

SITUATED AT  
OHASHI Map Ref. 881-1850 (Central Japan 1/350,000).

1. Investigation was carried out on 23/28 Sep 1945.  
2. The following Japanese Officials and civilians were interviewed.

1st. Lt. YOSHIDA ZENKICHI	-----	Prison commandant at termination of hostilities.
1st. Lt. INAKI MAKATO	-----	A previous commandant.
Serg. Maj. NEKO ZENZO	-----	On Medical staff of No. 4 Camp throughout, except the period 26/5/45 to 27/8/45.
IWASHITA HIROE	-----	CLERK employed by KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO. and appointed to look after the affairs of PWs who were employed by this firm.
R. NAGATA.	-----	President of HITTO & CO. and employers of PWs through KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO.
OGURA SUSUMO	-----	Manager in charge of work KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO.
WATANABE SUEKITI	-----	Doctor at KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO.

3. DOCUMENTS ETC. The following listed below are submitted herein.
- |                          |           |   |
|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| <u>FROM NO. 4. CAMP.</u> | INCL. 1.  | List of 190 PWs from Java via Tokyo.                              |
|                          | " 2.      | Reports of Dutch PWs who died at No 4 Camp.                       |
|                          | " 3.      | List of PWs as at APR. 1945.                                      |
|                          | " 4.      | Return of PWs as at 4 Sep. 1945.                                  |
|                          | " 5.      | List of PWs <del>sent</del> sent to MORIOKA HOSPITAL in Aug 1945. |
|                          | " 6.      | List of 46 PWs sent to Tokyo for release.                         |
|                          | " 7.      | Copy of document signed by PW Officers re commandant.             |
|                          | " 8.      | Receipt for 7 PW ashes.   |
|                          | " 9.      | Plan of No. 4 Camp OHASHI.  |
|                          | " 10.     | Packet of photographs in connection with Camp.                    |
|                          | " 11.     | Envelope (A) contains documents found in Camp.                    |
|                          | " 12.     | Envelope (B) contains documents etc found in Camp.                |
|                          |           | <u>From KASHI VILLAGE MASTER.</u>                                 |
|                          | INCL. 13. | Authorities for disposal of bodies.                               |
|                          |           | <u>From KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO.</u>                              |
|                          | INCL. 14. | PW Regulations.   |
|                          | " 15.     | "   |
|                          | " 16.     | "   |
|                          | " 17.     | "   |
|                          | " 18.     | Documents re Pw's employment.                                     |
|                          | " 19.     | File re PW's employment.  |
|                          | " 20.     | File re PWs.  |

NOTE: INCLs 11, 12, and 14/20 with Copy No. 1 only.

The Camp was previously under control of Tokyo and prior to that HOKADATE and accordingly was known as the following:

30 Nov 1942 to 30 Apr 44 HOKADATE PW CAMP NO.2.

31 Apr 1944 to 7 Apr 45 TOKYO PW CAMP NO.6.

As from 8 Apr 1945 SENDAI PW CAMP NO.4.

At the termination of each of the above periods nearly all records were sent to the body relinquishing control and for the first two periods, the present Commandant having officiated for the last four months only, the greater part of information regarding movement and interchange of PWs was given from memory and is without substantiation. This, however, should be available at the Camp Hqs referred to.

5. COMMANDANTS.

Since its inception on 30 Nov 1942 the following have been in command of the Camp.

30 Nov 1942 to 30 Apr 1944. 1st. Lt. NAGANUMA MASAKI (thought to be now at HOKADATE)

31 Apr 1944 to 30 Jul 1944. 1st. Lt. INAKI MAKATO (present Commandant of SENDAI PW Camp No. 5, KAMAISHI)

30 Jul 1944 to 26 Apr 1945. 2nd. Lt. KAWABE HAGAYASU (thought to be at HQ PW CAMP BUREAU TOKYO).

As from 27 Apr. 1945. 1st. Lt. YOSHIDA ZENKICHI.

6. LOCATION OF CAMP.

30 Nov. 1942 to 1 Apr. 1943. Proximity KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO. Map ref. 877-1855. These were temporary quarters pending erection of present building.

As from 1 Apr. 1943. OHASHI VILLAGE Ref. 881-1850.

7. MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

From documentary and verbal evidence the following are all particulars available regarding change of Prisoner of War personnel.

a. On 30 Nov 1942 the first PWs comprising 300 personnel from JAVA via TOKYO arrived. 190 are listed as per INCL 1 but the remaining 10 who died shortly afterwards are omitted. They are however recorded under INCL 2 together with 3 other deaths which took place at this Camp.

b. During April 1943, 39 PWs arrived from HOKKODATE and 39 were sent to that place in return. All the records were sent to HOKKODATE.

c. In Jun or Jul 1943 the following 3 American personnel arrived from ZENTSUJI:

Lt. jg EPPLEY, James E. (navy).

PhM3/C BERRY, Bryan Webster 3625320 (navy)

PhM1/C COFFIELD, Rolland (navy).

d. On 30 Aug 1943 Pfc ELVY, Stanley (Brit RAF) escaped but was recaptured the same day and taken to HOKKODATE where he was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. In May 1944 he died from Pneumonia whilst in a civil prison.

e. In October 1943, 38 PWS including, it is thought, the following 29 shown under INCL 1 were sent to HOKKODATE:

EWING, John A.  
HOUIS, Howard Curtis.  
KNIGHT, Douglas Franklin.  
DALEY, Michael Joseph.  
HOOPER, Marin W.  
MAVISTA, Arton.  
CERRUTS, Julines Elmer.  
GILLELAND, Jesse Paul.  
ROSE, Suy Michel.  
BLAKE, Bernard.  
BEALES, Ray Stanley.  
WELCH, William.  
TAN, Kak Yen.  
LANFORD, Alfred.  
GEORGE, Fred Anthony.  
LEE, Clarence James.  
SNELLEBRAND, Pieper Cornelis.  
WAAS Leo Vander.  
PHILIPPO, Jr. Jan.  
STAVERS, Duncan Francis.  
BERGMANS, Anton Edward.  
SCHRIJVER, Herman.  
VERSIGNY, Eugene Henri.  
MEIJERS Henrick Frederick.  
LENTZE, Franc.  
VORST, Jean Alexander Edward.  
PECHLER, Leonard Ascar.  
TIT, Frederick Mases.  
VERBECK, Andreas Joseph Johannes.

On the same day two men were sent to TOKYO.

f. In Jan 1944, 51 PWS arrived from MURURAN a town in HOKKAIDO. Records were sent to HOKKODATE.

g. In Mar 1944, Lt. TUCKER (American) and 5 enlisted men arrived from Philippine Is.

h. In Mar 1944, the following Officers (8) were sent to HAKODATE.

AMERICAN, --- Smith, Travis Joel.

May, Earl Vincent.

Shaw, Kenneth Leigh.

AUSTRALIAN, --- Campbell, Edward.

Vowles, Cecil Victor.

DUTCH, ----- Van Well Groeneveld, Johannes

Marrinus.

Haininga, Obbo Hendrick.

Leent, Frederik Johan.

i. On 13 Jun 1944 Feenstra, Klaas (Dutch) who was unsuccessfully operated on by Dr. Lt. Eppley (American Navy) and a Japanese local doctor TATEDA RYOSHIRO for Sarcoma, was sent to Tokyo Shina-gawa Hospital for PWS., where it is reported to have died on 17 Feb 1945.

j. On 31 Mar 1945, 300 PWS arrived from KAWASAKI -all records sent to Tokyo.

k. In Aug 1945, 34 patients and 6 PW Medical personnel were sent to MORIOKA Military Hospital.

- to Occupational Forces TOKYO.
- m. On 9 Sep. 1945, 9 PW were taken to YOKAHAMA by Capt. SATOTADASHI HQPW BUREAU and handed over to American Hospital Ship.
- n. This leaves 319 PWs who were taken over by Maj. SEITZ, 8th. U. S. ARMY. A receipt was given but this has been forwarded to HQ SENDAI PW BUREAU.

8. DISTINGUISHING SIGNS AND PROXIMITY TO MILITARY OBJECTIVES.

In either sites the camp was not lit up at night and there were no recognisable sign by which the camps could be recognised by Allied Aircraft.

The temporary Camp was previously a building in the Iron Mines Area now used to house Korean workers.

The latter camp is on the main road and close between two railway lines.

The only air raid shelter at the latter was an open trench-capacity about 25 men.

9.

DEATHS.

(a) From Natural Causes.

