

**Writer Bares More Jap Atrocities**

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By James R. Young

Author of "Behind The Rising Sun" and 13 years a newspaper man in Japan, who will speak at Kingsport Civic Auditorium on Feb. 18 at 8 p. m.)

Several thousand American military and civilian prisoners of the Japanese are doomed to die in a score, and more Japanese prison camps.

Hundreds of names of American men and boys who have already died in Jap prison camps are now coming over the news wires. Disease, bacterial dysentery, malaria, pellagra, beri-beri, malnutrition, diarrhea—are killing our men!

On a recent tour of New England, I was told repeatedly by mothers of men who are in Jap camps, that they had been assured the Japs are doing well by our prisoners. One newspaper editorial I saw quoted an official of a prisoner's society group as stating that the Japs were abiding by rules of international prisoner warfare.

I challenge the misguided thoughts of muddled thinkers who misled stricken parents into reasoning falsely that our men in Jap prison camps are in a satisfactory condition.

The Japs have refused to allow visitors to many of their camps. They forbade the relief ship Kana-gawa to move from San Francisco. I have made a thorough survey of available material on conditions in prison camps. Every report is unfavorable and shocking. Yet we coddle the Japs in this country and turn them loose—one thousand a week—from relocation centers.

Parents are entitled to know the facts. Certain citizens are developing a situation which will later backfire. They will ask, "why did you not tell us of these conditions?"

#### Demands Action

As a former prisoner of the Japs, I plead and demand, immediate and drastic action to bring about an improvement in prison camps under Jap military control.

We have not received the full details of the tortures inflicted on the Doolittle fliers, but know that eight men who were forced down by shortage of gasoline were taken to Japan from China. They were manacled. They were made to sleep on the deck of a ship between Shanghai and Nagasaki. They could not have a tooth brush, smoking tobacco, a bath or change of clothes. They were paraded in the streets of Japanese cities, then brought back to Shanghai and put in the famous Bridge House jail under command of Lieut. Hirano, a young Japanese from the United States, who was responsible for the horrible prison conditions existing there.

Those young Americans were in one cell. They were not out of shackles or irons for two months. Then, by a decree of the Japanese government, as announced by a former consul general at Los Angeles, Tomokazu Hori, some were executed. The Japs refuse to reveal the names.

In a cell next to them were 26 persons, including three women and one child four months old. The only toilet facilities for these 26 people, including one man who was in the unheated, vermin-ridden cell for 13 months without a bath, was a bucket in the corner. They were fed dirty rice gruel twice a day.

#### Torture Tactics

Torture and humiliation, according to Japanese interpretation, are a military privilege. The Jap soldier grins at a captive who cringes as an officer needles him with a fixed bayonet, a picture to be taken for the folks at home on how the Imperial army treats the people of occupied areas.

Japan's coat of civilization is too thin to allow for friendly interpretation by any in this country who hold we should coddle some of the Mikado's dagger men!

For years the American public has been told of flagrant disregard by the Japanese for international legal commitments. We have learned from credited missionaries of first-hand accounts of barbarism perpetrated on the Chinese.

Escaped priests of the Maryknoll Mission, who fled to war-torn Chungking related the bloody details of the wholesale murder of village and town populations by the Japanese militarists, all because the Chinese gave succor to wounded and hungry American fliers. Misery, death and destruction became a pattern of the ruthless Japanese attacks on Doolittle's men, who, having completed a successful attack on military objects, ran short of gas and landed in Occupied China, some to be rescued and passed along the "Underground" way toward Free China for food and hospitalization.

A few hours after we learned of the murder of the Tokyo-bound fliers, Japan's official government-controlled news agency, Domei, announced that 25 American officers and men had received "special punishment" at Manila. The men could have been put on bamboo poles, their fingernails jabbed with fountain pens, or they were lashed to the famous electric torture "tiger" chair. Their arrogant guards unquestionably kicked their ankles, spat in their faces and hit them on the head.

#### Murder Prisoners

From New Delhi, India, officials now tell us of the Japanese murder of British and Indian prisoners of war in Burma. Eyewitnesses relate the Japs used the prisoners for forced labor. "Those unfit for work were bayoneted to death" said the terse announcement.

