

DECLASSIFIED

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NND 740063

RECORD GROUP	ENTRY	BOX
389	460A	2120A

RG 389 RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF
PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL

American Pow Information Bureau
Records Branch

GENERAL SUBJECT FILE, 1942-46

CAMPS:

BURMA - THAILAND - SIAM

BOX NO.
2120A

E. 460A

HM 1991

-RABAUL

18 KILO, BUR-THAI R.R.

THAILAND - PRISON CAMPS

80 KILO BUR-THAI RR

CHECK LIST

1. Date of your arrival at 80 Kilo Camp, Thailand.
2. Please state its exact location if possible, or if this cannot be done, please describe its location with reference to other cities or prominent land marks.

ON RAILROAD 80 KILOS S.E. OF THANBUZZIAT. THANBUZZIAT IS ABOUT 40 KILOMETERS SOUTH E. OF MOULMEIN, BURMA.

3. When was camp first occupied by prisoners of war? Were the first occupants Americans, British, Dutch or Australians? APRIL 7, 1943

AMERICANS, AUSTRALIANS AND DUTCH. A MIXED PARTY.

4. Number of Americans in your group and name of senior American officers.

COL. BLEUCHER S. THARP, LTCOL. HAROLD G. ELKIN, LT. COL. W. H. ROGERS.

5. Please give figures on personnel in this camp to the best of your knowledge. Your own group should be included in these figures.

Americans	<u>400</u>	British	_____
Army	<u>750</u>	Dutch	<u>1210</u>
Navy	<u>150</u>	Australians	<u>290</u>
Marines	<u>INCLUDED IN NAVY 6.</u>	Chinese	<u>5 included in NAVY. MESS BOYS FROM CRUISER HOUSTON</u>
Civilians	<u>0</u>	Any other nationality	_____
		Total	<u>1800</u>

6. Names and titles of Japanese camp officials. MAJ MIZUONI INCHARGE OF SEVERAL CAMPS. 1st LT. WAKAMATSU C.O. of 80 KILO CAMP. INTERPRETERS. T. ISIKURI. & KOREAN HITI HARA. (ALL 0 - - -) JAP. 1st SGT. OMI.

7. Please describe the condition of the following facilities:

a. Housing

1. Number of barracks 4 - 30' x 250'
2. Size of barracks 1 24 x 200
- 5 TOTAL

3. Type of construction BAMBOO
4. Type of roof ATTAP, POOR GRADE ALWAYS LEAKED.
5. Type of floor DIRT.
6. Type of interior construction SLEEPING SPACE SPLIT BAMBOO, OR BAMBOO POLES ABOUT 1 IN. IN DIAMETER, (NOT VERY SOFT).
- b. Latrines
1. Location OPEN PITS. ABOUT 30' FROM HUTS. NO MATERIAL TO MAKE THEM FLY PROOF. MADE GOOD BREEDING PLACE FOR FLYS.
2. Type A FEW LATRINES HAD ROOFS BUT THEY ALWAYS LEAKED IF YOU USED LATRINE IN RAIN YOU ALWAYS GOT WET.
- c. Bathing
1. Location ONE SMALL CREEK. THAT JAPS DUMPED THEIR GARBAGE INTO WE BATHED BELOW THIS POINT. WHEN IT RAINED WE COULD GET
2. Type A BATH UNDER THE EYE OF THE HUT.
MADE A PLATFORM UNDER EYES OF HUTS, MADE PLATFORM
3. Size OF BAMBOO. NO REGULAR BATH HOUSE.
SOME TIMES, WORK PARTIES WERE ALLOWED TO BATHE IN RIVERS OUT AT CAMP.
- d. Mess
1. Type NO MESS HALLS. HAD TO GET FOOD FROM KITCHEN AND BRING IT TO HUT TO EAT. (30' FROM LATRINES)
2. Amount of food ENOUGH RICE OF THE KIND ISSUED. ABOUT 9 LBS MEAT PER WEEK FOR ENTIRE CAMP. VERY POOR GRADE VEGETABLES SMALL AMOUNT.
3. Preparation BOILED. IN SHALLOW IRON POTS (WADJANS).
4. Quality VERY POOR QUALITY. CARVED RICE OF THE LOWEST GRADE. POOR TYPE OF VEGETABLES.
- e. Medical attention and type of hospital. NONE FURNISHED BY JAPS. WE HAD TWO DOCTORS. ONE FROM ARMY ONE FROM NAVY. ALL MEDICAL SUPPLIES WERE WHAT WE HAD WITH US. ONE MAN WOULD CARRY A BOTTLE OF THIS AND ANOTHER SOMETHING ELSE. HAD TO HIDE IT FROM JAPS.
- f. Size of compound and type of fence. ABOUT 200 X 300 YDS. THIS INCLUDED JAP HOUSES GUARDHOUSE SUPPLY HOUSE ETC. BUT WE DID NOT NEED MUCH ROOM. EVERY AVAILABLE MAN, AND OFTEN SICK MEN WERE MADE TO WORK. NO DAYS OF REST

8. Type of work performed by prisoners of war.
- Officers HAD TO GO OUT AND WORK ON RAIL ROAD CONSTRUCTION BUILT, RAIL ROAD FROM MOULMEIN TO CONNECT WITH RAIL ROAD COMING OUT OF BANGKOK. DUG GRAVES, LATRINES,
 - Enlisted Men BUILT RAILROAD, MADE CUTS FILLS CLEARED RIGHT OF WAY BUILT BRIDGES, CUT TREES AND MADE BRIDGE TIMBER.
9. What were the working conditions? HORRIBLE. SOMETIMES WORKED 24 TO 36 HRS WITHOUT STOPPING. WORKED IN RAIN WITHOUT CLOTHES RAINCOATS & FOOD. MEN & OFFICERS WERE BEATEN IF WORK SLOWED DOWN.
10. Describe the conditions and restrictions on the sending and receiving of mail. NONE SENT NONE ^{RECEIVED} RECEIVED. FROM APRIL 7th LEFT THIS CAMP MAY 28.
11. How much were the prisoners of war paid?
- Officers 2 30⁰⁰ RUPEES PER MO. EGGS 50¢ EACH. VERY FEW AVAILABLE.
 - Enlisted men NCO 25 + 30¢ ; PVTs 20¢
12. Number of Red Cross parcels received and dates received. NONE RECEIVED IN THIS CAMP. RECEIVED 1 AMERICAN RED CROSS PACKAGE IN THE ENTIRE 42 MONTHS AS A POW. THIS IN 1944 IN (CAMBURI, SIAM) 1 PKG FOR 6 MEN
13. Clothing situation
- What was issued by the Japanese and dates. 1 DUTCH STRAW HAT, 1 PR SHORTS, 1 UNDERSHIRT, 1 PR SHOES (INDIAN) ABOUT SIZE 6 or 7. 1 GREEN JACKET. 28 DEC. 43. THIS ISSUED AT 100 KILO CAMP. BURMA. ALL DUTCH CLOTHING TOO SMALL.
14. How was your treatment? TREATED AS CRIMINALS. WORSE THAN CATTLE OR DOGS. CATTLE WOULD HAVE DIED QUICKER.
15. How was morale? EXCELLENT. ALL THE WAY THROUGH, TYPICAL AMERICANS
16. What were the religious facilities? NONE. NO PADRE IN OUR CAMP. DID NOT HAVE TIME. JAPS WOULD NOT PERMIT SERVICES.
17. Date of departure from this camp? 28. MAY 1943.
18. Number of Americans in this group? ABOUT. 244. 6 HAD DIED.
19. Conditions en route and names of towns through which you passed. WALKED CARRIED EVERYTHING WE POSSESSED EVEN HAD TO CARRY THINGS FOR JAPS. WALKED IN RAIN & MUD. NO TOWNS A FEW NATIVE CAMPS ALONG ROUTE.
20. Destination. 100 KILO CAMP.

