SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF

ALLIED TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER SECTION

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Full Translation of Statements by

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History of FUKUOKA P.W. Camp, Branch No. 4 at

FUKUOKA-Ken, MOJI-Shi, KUSUNOKI-Cho, 8-Chrome

1. The camp was established on 28 November 1942. The first group interned was about 300 - ? (Sic) British PsW. All PsW that were brought here were seriously ill and were unable to walk. The hospital was temporarily the camp. The sickness was acute colitis. This sickness was due to the change of climate and food while moving from JAVA to MOJI. As soon as the PsW were interned, treatment was given them but they were very exhausted and undernourished, and recovery was slow. Because of the lack of medical aid at camp, 19 of the UNITED STATES Navy Medical personnel from the ZENTSUJI P.W. Camp came to help. From 28 November 1942 to 31 January 1943 a total of 121 person died. Many efforts were made to obtain fresh and canned milk, eggs, fruit, and rice.

2. In February 1943 the P.W. camp was completed. A medical staff was headed by medical officer MAYEKAWA and the whole medical staff endeavored to give the PsW the best of medical care. They opposed the orders of the head office and purchased medical supplies, medicine, and medical equipment. After being fully equipped, the staff members (MAYEKAWA, medical officer; Corporal SASAKI; Private First Class SAKAUYE; and I) with the help of American, British, and Dutch medical personnel totaling 34 in all (10 medical officers and 24 non-commissioned officers) worked from early in morning to late at night. Once in a while we stayed up all night to nurse the patients. In four months, health conditions were average and in June, PsW were put to work. Because of our self sacrificing efforts 100 PsW were fortunate enough to be repatriated right after the end of the war.

In order to purchase medical supplies, Corporal SASAKI and I went around to various districts but it was very difficult since medical supplies were so scarce at that time. MAYEKAWA, the medical officer, was discharged from his post because he opposed an order from the administrative section of the head office, but the next day he was giving medical care to a patient. At that time the MOJI P.W. Camp was a hospital. During this period, one person had died. The commandant of the camp was First Lieutenant TAKEDA.

3. The second group was interned on 4 December 1943. Interned were 70 Dutch PsW and their health was average. They were from JAVA and due to the change in climate many caught cold, but after two months of care and rest they were restored and put to work. Forty British PsW were transferred to number one P.W. camp in HAKOZAKI-Cho, Fukuoka-Ken.

4. The third group was interned on 2 August 1944. Interned were 50 American PsW. They were from the PHILIPPINES and their health was average. Due to fatigue from the trip, they were given two months of rest and then put to work.

5. The fourth group was interned on 29 January 1945. They were 50 British and Dutch PsW and were interned in the number one camp at HAKOZAKI-Cho, FUKUOKA-Ken. Their health was very poor so they were listed as sick patients and given medical care. The food was poor at camp and immediately all 50 were put into the hospital where the entire medical staff cared for them. However, recovery was very slow. The sickness was acute colitis.

6. The fifth group was interned on 30 January 1945. Interned were 50 American PsW. They were from the PHILIPPINES and while transporting them here, the ship was bombed three times and twice attacked by submarines. It was finally sunk, and it took 45 days to get the PsW to MOJI. The PsW were underfed and many were without clothing. Their health was poor. Seriously ill patients were mostly those who were undernourished and those with diarrhea. They were extremely exhausted and weak. First Lieutenant HIGASHI, the medical officer in charge of the camp, gave all the aid he could with the cooperation of American, British, and Dutch medical personnel.

At that time, nutritious foods such as milk, eggs and fruits were unobtainable. The PsW got a relief supply of canned milk, however. Since there was sufficient medicine, large quantities were allotted to Warrant Officer (DOORU) [Daul?], an American PW. In addition, all possible medical care was given. The reason for the PsW exhaustion and weakened condition was the trip of 45 days on the boat. One group of patients stayed in bed until the end of the war.