Bayonets are used to save bullets, the Japs would have explained!

The Japanese most of us know in Japan were the polite, friendly, bowing and smiling people who said they loved flowers, rock gardens, maple leaves, cherry blossoms, singing crickets and snow-capped Mount Fuji.

In a uniform, however, a Japanese becomes a premeditated murderer.

The Mikado's men rounded up innocent people in China, made them dig holes, and burying them alive up to their necks, burned off their heads using oil-burning flame torches. These FACTS are substantiated by pictures in the hands of American missionaries.

Japanese took photos to show

how they would toss baby children into the air to catch them on their bayonets. Pictures of these brutalities were made by the boastful and lust-ridden Japanese. The negatives came into the hands of Americans.

The heathen barbarities of the

Japs come home as our men be-  
come victims of beheaders.

Bombed Manila

Within three weeks after war  
broice, the United States Govern-  
ment notified the Japanese govern-

ment that Manila had been declared an open city. Our forces dismantled our ancient anti-aircraft guns. We expected the Hirohito Japs to respect the non-military nature of the capital of the Philippines. On December 29, 1941, Japanese planes came over the city and struck, in true Nazi-Jap attacks, at the Catholic cathedrals, where they knew they would kill hundreds of innocents, to destroy religious gathering places.

Christian religion is a force excluded by Japan's New Order in Asia.

September 1, 1923, Tokyo and Yokohama suffered an unprecedented earthquake. Americans in the Philippines sent relief supplies. At Bataan and Corregidor 19 years later, equipment from the relief ship, the U.S.S. Merritt, floated ashore—the Jap military used the mercy vessel's life-boats and preservers for the invasion of the Islands.

In pre-war days, Japan signed a world treaty respecting the use of gas in warfare. Four years ago I was in Chungking when Chinese soldiers were brought in from the battle of Changsha, victims of Japanese mustard gas. Four times the Japs used gas. Four times Washington warned Japan against gas in warfare.

In the Battle of the Philippines, Japan used picric acid in light aerial bombs. The acid—somehow circumvents the gas treaty which Japan signed, but it is sufficient to cause bad pains in the sides and a choking effect in the throat.

The head of the Japanese delegation to the Washington Disarmament Conference was Prince Iyosato Tokugawa. He is today head of the Japanese Red Cross, Japan, by signing the principles safeguarding the treatment of prisoners, we presumed, would abide by international agreement.

At Hong Kong, the Japanese

army, with bayonets, entered the Maryknoll Mission Hospital and **BAYONETED THE WOUNDED CANADIAN SOLDIERS** on their hospital cots. In North China, **JAPAN DESTROYED 17 PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITALS**, after attacking the nurses and killing the doctors.

A Japanese prison ship, the Lisbon Maru, was torpedoed off Hong Kong in February, 1943. The Japs fastened down the hatches, so that the British, Canadians and Australians, sick, wounded and underfed, would suffocate and drown in the holds of the ship—as Jap officers and men escaped in lifeboats. The Japs had used the cabins for themselves.

Prisoners in Hong Kong will starve on the rations they are issued. This is the authoritative word from a Baptist missionary from Texas who has been working in South China, who represents the belief of competent observers that the Jap plan is to let prisoners die slowly. Rations in a camp where he had friends interned consisted of rice and an ounce of meat, counting the bones, daily. As for the source of the meat, there is much suspicion.

A Nebraskan, interned by the Japs, was beaten at intervals for a fortnight, with rubber hose. Catholic priests, notwithstanding Vatican recognition of Japan's military government **AFTER WAR STARTED**, were held in dark rooms. Nearly 20 were threatened with execution. Garbed in their robes, they were tied together in groups and imprisoned for three days.

Protestant missionaries meeting in one city were not allowed to use their Bibles.

The Japanese New Order also displayed its arrogance fully in Burma. Sikh soldiers, proud of their great beards, were stationed in circles in public markets. Then, the Japanese, to show their indulgence in slavery—contrary to their assurances that they were "fighting a war for the salvation of Asiatics" cut off the almost sacred beard and shaved the heads of the famous Indian stalwarts.

Brig. Gen. R. V. C. Cavendish,  
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who was captured in Burma, has died in prison. The total death list will be months in reaching neutral hands—possibly with the stereotyped Japanese explanation that "death came from natural causes" or from "attempted escape."