ROAD TO MOULMEIN.

JAP
GUARD
HOUSE.

RAILROAD

LATRINE

ALL BLDGS WERE CONSTRUCTED BY
POWS FROM BAMBOO. ROOF WAS ATTAP,
ALWAYS LEAKED. WHEN DRY DIRT WOULD
BLOW. WHEN IT RAINED, WE WERE IN THE
MUD.

BAMBOO DECK.
AMERICANS
DIRT
BAMBOO
SLEEPING SPACE: 6 1/2 ft by 30 inches.

JAP SUPPLY
HOUSE

AMERICANS
DIRT.
AUSTRALIANS.

AUSTRALIANS
DUTCH.

DUTCH.
DUTCH.

KITCHEN

DIRTY CREEK, ←

JAP
KITCHEN

HILL

JAPS LIED ON HILL,

Bangkok

December 29
Tel. no. 468, Bern, Swiss
Consul, Bangkok:

Americans and British put in camp on
December 23. Swiss in contact with camp.

January 12
Tel. no. 58, Vichy
French Foreign Office:

American, British, Dutch interned in school
of Political Science under Thai guard.
Minister and staff are prisoners in
Legation telephone cut, radios confiscated.
Living conditions internees primitive
but fairly comfortable, food scarce but
packages from outside permitted. American
homes occupied by Japanese. American
firms sequestrated by Thai Administration.

January 19
Tel. no. 194-Bern, Swiss
Consul, Bangkok:

Swiss visited internment camp. 36 men,
24 women, 15 children. All well.

February 16
Tel. no. 617, Bern, Swiss
Consul, Bangkok:

Internees given allowance for personal
expenditures out of assets in Thailand.
Medical supplies purchase allowed. Canteen
exists. Food, water satisfactory.

February 28
Tel. no. 811, Bern -Swiss
Consul, Bangkok:

Swiss visited camp February 17. 75 Americans
Conditions about same as previous visit.
Swiss considered visit too short and un-
satisfactory. Complaints not thoroughly
investigated.

May 7
Tel. no. 1926-Bern
Swiss Consul, Bangkok.

Swiss visit internment camp Bangkok: Pay-
ment of 50 stang retroactive from January 30
authorized but not yet made. Pocket money
in accordance with US government instructions
paid by Consulate funds to internees. These
funds satisfactory. First aid stations
established at camp, materials furnished by
Thai Red Cross. No further complaints
of food. Cool water sufficient. Cooking
and washing facilities sufficient. Canteens
satisfactory. Small rooms improvised for
recreations. Health good. Many improvements.

June 16, 1942
Tel. no. 2741-Bern, Swiss
Consul, Bangkok:

Visit by Swiss Consul to int'l internment
Camp Bangkok, June 10. Conference regard-
ing postponement departure of Americans to
June 22. Return of personal property to
Americans completed. Payment of 50 stangs
per day still pending. Health good. Pro-
spective departure main interest.

August 7
Tel. no. 3655-Bern
Swiss Consulate, Bangkok:

Only four Americans remain in Thailand
who have remained well. These are 4 nuns
who are permitted to continue their work.

August 3

Paraphrase of Confidential message.

From: "The Weekly News"
Auckland, New Zealand.
issue of June 3, 1942.

Subject: Australian Prisoners of War
in Rabaul.

Mail bag, containing 400 letters from prisoners of war in Rabaul was dropped from a Japanese bomber during a flight over Port Moresby. This was reported by Omar White, war correspondent of the Sydney Daily Telegraph. The bag contained a neatly type-written message saying: "To: Army Headquarters, Port Moresby."

Message further stated that the Japanese headquarters had granted permission to the prisoners to write to their families in order to relieve their anxiety.

The letters were left unsealed in order to facilitate censorship and Japanese headquarters stated that they hoped that all of the letters would find their way to their respective destinations.

Letters - 300 from Australian soldiers and 100 from civilian prisoners. Each one was limited to a single sheet.

af.- April 10, 1943

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Sections 793 and 794, as amended, the transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

CHECK LIST

1. Date of your arrival at Brenkassey, Thailand.
2. Please state its exact location if possible, or if this cannot be done, please describe its location with reference to other cities or prominent land marks.

203 Kilometers from Banpong up north.

3. When was camp first occupied by prisoners of war? Were the first occupants Americans, British, Dutch or Australians?

About the first of July, 1945. The first occupants were Dutch, and English.

4. Number of Americans in your group and name of senior American officers.

3. No officers.

5. Please give figures on personnel in this camp to the best of your knowledge. Your own group should be included in these figures.

Americans	<u>3</u>	British	<u>20 35</u>
Army	<u>3</u>	Dutch	<u>250</u>
Navy	<u></u>	Australians	<u>15</u>
Marines	<u></u>	Chinese	<u></u>
Civilians	<u></u>	Any other nationality	<u></u>
		Total	<u>about 300</u>

6. Names and titles of Japanese camp officials.

7. Please describe the condition of the following facilities:

a. Housing

1. Number of barracks 5
2. Size of barracks 22 feet wide, 50 or 60 feet long.
and 3 or 4 tents.

3. Type of construction Bamboo

4. Type of roof Leave from some piece of tree

5. Type of floor ground.

6. Type of interior construction Bamboo flat forms

b. Latrines

1. Location about 20 feet from my hut.

2. Type long ditch about 4x15 with bamboo shack over it.

c. Bathing

1. Location about 50 yards from camp.

2. Type Creek.

3. Size large.

d. Mess

1. Type in our huts, at our huts.

2. Amount of food one good Pint of rice. with

one ^{Table} Spoon full of dried fish ground up bones

and all. vegetables about once a week.

3. Preparation We cooked in Y. Johns.

made out of cast iron with rock foundation.

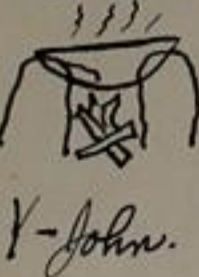
4. Quality No good.

e. Medical attention and type of hospital. We had very little

Medical attention, and know hospital.

f. Size of compound and type of fence

A 10 wire fence. Barb wire about 6 inches apart
at the bottom, and wider at the top.



