that he would reduce the number of men on the sick list. He did so by sending men to work when he knew they were sick. In his short stay in camp he never did one thing to help the sick to regain their health. He did much to harm them. For example: Private James A. Cole had a fractured spine. Private Miyazaki chased him out of bed and forced him to walk about, although his fractured spine had not healed. Now, one-and-one-half years later, Private Cole is incapacitated, and this incapacity may be permanent.
8. The medical corps<sup>man</sup> Tsujino did many things which helped the sick men in this camp. Part of the time he cooperated to help the sick. However, he also wilfully did many things which harmed the sick. He took medicine out of camp in large quantities (see appendix) so that many prisoners who needed these medicines could not have them. The quantities he took were too large for personal or family use. I believe they must have been taken for sale. Even last night, August 29, 1945, he took a bottle of one thousand Sulfadiazine tablets. This is enough to treat twenty-five different cases of pneumonia. He took for himself large portions of the Red Cross food issued especially for the sick. For example: In July, 1945, ten Red Cross

-----  
Subject: Report of Treatment while held as Prisoner of War  
-----

boxes were issued for the use of the sick. He took two whole boxes out of camp under cover of darkness, at four o'clock in the morning, August 10, 1945. Then, of the remaining eight boxes, he took all the chocolate, jam, sugar, and cigarettes, some of the coffee, some of the milk, and all of the unspoiled fruit. The moldy fruit and the remaining foods in the boxes were turned over to the doctor for issue to the sick men. Captain Narewa, while he was camp superintendent, discovered that Private Tsujino was stealing sick men's food and thereafter, until Captain Narewa left, food thefts were reduced, but the theft of medicine continued. On several occasions he ignorantly and peremptorily ordered harmful treatment against the advice of the prisoner doctor. For example: He forbade that a blood transfusion be given to Corporal JOHN L. ROBERTS, stating that Corporal ROBERTS would die anyway. It was a physician's opinion that Corporal Roberts needed the transfusion, and an American had volunteered to give his blood to his comrade, but this ignorant Japanese private forbade it. Secretly, and in fear of punishment, the transfusion was given, and Roberts' life was saved. For several months he held sick call himself, and decided which of the sick men should rest and which should work. He was uneducated, unable to diagnose disease, and unable to converse with the men who appeared before him for sick call, but he persisted in maintaining this farce for several months. A snappy salute rather than the degree or type of illness often decided whether or not a sick man could rest. However, during the greater part of his stay here he would permit the prisoner doctor to decide who should rest and how the sick should be treated. On every inspection of personal belongings in which he took part, he would confiscate some of the men's possessions, such as soap, cigarettes, and Red Cross foods and keep them for his personal use. On many occasions he punished the prisoners singly or as a group to cover up his own mistakes, or to impress the Camp Superintendent with his efficiency.

9. Two other medical Corpomen, Mr. Nishio and Mr. Yamanaka, have served at this camp. I have no complaints to make of their conduct.

*Sidney E. Seid*  
SIDNEY E. SEID

Captain, United States Army Medical Corps  
Camp Surgeon .

ENCLOSURES : - One (1).

Appendix A (List of Red Cross Medicines taken by Private Tsujino).

-----  
 Subject: Report of Treatment while held as Prisoner of War  
 -----

APPENDIX A

LIST OF RED CROSS MEDICINES TAKEN BY PRIVATE TSUJINO

2000	Sulfadiazene tablets	0.5	gram each
1500	Codeine tablets	0.032	gram each
4 lbs.	Sulfaguanidine powder		
3000	Thiamin Chloride tablets	0.001	gram each
2000	Thiamin Chloride tablets	0.003	gram each
2000	Thiamin Chloride tablets	0.005	gram each
50	Bandage, assorted widths		
800	Multiple Vitamin tablets		
140	Morphine Sulfate tablets	1/4	grain each
	(100 tabs taken on December 13, 1944)	1/3	grain each
60	Emetine tablets		
500	Aspirin tablets		
6	Ether, 1/4 lb. cans		
5	Adhesive Plaster rolls		
96	Pertussin Cough Syrup, bottles, of 4 oz.		each

By various subterfuges, and by ordering us not to keep inventory records, he succeeded in keeping us from knowing exactly how much he took. However, I am certain that he took at least the above-listed amounts, and I really believe that he took more than the amounts listed.

Private Tsujino also took large amounts of medicines issued by the Seitetsu Hospital and by the Japanese Army, but I cannot state any definite amounts. I believe that the Seitetsu medical representative, Mr. Oeyama, was aware of Private Tsujino's misappropriations of medicine, but did not dare complain to higher authority.

*Sidney E. Seid*

SIDNEY E. SEID  
 Captain (Medical Corps, Reserve) U.S. Army  
 Camp Surgeon.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: ND 883078

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: ND 883078