#### Burned Library

The great national library in Manila was set afire. Jap soldiers in Manila subjected the Americans and Filipinos to a bloody purge. Eyes were routed out. Men were emasculated, women's breasts were slashed with huge Samurai swords wielded by men whom the Japanese would have some of our peace lovers believe to be the elements of Yamato-damashi and the Spirit of Bushido. Wounded soldiers and civilians in the Philippines were bayoneted with wanton indulgence. Prisoners were forced to walk in shoes containing ground glass, feet bleeding in agonizing pain as Japanese gendarmes, members of the notorious Kempeitai, stuck rice straws under their fingernails and set them afire; then fed the survivors on dirty water and rice gruel until dysentery, typhoid, and dread malaria took many of the survivors.

The Dutch hospital ship *Op-Ten-Noort*, was bombed, despite the Red Cross insignia being conspicuously displayed. Comdr. Thomas H. Binford, of Aberdeen, Miss., is authority for the accounts of Japanese torpedoing life rafts with helpless survivors. Off our own California coast, a Jap submarine attempted to ram a coast guard life boat. Survivors of another attack, who boarded the submarine in the hope of rescue, were pushed overboard to drown.

#### Mission Attacked

Two months after the Doolittle fliers had landed in Kiangsi Province in China, the Japs attacked a Catholic mission. They killed three priests, an Italian, a Frenchman and a Chinese. Twenty Chinese war orphans were killed and their bodies, with the Chinese priests' were thrown into a pond.

"Where are the Americans?" the excited Japanese demanded in their country-wide search for the aviators.

They punished innocent Chinese merely on the suspicion of having aided forced landing parties.

To impress the Chinese with the search, the Japanese bayoneted, tortured and beheaded the priests, and numerous civilians.

"Churches, schools and the hospitals were fired and left in ashes. A million dollars' worth of buildings and equipment, put there by Americans and administered by our people, was gone. The streets of one town were strewn with dead. Assaulted women cried for their babies, their husbands and others who were killed by the ruthless Japs."

These are the words of the Rev. Vincent Daniel Smith, of Chicago, who saw the pillage of the Jap vandals.

Japan then established a new international law for aerial warfare, with the declaration that in the future fliers would be executed. The Geneva Convention, forbidding execution of surrendered fighting men, according to the Japanese interpretation, "can only be respected on land (and) is not applicable to modern aerial warfare."

The civilized world becomes horrified at the execution of the American fliers who **BOMBED ONLY MILITARY OBJECTIVES IN JAPAN.**

We respected the palace of the Emperor of Japan because, I am told, it is not a military objective. I know that the Imperial Palace is as fortified as any other Japanese military sector!

Outside Japan, in many areas, are prison camps with thousands of Americans. Many of the internees, when repatriated or released, will be mentally and physically unable to resume a normal life. They are in the hands of captors who are utterly uncivilized.

We have learned of what the Japs have done to a few of our men. **THINK** in terms of what the Japs might do to **ALL AMERICANS** in their control.

Behind barbed wire, 10,000 Americans, unaccustomed to meager

Japanese food, many of them unable to live on a rice diet, humiliated and haggard, await our aid.