8. Type of work performed by prisoners of war.

a. Officers Doctors only

b. Enlisted men Big long holes to put the machinery in and lay a loop line for the trains to come in on.

9. What were the working conditions? The did not rush us very much, but some times we had to unload trains at night. because they where scared the bombs would see them in day time.

10. Describe the conditions and restrictions on the sending and receiving of mail.

None sending or receiving of mail.

11. How much were the prisoners of war paid?

a. Officers 30. Bats for 12 month straight time.

b. Enlisted men 25¢-30¢-35¢ a day.

12. Number of Red Cross parcels received and dates received.

None.

13. Clothing situation

a. What was issued by the Japanese and dates.

None

14. How was your treatment?

Not too bad.

15. How was morale?

High.

16. What were the religious facilities?

None.

17. Date of departure from this camp?

August 18, 1945

18. Number of Americans in this group?

3

19. Conditions en route and names of towns through which you passed.

Condition where not had at all we traveled all night. so I didn't know many of the places we went through.

20. Destination. Tamauing.

- There were no camp lay-out it was in the jungle*
21. A rough sketch of the camp's lay-out showing the approximate size of the buildings. Please make sketch on reverse side of check list.
22. Name, rank and address of other officers or enlisted men who can furnish information concerning this prisoner of war camp.

Sarg. R.M. Brown. Jackboro, Texas

Cpt. H. S. Anderson. Jacksonville, North Carolina.

23. Your name, rank, serial number, organization and home address.
- Lester C. Raeburn, Sergeant, 20813715*
2 Bn. Mfg. Btry. 139 H.A.
Decatur, Texas

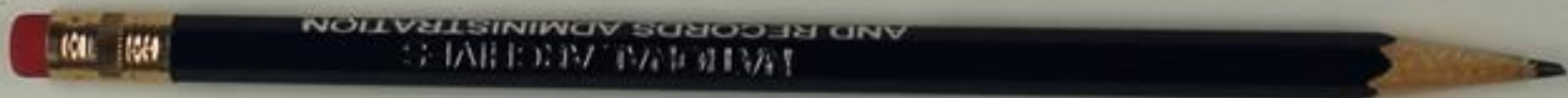
IF THIS FORM DOES NOT CONTAIN SUFFICIENT ROOM USE REVERSE SIDES.

NOTE: Any other information which in your opinion will be of interest to this office should be placed on the reverse side of the check list.

BRENKASSEY, THAILAND

KANBURI, THAILAND — ROW OF BASHAS HUTS

F



KANCHANABURI, THAILAND



Completed and report is
in Camp Book JWG



CHECK LIST

Hospital Camp.

1. Date of your arrival at NONCOMPTON. 30 APR. 44

2. Please state its exact location if possible, or if this cannot be done, please describe its location with reference to other cities or prominent land marks.

3. When was camp first occupied by prisoners of war? Were the first occupants Americans, British, Dutch or Australians? End Jan. 44.

built for 10000 night figure 75000 - Principally Brit Aust. some Dutch.

4. Number of Americans in your group and name of senior American officers. LTJG (CORM) ROGERS and LT HEINAN

65 at most. at first 25 ~~upto~~ to 65. 2 groups. 30 at first 30 Aug. 44.

5. Please give figures on personnel in this camp to the best of your knowledge. Your own group should be included in these figures.

Americans <u>65</u>	British <u>1</u> <u>4000</u>
Army <u>33</u>	Dutch <u>3</u> <u>1000</u>
Navy <u>32</u>	Australians <u>2</u> <u>2500</u>
Marines <u>5</u>	Chinese <u>2</u> <u>Men boys from Houston</u>
Civilians _____	Any other nationality <u>Indians</u>
	<u>75</u>
	Total _____

6. Names and titles of Japanese camp officials. Camp C.O. at 80 was asst Co. at this camp. (WAKIMASSE Phon) Interpreter at 80 Kilo was here but not interpreter. "Jungle Jim" was here.

7. Please describe the condition of the following facilities:

- a. Size of compound and type of fence. ⁽¹⁾ 3 or 400 yds square. Bamboo fence at 1st - Nov. 44 moat 2 metre deep 4 metre wide - dirt embankment ⁽²⁾ Board floors. dirt aisle. 4 metres high. no wire.
- b. Housing
- Number of barracks. 50 Bamboo. some timber at top roof.
 - Size of barracks. 100 metres long - 20 feet wide.

1 kitchen for about 5000.

NAKHON PATHOM, THAILAND

Camp C.O. was Pusa in Boat for last 4 months.
Number of guards. 50? All Koreans with
few exceptions. Jap non-coms.

3. Type of construction

4. Type of roof side matting bamboo La Pala type.

5. Type of floor

6. Type of interior construction Plank 1 foot wide; feet toward center. tables allowed at times. Rank = 3 meters

c. Latrines for Colonel.

1. Location one between every 2 Bbs.

small amount lime. Names - books canteen sold paper.

2. Type Concrete lined pit. wooden covers instead of staks. sides open. hauled out daily.

d. Bathing 3 artesian wells. drilled deep over 100 ft.

1. Location 3 compounds 50 ft square for bathing bamboo

fence. drainage ditch. 2 feet deep. platform to stand on. not too good. Bad smell.

2. Type carried water from well to place

of bathing. Buckets were 5 gal. oil cans. Bamboo

3. Size buckets. Soap went to patients in hospital.

e. Mess

1. Type Kitchen only. wooden tubs carried to huts

by orderlies. Ato at benches.

2. Amount of food Good. Rice & stew - some meat. Carrots

radishes. Okra type - greens from Jap ration (fresh) fish

3. Preparation own personnel - Mess officers & Sgt.

Well supervised

4. Quality Better than average. Food was plentiful

in area.

f. Medical attention and type of hospital. Good Doctors 25 MD.

Engl Aust & Dutch. Jap Dr. held. sick call periodically to determine if man should go back to work camp. Permanent sick camp.

Col. COTES. Aust. Dr. Little Jap med. May 44 R.C. medical

supplies came. Good supply surgical kits. Atabrine. sulphur

sandage. antiseptics.

8. Type of work performed by prisoners of war.

a. Officers Camp maintenance

b. Enlisted men Dug most around camp

9. What were the working conditions? Usual slappings no
brutalities. Trades in town resulted in
brutalities sent on to another camp.

10. Describe the conditions and restrictions on the sending and receiving of mail.

2 cards sent per area. few letters rec'd.

11. How much were the prisoners of war paid?

a. Officers 30 Ticals (Bakt) month.

100 cents to Tical

b. Enlisted men 40-30-20 cent per day, work on most. Cooks etc.
officers always were paid. EM best patients not paid.

Equivalent Rank 60. Tical for Rent & Board.

5-7 eggs = 1 Tical.

Bananas wild = 100 = 1 Tical.