<u>DATE.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>NATIONALITY</u>	<u>CAUSE.</u>
4Dec1943.	Pvt. WETTERS, August V.H.	Dutch.	Colinitis or Colitis.
7Dec1943	1st. Pvt. REES, Thomash.	British.	" & undernourishment
"	L. A. C. NOBLE, Austin Black.	"	Pneumonia, Collinitis collitis & Undernourishment
"	2nd. Pvt. PFAPP, Gustaaf A.	Dutch.	Collinitis, collitis & undernourishment
"	2nd. Pvt. OGILVIE, Rudolph A.	"	"
19Dec1943	W. O. SEIDLE, Alfred G.	American.	Pneumonia.
"	W. O. S FANGHOR, Gene.	"	" & ?
"	2nd. Pvt. VAN HEYMANS, A. B.	Dutch.	Pneumonia & under nourishment.
20Dec1943	2nd. Pvt. STENFERT, Julien H.	"	Pneumonia & ?
30Dec1943	2nd. Pvt. MARTHERUS, Rudolph.	"	Peritonitis and Pneumonia.
13Jul1943	L/Cpl. MARRALL, Leslie.	British.	Chronic Diashorrea.
9 Aug1943	L. A. C. JACKSON, Harry.	"	"
8Jan1944	2nd. Pvt. HILLING, Jacoben A. A.	Dutch	Pneumonia.

(b) FROM ALLIED ACTION - Nil.

10.

DISPOSAL OF BODIES. ---- In the cemetery about 3/4 miles EAST of the camp were found graves of the following:

L. A. C. NOBLE.  
 W. O. SEIDLE.  
 W. O. FANGHOR.  
 PVT. VAN HEYMANS.  
 PVT. STENFERT.  
 PVT. MARTHERUS.

These all bore crosses and it was explained that the original crosses were rotted and replaced.

IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF 15 AUGUST 1945  
RE: THE REMAINDER OF THE BODIES WERE CREMATED, THE REASON GIVEN BEING  
THAT THESE ALL DIED OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES. AS CAN BE SEEN FROM PARA 9  
THIS IS ABSURD AND IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE MAJORITY OF DEATHS  
WERE SO CLOSE TOGETHER (10 IN DEC. INCLUDING 4 ON THE ANNIVERSARY  
OF PEARL HARBOR). THIS MATTER APPEARS ONE TO BE TREATED WITH SUS-  
PICION AND CALLS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION. CREMATION WAS CARRIED  
OUT AT THE DISTRICT CREMATORIUM SITUATED 200 YARDS SOUTH OF THE ROAD  
(MAP REF. 380-1851) AND THE ASHES WERE BURIED IN THE CEMETERY. ON  
22 OR 23 AUG 1945 THESE WERE DUG UP AND SENT TO TOKYO. NO INFOR-  
MATION CAN BE GAINED AS TO WHAT HAPPENED TO IDENTITY DISCS BUT IT  
IS THOUGHT THAT THEY WERE PROBABLY SENT TO TOKYO WITH DECEASED'S  
EFFECTS. INCL 10 INCLUDES PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE GRAVES, INCLUDING  
THREE OLD CROSSES WHICH HAD BEEN REPLACED, AND THE CREMATORIUM.  
THE LATTER IS IN A STATE OF RUIN, THE WOODEN EDIFICE HAVING BEEN  
USED FOR FUEL FOR THE FURNACE AND THE BRICKS HAVING BEEN BROKEN  
DOWN. IT WAS EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS IN GOOD ORDER WHEN THESE MEN WERE  
CREMATED.

#### 11. MEDICAL FACILITIES AND HEALTH.

According to evidence the first lot of prisoners which arrived were in very poor condition mainly suffering from malnutrition and Beri-Beri. The Medical Staff at that time comprised:

- 1 Medical Officer from MARIOKA (Part time only).
- 1 Sgt.
- 2 Pvts.
- 5 Nurses.

These were assisted by 10 PWS who had had medical experience and it appears that the Doctor of the KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO. HOSPITAL devoted a considerable amount of time to the patients. At this time it is stated that nearly half of the prisoners were very ill and confined to bed. The Mining Co's doctor WATANABE SUEKITI stated that he recommended that at least 40 of the PWS be sent to the Hospital. The Commandant however declined to do this on the grounds that the only hospital available was the KAMAISHI civil Hospital and that it would be inconvenient for them not being able to speak Japanese. It is stated that extra rations and Vitamin B preparations were given to prisoners and milk and eggs supplied to the patients. By March 1943 all PWS who had arrived were restored to good health.

#### 12. WELFARE.

(a). FOOD- Normal ration scale (daily)

RICE or equivalent of beans, barley or flour  
705 grams.

FRESH VEGETABLES limited but small quantity

each day.

FRESH BEEF almost every day according to supplies available.

SUGAR small quantity only issued twice per month.

SALT supplies not sufficient.