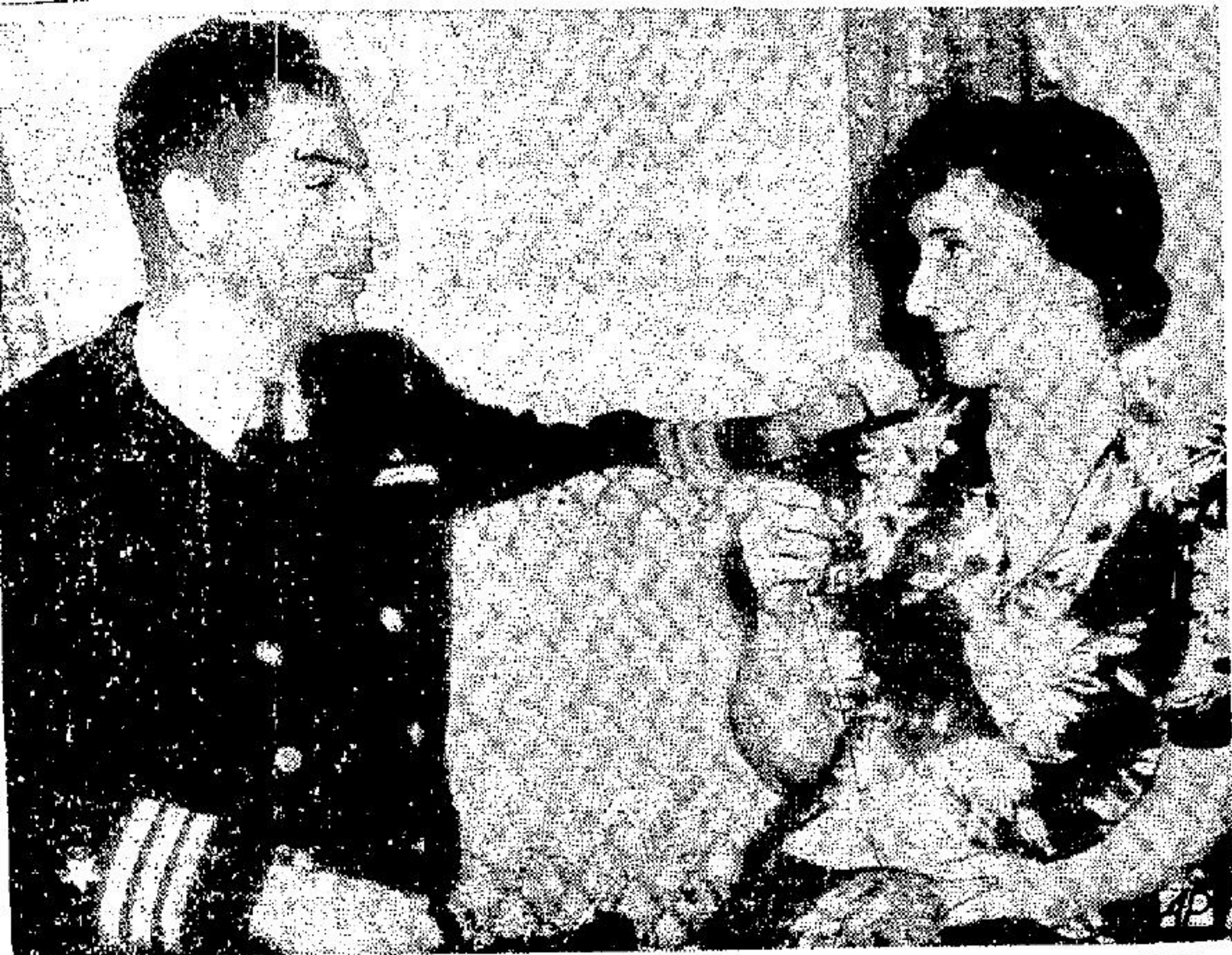
**QUICK AND IMMEDIATE ACTION** is needed.

The temper of the Japanese is violent, hardened and inflexible to all humanitarian appeals.

Japanese militarists are vermin-ridden beasts.

Are we to forget their insults and atrocities, or will we let the Japanese know we will reciprocate?





**TELLS OF JAP ATROCITIES WITH FEATURED "MARCEI OF DEATH"**—Comdr. Melvyn H. McCoy, shown with his wife in their New Bainbridge home near Seattle, was one of three officers whose reports of Japanese atrocities heaped on captive American and Filipino troops, were included in a joint Army-Navy announcement. (AP Wirephoto)



**ESCAPED FROM JAPS**—Major Austin C. Sholner (above) of Shelbyville, Tenn., is among Americans captured by the Japs known to have escaped from the Philippines after being subjected to inhumane treatment. A joint Army-Navy report on Japanese treatment of war prisoners has just been made. (AP Wirephoto)



**FLED JAP CAMP**—Experiences of Lieut.-Col. William E. Dyess (above), of Albany, Tex., and two other officers while prisoners of the Japanese in the Philippines, were incorporated in an Army-Navy report on Jap treatment of war prisoners taken when Bataan and Corregidor fell. Dyess escaped, but was recently killed in a California plane crash. (AP Wirephoto)