12. Number of Red Cross parcels received and dates received.

1 Parcel to 10 men only once in June or July 44.
Each American rec'd 1 pr. shoes.

13. Clothing situation

a. What was issued by the Japanese and dates.

A few items by Japs
of R.C. clothing & miscellaneous clothes

14. How was your treatment? Fair compared to other camps
since it was a recognized hospital camp.

15. How was morale? Fair - 120 amputations cases. No American nurses.

16. What were the religious facilities? Catholic & Prot Chaplains 3 of each.
1/2 one hut for church. Mass & church regularly.

17. Date of departure from this camp? 25 Jan 45

18. Number of Americans in this group? One

19. Conditions en route and names of towns through which you passed. Crowded
open Kandaia rail car. Some sick in party on stretchers
over trip.

20. Destination. Kaohrun

21. A rough sketch of the camp's lay-out showing the approximate size of the buildings. Please make sketch on reverse side of check list.

22. Name, rank and address of other officers or enlisted men who can furnish information concerning this prisoner of war camp.

Maj Heinan.

23. Your name, rank, serial number, organization and home address.

LEON WILLIAM R 81327 GOOS.

IF THIS FORM DOES NOT CONTAIN SUFFICIENT ROOM USE REVERSE SIDES.

NOTE: Any other information which in your opinion will be of interest to this office should be placed on the reverse side of the check list.

Laash Parker.

KAEHON PATBOM, THAILAND

CHECK LIST

1. Date of your arrival at Thailand

2. Please state its exact location if possible, or if this cannot be done, please describe its location with reference to other cities or prominent land marks. Between Kamburi & Tamuan village. Turn

off highway ^{to right} 4 kilometers out of Tamuan.
Road goes by POW Camp on to Workshops.

3. When was camp first occupied by prisoners of war? Were the first occupants Americans, British, Dutch or Australians? The camp was built by

a group of English POW's. Sometime between
Nov. 1943 & March 1944. They were the first occupants.

4. Number of Americans in your group and name of senior American officers.

There were 10 Americans. No officers.

5. Please give figures on personnel in this camp to the best of your knowledge. Your own group should be included in these figures.

Americans	<u>10</u>	British	<u>APP. 285</u>
Army	<u>7</u>	Dutch	<u>APP. 325</u>
Navy	<u>2</u>	Australians	<u>76</u>
Marines	<u>1</u>	Chinese	<u>0</u>
Civilians	<u>0</u>	Any other nationality	<u>No.</u>
		Total	<u>690 - 705</u>

6. Names and titles of Japanese camp officials. Inhamada - Gunse.

Nomura - Lieut. ~~***~~, Osakata - Lieut ~~***~~ later
Capt. ~~***~~.

7. Please describe the condition of the following facilities:

a. Size of compound and type of fence. APP. 600 X 300 yds.

Woven bamboo fence in solid weave. 8' tall.

b. Housing

1. Number of barracks. Seven for Powl. & Kitchen.

2. Size of barracks. 160' X 25' APP.

3. Type of construction Bamboo Framework, bound together by strippings of bark.
4. Type of roof Bamboo leaves, called Atap.
5. Type of floor Dirt with bamboo sleeping platforms
6. Type of interior construction Dirt corridor with a sleeping platform on either side.

c. Latrines

1. Location Center rear of huts. Distance of about 100 ft.
2. Type Covered Trench. Housed over by bamboo structure

d. Bathing

1. Location Next to latrine.
2. Type Open. Bamboo over drainage ditch. Mosquito heaven.
3. Size 30' X 15'

e. Mess

1. Type Each hut had a bamboo table in rear. Food was brought from kitchen ^{in baskets & cans} and served from baskets and cans on the table.
2. Amount of food varied. Usually short meat and vegetable ration. Rice shortage at times.
3. Preparation Prepared by POW cooks in open sided kitchen.
4. Quality No good.

f. Medical attention and type of hospital. Three English doctors. Short on medical supplies: Quinine, sulfa, bandages, cotton, drugs for dysentery. Hospital of same structure as other huts.

8. Type of work performed by prisoners of war.
- Officers No work most of time. Helped dig a trench surrounding POW huts.
 - Enlisted Men Varied work at work shops nearby. A lot of pick + shovel work.
9. What were the working conditions? Fair. Hours from 8:00 AM to 1:00 P.M. + 3:00 P.M. to 6 P.M. Usually kept pretty busy on the job.
10. Describe the conditions and restrictions on the sending and receiving of mail. In 18 months we were allowed to send 2 printed cards. Not much mail was rec'd.
11. How much were the prisoners of war paid?
- Officers Paid salary after deductions ^(Native) \$20. per mo. _{2 mtd to}
 - Enlisted men Pvts. 25¢ to 50¢, Sgts. 30¢ to 55¢. Only for _{Days worked:}
12. Number of Red Cross parcels received and dates received. 2 - 1 in June 1944, — 1 in Aug. 1945. One in June '44
American Red Cross. Latter one English mostly spotted.
13. Clothing situation
- What was issued by the Japanese and dates. The Japs gave us ^{very few} shorts + shirts. a pair of canvas shoes about every 8 or 10 mos.
14. How was your treatment? Fair. Not so much beating. Some guards were mean, but not too many.
15. How was morale? Good.
16. What were the religious facilities? We were allowed to have church about twice a month.
17. Date of departure from this camp? 22. Aug. 1945
18. Number of Americans in this group? 10
19. Conditions en route and names of towns through which you passed. Tamuan, Bampong, Ratturi; conditions normal for that country.

20. Destination. Pathuri

21. A rough sketch of the camp's lay-out showing the approximate size of the buildings. Please make sketch on reverse side of check list.

22. Name, rank and address of other officers or enlisted men who can furnish information concerning this prisoner of war camp.

Sgt. John W. Lee, 1709 Ave. N. Lubbock, Tex.

Sgt. John C. Hensley; Jacksboro, Tex.

CEM Douglas W. Egelston; Motion Picture Exchange

Marine Island Navy Yard.

23. Your name, rank, serial number, organization and home address.

269728 Charley L. Pryor Jr; Pl. Sgt. US Marine Corps.

home address: 680 Ft. Worth Ave.; Dallas, Texas.

org. Southern Reg. Div; Dist. of Dallas; US Terminal Annex Bldg
Dallas, Texas

IF THIS FORM DOES NOT CONTAIN SUFFICIENT ROOM USE REVERSE SIDES.

NOTE: Any other information which in your opinion will be of interest to this office should be placed on the reverse side of the check list.



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
SOUTHERN RECRUITING DIVISION
HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF DALLAS
U. S. Terminal Annex Building
DALLAS 2, TEXAS

April 24, 1946

Capt. James L. Marwood:

Dear Sir:


I have filled out your check list to the best of my ability.