TEA could be bought by PWS - about 1/4 lb - 90 sen to 1.30 yen.

(b). CLOTHING AND BEDDING.

PWS issued with winter coats and overcoats  
1 straw mat and 3 quilts were supplied and there were also a few blankets.

(c). ACCOMMODATION.

This appears to have been sufficient (see Inc19).

(d). TOBACCO AND CIGARETTES.

Issued by Army according to supplies available. In addition at times the PWs were able to purchase cigarettes at 35 yen per packet.

(e). CORRESPONDENCE.

Unreasonable limitations. One letter or one card per month. Further letters had to be written on a certain form and as during the last four months, owing to paper shortage no forms were available, letter writing was eliminated completely.

13. EMPLOYMENT.

PWs were for the main part employed by KAMAISHI IRON MINING CO. Rates of pay 1 Yen to 1.35 per day but most of this went to Japanese Govt. for Provision of clothing and food.

e.g. 1 man worked 28 days at 1.15 Yen per day=32.20 Yen. Of this the man received 8.40 Yen and the Japanese Govt. 23.80Yen.

It was stated that there was no penalty for refusal to work but there no refusals throughout. Compensation for injuries was paid at the same rate. There were no deaths in the course of employment. Rest days three per month. Time worked 8 hrs. per day in Mine and 9 hrs. per day in Machine factory including 1 hour per day rest. Work was largely on the shift system. For periods of ten days per month NITTO & CO. Charcoal Manufacturers hired PWs from the Mining CO. For this the Mining Co. was paid 2 Yen per man per day.

14. GENERAL.

It is emphasized that the foregoing information is mostly from verbal evidence and therefore cannot be considered as accurate without further substantiation. The investigation <sup>Reserve!</sup> were at a decided disadvantage in that they arrived after the PWs had been released. The evidence of one man only, who had been with the camp since its inception would be invaluable and clear many if not all of the doubtful points. It would appear that at the latter end of hostilities conditions for PWs were fairly satisfactory but in the earlier stages they may have been subject to very great hardships and as may be seen there are several suspicious incidents. No satisfactory explanations could be obtained as to why 4 men were cremated whilst 6 who died, about the same time, were buried. It was stated that, under pressure, at the termination of hostilities a number of camp documents were burned these being considered to be of no further use. The question arises - why then were others kept? Many other documents are reported to have been forwarded to H/Qrs and it is recommended that immediate steps be taken to obtain these. Evidence of a reliable nature was never at any time easily derived and time and time again was found to be contradictory or conflicting. It was only after hours of tedious ~~hours~~ questioning cross-examination even necessitating recourse to bullying and threats of trial as War Criminals before being satisfied that truthful information was being given. It is considered that the account as outlined is now fairly reliable but it is again strongly recommended that the whole matter be taken further and that particularly, additional evidence be taken from ex PWs.

LIST OF SENDAI NO. IV CAMPS 1945

CAMP No.	NATIONALITY	PARTS CHANGE	OFFICER				OTHER RANKS				CIVILIAN	SUM TOTAL	Patient IN Morioka Hospital	REMARKS
			A	N	AF	Total	A	N	AF	Total				
No. IV	AMERICAN	AT FIRST No.	3	3	/	6	17	17	/	34	/	40	1	Dr. 2 Incl M.O. 3
		DIED No.	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
		Present No.	3	3	/	6	17	17	/	34	/	40		
	BRITISH	AT FIRST No.	/	/	/	/	6	/	50	56	/	56	3	/
		DIED No.	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
		Present No.	/	/	/	/	6	/	50	56	/	56		
	CANADIAN	AT FIRST No.	/	/	/	/	198	/	/	198	/	198	18	M.O. 1
		DIED No.	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
		Present No.	/	/	/	/	198	/	/	198	/	198		

No. IV	DUTCH	AT FIRST No.	/	/	/	/	88	5	/	93	/	93	2	M.O. 1
		DIED No.	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
		Present No.	/	/	/	/	88	5	/	93	/	93		
	AUSTRALIAN	AT FIRST No.	/	/	/	/	4	2	2	8	/	8	/	/
		DIED No.	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
		PRESENT No.	/	/	/	/	4	2	2	8	/	8		
SUM TOTAL	AT FIRST No.	3	3	/	6	313	24	52	389	/	395	24 (IN MORI- OKA HOS- PITAL)	Dr. 1 M.O. 5 (IN MORIYOKA HOSPITAL)	
	DIED No.	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/			
	PRESENT No.	3	3	/	6	313	24	52	389	/	395			