

RECOVERY TEAM NO.56  
HQ.AMER.DIV.ARTY  
APO 716

23 September 1945

SUBJECT: Report of Recovery Team 56

TO :HQ,XI Corps  
APO 471  
Attention: Recovered Personnel Det.

1. Report on Ofuna POW Camp:

a. Location- One (1) Km. Northwest of Ofuna RR Station in the Kanagawa Prefecture. Coordinates 656-1380 on Central Honshu Map, scale-1/50,000. Ofuna POW Camp is a branch of Tokyo Internment Camp ( Omori ). It is known as the Ofuna Detachment of the Tokyo Internment Camp. It is a Naval POW Camp and as far as known the only one in Japan.

b. Description of camp: The camp is located in the site of a former School House and was opened the 7th April 1942. The buildings that are there were built with the intention of housing Prisoners of War. The buildings are built on the same order as an American Army Hospital Camp in so far as the buildings are all connected to each other. The buildings are of unpainted wood roofed with tar paper. There are 90 private rooms in the building they are approximately 6 feet wide and 9 feet long. One of the small rooms is devoted to a dispensary. There are two latrines in the camp and a shower room. There is also one large room for the Japanese guards. There is one kitchen and adjoining storage spaces. There is also a room for the Japanese Naval Commander, a non com's room and a small orderly room. There were facilities for electric lights in each room but no facilities for heating. The medical supplies were inadequate, besides a few Japanese first aid kits and assorted items, the only medical supplies were those dropped by American Planes. Before the POW left the camp food and medical supplies were dropped by B-29's. 14 drums were counted as having been dropped. The camp is 75 yards long and 68 yards wide and surrounded by a board fence 8 feet high.

The camp is believed to have been used as an interrogation center and records were found to show that various transfers of POW's were made to Tokyo Internment Omori. Japanese personnel guarding the camp consisted of 1 Japanese Naval Lt. Jida Kakazo, who was Commander of the camp, 1 NCO and 11 Japanese seamen.

## 2. Records found

- a. Japanese list of deaths in the camp and place of burial.
- b. Roster of Ashes of deceased Prisoners of War.
- c. Certificates of transfer of American and Allied Prisoners of War.
- d. Japanese records of the Prisoners of war in Ofuna camp after Aug. 1944
- e. Japanese records of receipts for food delivered to Ofuna Camp.
- f. Assortment of Papers with names on them.

## Deaths in the camp-

In checking records it was found that 6 men died in Ofuna camp. They are:

1. Lt. (jg) Richard L. Hunt

Died, 25 Feb. 1945

Born, 23 Dec. 1921

It was found that when he was brought to the camp he was bandaged from head to foot. This condition was due to burns when the B-29 he was in crashed.

He started to receive treatment in the camp 17 Jan. 1945

2. Lt. (jg) William Zeimer (not positive on spelling of name)

Died 2 Aug. 1945

Cause-malnutrition

Born- 1921

Got sick-1 April 1945

Was attached to Aircraft Carrier Enterprise

3. Lt. (jg) Emel W. Norman

Died- 16 March 1945

Cause- Pneumonia

Born 1920

Came to Ofuna March 1945

4. Ensign Kenneth Ashton Flinn

Died- 23 July 1945

Born- 1923

No record as to when came into camp.

Got sick 8 June 1945

Was Naval pilot on the Aircraft Carrier Essex.

5. Lt. (jg) Antone Monsis (not positive of last name)

No information

6. Lt. (jg) Ernest Peso (not positive of last name)

## 3. Burial Plots:

Lt. Emel W. Norman, Ensign Kenneth Ashton Flinn, Lt. William Zeimer were buried 200 meters East of Ofuna Camp. Graves are marked with Japanese crosses.

Lt. (jg) Richard L. Hunt buried 166 Meters North and in the rear of Ryuhoji Temple. The Ryuhoji Temple is located

100 yards East of Ofuna POW Camp

Lt. (jg) Antone Mensis and Lt. (jg) Ernest F. Peso have Japanese crosses with Lt. Hunt but they were cremated and their ashes were sent to Omuri Camp.

#### 4. Summary

The above information was obtained by a thorough investigation and search of the Ofuna POW Camp and from records found and by talking with Jida Kaskazo a Lt. in the Japanese Navy who was Commander of the camp for approximately the last year. We were told by him that all of the Japanese records concerning the camp were burned by Japanese Soldiers who came down from Jap. Hq. the 25 September 1945.

The roster of ashes of deceased POW was found in the camp but is not a roster of the deaths in the camp. It was brought to the camp by a POW from another camp. The men whose names have an x to the left of them were listed in the Roster of Non-recovered personnel prepared by GHQ AF&AC.

Lt. Robert H. Dolder  
Team Leader Team 56