On the whole conditions in this camp were much better than they were in any other camp we were in. The working conditions and food were the two primary factors in our estimation of a camp. The working hours here were pretty regular, usually from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM then from 3:00 PM to 5:30 or 6:00 PM. Many of the men worked at their civilian trades in these workshops. But when I say the work was not too heavy I am judging it by the scale of work we did elsewhere. You know from interrogation of POW's the Japanese were keen on driving prisoners in their charge. The same is true here at this camp. But the conditions were far ahead of those we encountered on the rail-road in Burma. And as far as food, it was usually sufficient but not very often was there anything to make it appetizing. The Japs usually fed a working man much



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
SOUTHERN RECRUITING DIVISION
HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT OF DALLAS
U. S. Terminal Annex Building
DALLAS 2, TEXAS

better than they did a sick one. And out of the 700 men in our camp, we usually had more than 600 working. That was an exceptionally high average. As a consequence we usually had a bit more food than some other camps.

As for treatment, I believe we treated as fairly as could be expected by the Japs. Some few were prone to bash the prisoners around a bit. This Lieut. Nomura was a mean one. The time he was in charge was the roughest we had. He "bashed" quite a number of us personally. Another guard from the workshops was the "basest" most low bred "b-----d" we ever had. He was a private in the Japanese Army (not Korean). With 2 stars on his rating badge . His name was Okanamura. He was 6' or 6'1" in ht. and weighed around 180. With heavy features especially, lips and lower part of the face. This fellow bashed about 10 men every morning and afternoon. He had some fellows picked out and on no pretext or provocation he would work them over at least once a day. I have turned him in before this and sometime they may catch up with him.

This camp will be easy to locate. The name is Kao-in and that of the workshops was Miami (mee ah mee) Bu Thai. There are no

graves or records here in this camp.

If you should want any information on some of the camps in Burma, I may be able to help you out on some of them. Especially the hospital at 80 Kilo camp. I ~~was~~ the custodian of the graves there in the cemetery. I was the only American up and about at the hospital from the day the Japs sent us there until it was abandoned. And if you need any data on it; I think I can help you a great deal.

Hoping this helps you in your records, I am

Yours respectfully,

Charley L. Pryor Jr.

Pl. Sgt. U.S. M.C.

280 Ft. Worth Ave.

Dallas 8, Texas.



CHECK LIST

1. Date of your arrival at Tamajoe, Thailand. *Dec. 20, 1944 to Aug. 1, 1945*

2. Please state its exact location if possible, or if this cannot be done, please describe its location with reference to other cities or prominent land marks.

Tamajoe^{Railroad} Station is about 337 Kilometers from Bangkok going ~~South~~ North. The camp was 2 Kilometers up the Rail Road from the station. It is nearly 40 K.M. from the line of Burma.

3. When was camp first occupied by prisoners of war? Were the first occupants Americans, British, Dutch or Australians?

The camp was built some time in the early part of 1943. By British P.O. W.'s

4. Number of Americans in your group and name of senior American officers.

There were 8 Americans in this camp. ^{the} But as they would get sick they would go down to the hospital. at the end there were 3 of us.

5. Please give figures on personnel in this camp to the best of your knowledge. Your own group should be included in these figures.

Americans	<u>8</u>	British	<u>about 250</u>
Army	<u>7</u>	Dutch	<u>" 150</u>
Navy	<u>1</u>	Australians	<u>" 50</u>
Marines	<u> </u>	Chinese	<u> </u>
Civilians	<u> </u>	Any other nationality	<u> </u>

Total between 400 and 500

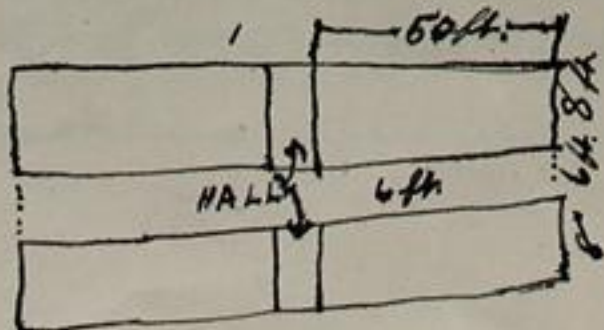
6. Names and titles of Japanese camp officials.

X

7. Please describe the condition of the following facilities:

a. Housing

- Number of barracks *5 for quarters, and one for Hospital*
- Size of barracks *100 ft long. 22 feet long.*



3. Type of construction Bamboo

4. Type of roof Some kind of tree blade put together.
it was called atap.

5. Type of floor The ground.

6. Type of interior construction Platform on each side of hallway. Each man had about 3 feet space to live, sleep, and eat in.

b. Latrines

1. Location Any where from 100 to 300 feet from the huts. No particular place.

2. Type A ditch about 4 feet wide and 10 feet long. 10 feet deep. A bamboo shack over it. Some camps were better than others.

c. Bathing

1. Location Where the creek was located.

2. Type Some times in the creek, and some times out of buckets.

3. Size No set size.

d. Mess

1. Type We had kitchen, but we ate our food on the foot of our huts. or in a shade some where.

2. Amount of food The average I think it would be safe in saying was, about 1 Pint of stoned Rice, with either one piece of fish, or 1/4 Pint of some kind of stew. some times at night we would have a drink.

3. Preparation we had 50 gal drums cut half in to. old buckets. We would take scraps of wood and make containers to cook with.

4. Quality Very poor Equipment. It was stuff that we would make our selves.

e. Medical attention and type of hospital. Very little medical attention. and Bamboo shacks just like what we lived in.

f. Size of compound and type of fence. about 500 feet square.

Bamboo fence.

8. Type of work performed by prisoners of war.

a. Officers Administration work of the Camp and to change of the working details.

b. Enlisted Men Cup wood to run the train on. because they had no Cole.

9. What were the working conditions? We went to work about 9:00 o'clock in the morning and cup wood till we cut 1 cubic meter of wood per man.

and then we could go home. Some times we would finishing about 3 or 4 o'clock.

10. Describe the conditions and restrictions on the sending and receiving of mail.

I only sent 2 Post Cards home. and received 7 letters in Dec 1944.

11. How much were the prisoners of war paid? Thailand Bataan Singapore.

a. Officers Received 30 Bata, Rufon, Dollars.

b. Enlisted men Priv. 25¢, Corp. 30¢, and Serg. 35¢ per day if you worked.

12. Number of Red Cross parcels received and dates received. I received

1/2 of a parcels in May 1944. and one pair of shoes.

13. Clothing situation

a. What was issued by the Japanese and dates. The Japanese issued me

2 Pairs of shorts, 1 Coat, 2 Blankets, 3 T-shirts, one (1) mosquito net, 1 small towel. and that was all Dutch stuff come from Java.

14. How was your treatment? Some Camps where ok, and some was not.

15. How was morale? The ones that let there morale get low did not come back.

16. What were the religious facilities? I only saw one. Chaplain

one Church of England. and if you were the 3rd year I was in there.

17. Date of departure from this camp? August 1, 1944

18. Number of Americans in this group? (3) Three.

19. Conditions en route and names of towns through which you passed. Conditions

where had. We went by train. Cattle cars. about 8 ft. x 25 ft. They would put 20 or 30 in one car. We traveled by night and I didn't know the names of the towns we went through.

20. Destination. 3 K.M. South of Brekasey, and about

one one K.M. in the jungle from the rail road. It was a secret place. They where building a new machine shop.

21. A rough sketch of the camp's lay-out showing the approximate size of the buildings. Please make sketch on reverse side of check list.
22. Name, rank and address of other officers or enlisted men who can furnish information concerning this prisoner of war camp.

Sargent D. M. Brown, Jackshorow, Texas

Pfc. P. L. S. Anderson, Jonesville, N.C.

23. Your name, rank, serial number, organization and home address.

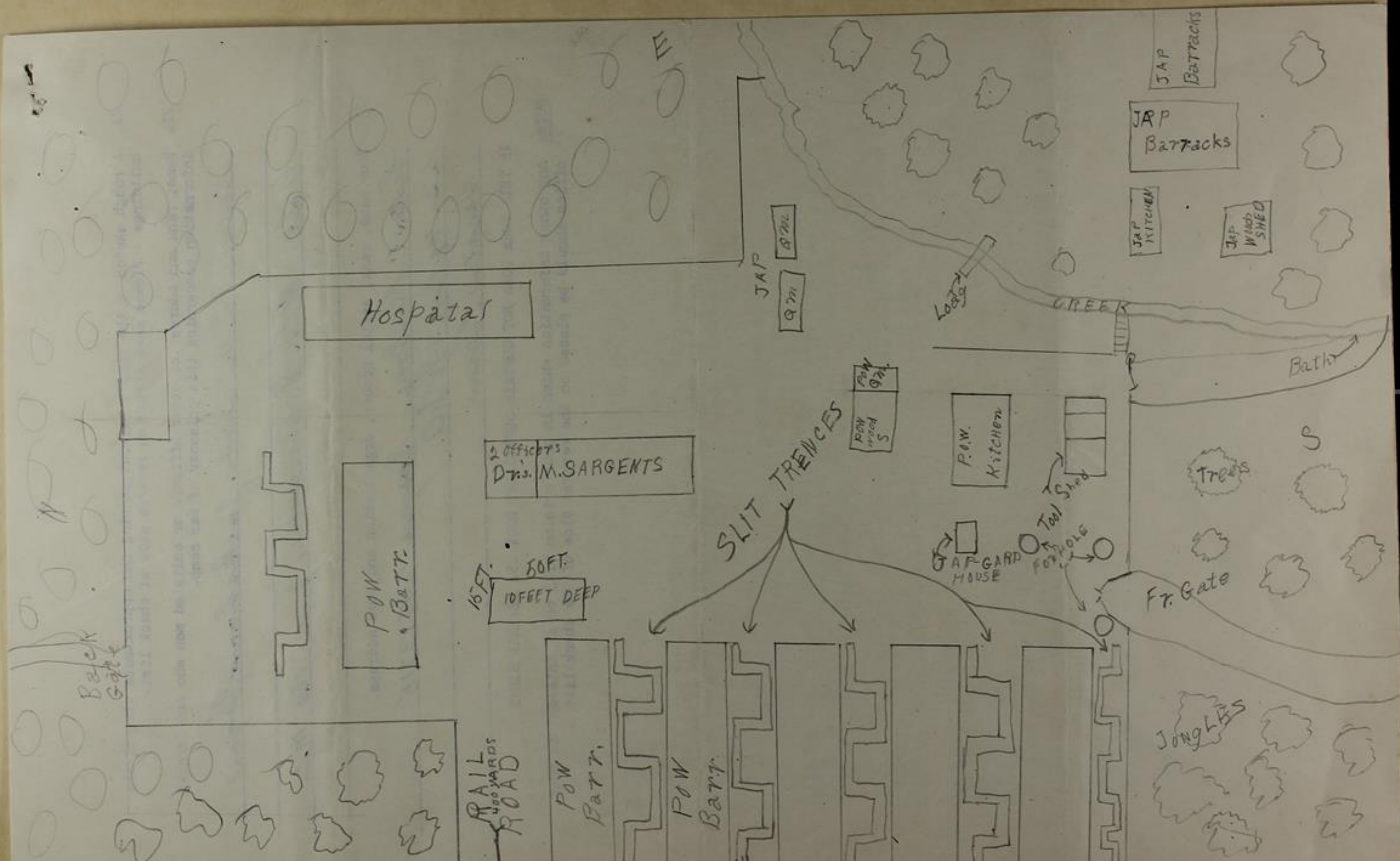
Lester C. Raabony, Sargent, 20813715

2 Bn. Hq. Bn. 131 I.A.

Decatur, Texas.

IF THIS FORM DOES NOT CONTAIN SUFFICIENT ROOM USE REVERSE SIDES.

NOTE: Any other information which in your opinion will be of interest to this office should be placed on the reverse side of the check list.



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JOINT INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE
CHINA BURMA INDIA
CONFIDENTIAL
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Pouch No. _____ SN 385

From JICA/CBI Branch at Chungking, China Date 15 March 1944

Reference _____
(For identification with previous reports)

Source OSS Detachment 202 Evaluation F-3
A-1 to F-0 etc.

Subject THAILAND
BURMA Conditions among Allied Prisoners of War in.
(Nation reported on) (Main title as per index guide)
(Subtitles) (Make separate report for each title)

Brief: Attached is a summary of reports on the conditions prevailing among the Allied prisoners of war from Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies, etc., engaged in building a railway from BANPONG, Thailand, to MOULMEIN, Burma. Between 30,000 and 40,000 British, Australian and Netherlands prisoners are said to be working on this project under Japanese supervision.

It is believed by the undersigned that the "Guillaume" referred to in the prefatory appeal for assistance to Mr. Alf Hassel, the Norwegian Ambassador to China, is Baron Jules Guillaume, until recently Belgian Ambassador to China. Baron Guillaume departed from Chungking at the end of last year for the United States.

V. F. MEISLING
Major, Inf.
Acting Executive
JICA/CBI Branch

(This report consists of cover sheet and 10 pages)
(Space below this line to be filled in by JIRC)

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Conditions Among Allied Prisoners of War

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September 25th, 1943.

Owing to difficulties of communication this report was long delayed.

No improvement in the conditions of the camps has been reported, except for the help sent secretly. At the present time, this help, in cash and medicine, stands at over one hundred and fifty thousand ticals. Some success has been achieved, in one camp dysentery is now being held in check, but owing to weakness and lack of vitamins new diseases are often sent in with urgent requests for the corresponding medicines. Money is hard to find, while the medicines are becoming more expensive. We are very much afraid that they will soon disappear from the market.

On the other hand the Swiss Consul would seem to be on the point of obtaining satisfaction from the Japanese authorities. He plans to send a hundred thousand ticals in kind and cash to the Prisoners of War in Siam. This must be accepted with some reserve as he has been supplied with vague promises and polite phrases for about eight months, and we can not be sure when and if this relief will actually be sent. Further, this sum is an experiment; even if it succeeds we do not know when further sums may be allowed; on the basis of the first shipment, we have reason to believe that it may be many months. Of the supplies sent by the Red Cross to the Far East we have no news from any of the camps with which we are in contact of parcels reaching P.O.W. in Siam. The Japanese have stated that they do not recognize the branch of the Red Cross here or the representative recently appointed, in any official capacity, although he has recognition by the Siamese Government. Any permissions given are temporary concessions.

We appeal again for funds. We feel sure that many lives can be saved and much suffering avoided. The organization is working satisfactorily, we have receipts for all medicines and cash and are only held up for lack of funds.

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His Excellency Monsieur A. Hassel

His Majesty's Norwegian Ambassador to Chungking

Please do what you can for all here.

(Signed)

Guillaume's Friend

For reply please sign your present to Si. G.

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Conditions Among Allied Prisoners of War

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July 26th, 1943.

The British Embassy
Chungking.

The following is a summary of reports on the desperate conditions prevailing among the Prisoners of War from Malaya and the Dutch East Indies, etc., engaged in constructing a railway line from Banpong in Thailand to Moulmein in Burma. They are at least between thirty and forty thousand British, Australian and Dutch prisoners doing this work under the supervision of the Japanese.

A small group of people keep in touch regularly with the British prisoners and are endeavoring to assist with money and medicines the camps within reach of Banpong. It has not yet been possible to contact all the camps owing to the difficulties of travel, but during the last four months money and medicines to the value of Tcs. 50,000 have been sent to camps covering 10,000 to 15,000 men. All this money has been received as also the medicines, and receipts signed by senior officers, or by others acting on their behalf, have been obtained.

It would be impossible to over emphasize the terrible conditions under which these men have to work in jungle country notorious as some of the worst in Thailand, and an especially bad malarial area. We give below, some extracts from notes we have received, all of which have been smuggled from camps with which this organization have been in contact. We do not give the names of the camps and officers concerned for fear of reprisals if this memorandum should go astray.

One Camp, April 7th, 1943. "I understand that it may be possible to obtain some medical supplies for us. We have 1,500 men here and practically no dressings at all. Occasionally we get a minute issue, quite inadequate, and occasionally we buy a few odds and ends from barges. I give below a list of things we want. If any could be supplied, however small, or alternatives we would be eternally grateful."

We were unable to assist this camp immediately owing to lack of funds and the following second appeal was received recently. "We are at present at ---- (words illegible) of hospital supplies of all sorts to support the numerous and sick who receive no pay at all. It would be very helpful if you could help us either in cash or kind. P.S. The Imperial Japanese Army are very much behind with pay." In response to this appeal we have now sent Tcs. 5,000 and have medicines ready for despatch.

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A Second Camp, April 20th, 1943. "As intimated in our last letter this camp has been turned into a base hospital and convalescent home, receiving patients from the up-river camps. At the moment there are some 4,000 sick men here of whom a number are seriously ill. Money is required for food, etc., to supplement the meagre Japanese rations, and the Tcs. 2,000 which are to arrive here shortly will be most useful, particularly as the concession whereby officers could use their bank balances to aid the hospital has been withdrawn, and which has had the effect of depriving the hospital of about Tcs. 5,000 monthly." (The note went on with a list of drugs urgently required, most of which have since been supplied, and ended up with the following --) "emetine and morphia are of paramount importance as men are dying for want of the former and dying in pain for lack of the latter."

May 27th, 1943. "At the time of writing seriously sick number about 800 and slightly sick, convalescent and chronically ill number about 5,000. During the past six months we have had 161 deaths of which 92 have died during the last two months, or since the camp was turned into a base hospital." The above information was given at our request.

June 18th, 1943. (In a note acknowledging medicines and Tcs. 7000 in cash) "Death rate now about 1/4 a day." The above, of course, refers to this particular camp only.

A Third Camp, April 7th, 1943. "Supplies of medical equipment are totally inadequate. A tremendous loss of malaria has caused anaemia, debility and prolonged illness. The incidence of dysentery is very high. There are a lot of vitamin deficiencies. The whole of B complex and undernourishment due to lack of proteins and no resistance to infection. We are most of us near the border line. There has been a lot of diphtheria and an insignificant amount of serum provided. A lot of skin diseases due to overcrowding and shortage of clothing. Accomodation is very bad. We cannot thank you enough - your kindness has made a great difference."

We would stress that all the above information has been asked for by us with a view to placing it in the right quarter, and we have little doubt that our informers could paint a very much worse picture and have exercised considerable restraint.

A Fourth Camp, June 11th, 1943. "There are 1730 sick men in this camp; 28 died during the last month. We have no money and the men do not receive pay. We are urgently in need of money for food and medicines. The amount of money required by this camp is Tc. 4,000 per month. We should be very grateful for any help."

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Tcs. 5,000 have been sent to this camp and medicines will follow shortly.

The foregoing is only a small proportion of the information which has reached us. There are numerous cases of tropical ulcers with nothing more for a dressing than oil and a banana leaf. Many reports that clothing is reduced to little more than a loin cloth, of men marching ten days through the jungle with food consisting only of rice and dried fish, with no opportunity to wash and no shelter at night.

Now the position is this. Although it is over a year since the first camps were started, the Red Cross and the Swiss Consulate, acting on behalf of the British Government, have, in spite of all efforts, been unable to make contact officially. They have therefore been unable to assist with cash and medicines which they have at their disposal.

The most urgent need is money and this takes priority over everything else. It is required chiefly to buy extra food for the sick. Medicines are the other main need and clothing, including footwear.

A minimum of fifty thousand ticals is needed monthly. Once the men are properly fed resistance to infection will be stronger and the need of medicines reduced. This will increase the possibilities as medical supplies are running short; being controlled by the local Government, they have to be bought in the black market and are very expensive. So far approximately Tcs. 70,000 have been borrowed, mostly from the Chinese and guaranteed on their own initiative and private funds by the group of people referred to in the second paragraph. This guarantee is for repayment after the war in sterling at Tc. 1/- to 1/6 d. So far it is based on the personal fortunes of those concerned, who are now at the end of their resources as they have little money in the country and live on their salaries only. This group knows that the money can only be raised through the help of the Chinese and to this end appeal to the Chinese Government. The suggestion is that the cash could be found among their adherents in Thailand, these agents to be covered financially by their own government, which in turn could be covered by the British Government. Although there is plenty of money available and many Chinese are anxious to help, also to cover themselves on the exchange, they are frightened for political reasons and reluctant to accept now that the guarantees offered are no longer completely sound. If the above suggestion is impracticable it would strengthen the position if the British Embassy in Chungking, or the Red Cross, could give some assurance that they will recognize the aid that is being sent to P.O.W. and for which proper proof is brought forward at the end of the war. It has been emphasized in every case that the money, etc., should be administered by a senior officer for the benefit of all concerned, and assurances have been received.

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We hope that a good deal of the above information may already be in the hands of the British Government. Unfortunately it is not possible to deal with the local representative officially, and in view of his position he cannot help unofficially; if anything became public his position would be untenable; this is fully appreciated. Further an official Red Cross Representative has been appointed recently, but he can do nothing without the cooperation of the Japanese Military authorities. It is greatly to be feared that this will not be forthcoming. The situation may be summed up in a conversation of a Japanese officer with a neutral Consul while talking about the fall of Attu Island "Our men fought to the end; if the enemy did as much there would be no trouble about Prisoners of War."

Would you please do everything to help this group and through them the men who are leading this terrible existence. The matter is urgent. It seems almost impossible to do anything official though efforts are being made. In the meantime the group will continue to give all help possible.

P.S. Since writing the above the attached report has come to hand. Conditions seem to have gone from bad to worse, and it is believed that one of the reasons is that the railway is behind schedule and the Japanese responsible are being pressed from higher up.

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July, 1943.

Information to be passed on to the Geneva Red Cross,
British Red Cross and the Vatican.

The following are the experiences and personal observations of one of the medical officers on the river:-

"At a working camp in the jungle near Tonchang a serious outbreak of cholera has taken place following the arrival of numerous Tamils, Malays and Chinese. Up to the present there have been 190 cases among the British and Dutch Prisoners of whom 105 have died. The medical facilities for the treatment of these cases is really pathetic. Those stricken with cholera are placed on rice bag stretchers and left to lie on the ground in tents which leak badly. The Japanese have provided practically no drugs with which to treat these unfortunate men. Through lack of containers the men are forced to vomit and pass stools on the ground and they are so overcrowded that they frequently vomit over each other.

We have frequently asked the Japanese for Saline for intravenous treatment, but this has not been forthcoming. With the aid of some copper and rubber tubing we have made an apparatus for making distilled water, and although aseptic precautions can not be obtained under our insanitary conditions, we have managed to give intravenous saline injections which have undoubtedly saved a number of lives.

Owing to the Japanese not allowing sufficient orderlies and grave diggers, men who have died have had to be buried in communal graves with Tamils, etc. The mortality among the Asiatics has been very high, and the Japanese have forced our Attend C men to leave their sick beds and dig graves and bury the dead, not only our own but all nationalities.

In Konyu a serious outbreak of cholera has occurred and out of 500 men 200 have contracted the disease, resulting to the present in 125 deaths. Facilities for intravenous treatment were non-existent in this camp, but a large number of lives was undoubtedly saved by the liberal use of M & B 693 in the milder cases. All M & B 693 is now finished.

The men in this camp moved up from Changi, Singapore about two months ago and up to the present they have had no meat in their diet, which has consisted of rice and a very meagre supply of vegetables.

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The same conditions prevail in a nearby Australian camp. The men have been up-river for four months and out of approx. 500 their present strength is about 300. They have lost a number of men due to cholera, but mostly from dysentery, avitaminosis particularly beri-beri, malaria, and black-water fever.

In another camp in the Kanyu area they have, for several months past, averaged 91 deaths a month, mostly from the above mentioned diseases.

The morale of the prisoners on the river is, on the whole pitiful to see. Quite a few have gone insane and other unfortunate men are so weak that they are mere skeletons and have hardly enough strength to go to the latrines.

Owing to the density of the jungle and the small space allowed by the Japanese, the latrines are in some cases within fifteen feet of the cook house.

In this particular area Tamils and Chinese live among our men. The habit of these Asiatics is to spit and pass stools where they may be, and they strew swill all over the place; as you can well imagine the smell is like a cesspool, not to mention the hordes of flies which are bred as a result.

In another camp near Tonchang 400 men were without a medical officer. They were not allowed by the Japs in charge to have any sick, and if any man claimed he was too sick to work, he was taken out by the Jap squad, made to run up and down, do "press-ups" and then beaten up and sent out on the railway.

Instances have occurred not only in this camp but also other areas, where men have been taken out to work at 8 a.m. and have not returned until 3 a.m. on the following morning. Periodically Japanese privates, or some other person in charge, with absolutely no medical knowledge have examined the men pronounced sick by a competent doctor, have beaten up as many as three quarters of them and then sent them out to work. In one instance to my knowledge a man who was very sick was thrown into the river and then made to work. The man was suffering badly from anaemic dysentery and died a week later.

The men have come to accept corporal punishment for the most minor offence as a matter of fact. They are often beaten up, often with deleterious effects on their health. One man died recently in Tasao following being beaten with a bamboo pole and laid unconscious on the ground. The japs then jumped on his back fracturing two ribs.

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Deaths are a daily occurrence, and at this and other camps on the river the average is 3 per day from maltreatment and dysentery alone.

The men lack clothing, particularly shorts and boots, and the Japs have sent men out to work with no boots. The food is quite inadequate for the heavy manual labour which has to be performed, and scientifically completely unbalanced as regards proteins, fats, and vitamins.

Amoebic dysentery is rife among us and we have not the required drug, namely emetine, for its treatment. Small supplies have been purchased from the Thai at a price of Tcs. 25.- per grain. It takes 12 grains to effect a cure and money is very limited and consequently many have died through lack of treatment.

On the whole the physical condition of the men is pitiful. Many have no desire to live and lose all interest in their surroundings. At the present moment I reckon that not 10% of the men on this river can be regarded as fit for the job. In spite of this we are bullied into these long and arduous hours, and our latest misfortune is that 1,500 of us will have to shortly go up to the Thai-Burma border for heavy and rushed work on the railway. We can not find more than 200 men who can be said to be fit for the job. These, together with sick who will have to make up the balance of 1,500, will have a ten day march to their destination carrying their own kits, cooking utensils, tents, and the Jap equipment, and I fear a heavy mortality will result.

As far as I can ascertain, the mortality on the river is already about 4,000 and the rate of sickness and death is rising rapidly.

Drugs supplied by the Japs are very meagre and we are in urgent need of large supplies of Vit B1, Nicotine Acid, Vit. D and C, Emetine Hydrochlor, M & B 693, and Sulphanilamides of all types, Sulphur Ointment (we are all suffering from scabies), antiseptics such as Lysol, Acriflavine, Hydrang Perchloride (?) and Mercurochrome, Bismuth, Calcium Carbonate, Magnesium Trisilicate (?) and Kaolin.

We need also Yatren, Stovarsol, Lint Bandages, Gauze and Iodine.

The above are just the experiences of one M.O. on the river. He has had to carry out emergency operations and owing

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to lack of instruments had had to use a cut-throat razor as a knife. Other stations are experiencing the same appalling conditions and even worse.

All men are in urgent need of a complete rest, good food and adequate drugs, but I fear that many have gone down the hill so far that they can never recover and must eventually die.

We pray daily that our plight and the information given above may reach the proper authority and that something will be done to alleviate our misery.

The British and Dutch Prisoners of War in
Thailand.

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