Work

I. Plans of Work.

A. KOKURA Steel Company, KOKURA-Shi. (Transporting ore).

1 April 1943 (For a period of about 13 months).

B. Project of handling freight between SHIMONOSEKI and MOJI.

(Transport ship freight handler) from April 1943 to 15 August 1945.

C. Outer-harbor work (Freight train loading) from September 1938 to 15 August 1940.

D. Name of the firms that hired PsW.

1. KOKURA Steel Company

2. SHIMONOSEKI-MOJI Shipping Company.

3. JAPAN Transportation Company.

II. Working conditions and meal allowances above pay (Furnished by company).

A. There were two types of work; Loading and hauling of ore on trucks, and loading of ore on a revolving belt. Ration was three rice cakes (480 calories) and three cigarettes.

B. Loading freight in the holds of vessels by crane using MOKKO (TN. Usually a basket for carrying earth) and loading coal on vessels. MOKKO were used for loading grain and cement. Ration was three rice cakes (480 calories) and three or four cigarettes.

C. Those working for the JAPAN Transportation Company loaded and unloaded grains, fuel coal, charcoal, and petroleum cans, and drums. The ration was three rice cakes (480 calories) and three cigarettes. Work started at 0730 hours with a fifteen minute break at 1000 hours. Lunch was from 1200 to 1300 hours. Work was resumed at 1300 hours with a 15 minute break between 1300 hours and 1730 hours. Work ended at 1730 hours and the PsW returned to camp. They returned early or late depending upon the amount of work to be done. As in "B" (Which deals with loading freight in the holds of vessel), they might work overtime or sometimes only work three or four hours and go home, depending on the amount of freight there was to be handled. Work watchmen were supplied by the camp, on watchman to each labor gang. The labor foremen were supplied by the company or firm, two to three foremen to a gang. Persons taken ill while working were sent back immediately.

III. Measures taken in case of air raid warnings.

The PsW were returned to camp as soon as the air raid warning was given and put in the camp air raid shelter.

IV. Holidays.

Days off were one day a week or three days a month. According to the desires of the PsW, some stayed in camp to rest and some would go out hiking. Hiking became popular. PsW went swimming three times, flower viewing (Cherry blossoms) two times, and hiking five times. Those who were working in the camp could, with the permission of their section leaders, even though it wasn't a holiday, take turns going out for walks in the fields and mountains for three or four hours. On holidays prisoners were free to do as they pleased; they could remain in bed, read, listen to concerts or do their washing.

Supply

1. Staple foods were rice, wheat, soy-bean, sorghum, and bread (baked and steamed types). There is no record of the tabular amounts. Based on the instructions from the main camp, those PsW who went on fatigue duty outside received more than those who worked within the compound.

Subsidiary diet consisted of meat, fish, and vegetables supplied from the Japanese markets through distribution by the intendance department of the Western Army. Also, vegetables were harvested from the farms. Persons who worked outside were given rice balls (900 calories) and soup. Together with the company mess, 3000 to 3200 calories were given to them. There were two farms – one of 3000 tsubo (TN, A "tsubo" equals 3.95 square yards or 3.31 square meters) and the other of 300 tsubo, and vegetables afforded the PsW. These harvested from the farms included tomatoes, cabbages, soy-beans, green onions, turnips, green, leafy vegetables, squash, potatoes, eggplants, cucumbers, carrots, and garlic. At work, the PsW had soybeans with sugar from the company. When there was sugar transport work, the PsW would mix sugar in their tea and drink it. The compound intendance and mess workers were busy everyday with the incoming foodstuffs.

The preparation of the mess was left to the chief cook. Up until December 1943, commodities were plentiful so a lunch of one kin (TH. Kin equals 1.32 pounds) of bread and 30 grams of sugar, put in a bag, was given to each person. Each Sunday, donuts were made and one and a half big buckets (Approximately seven kilograms) of sugar (relief goods) were offered them. Every ten days, soup powder (relief goods), and every five days, cocoa and sugar (relief goods), and every five days, cocoa and sugar (relief goods) were given the PsW.

Preservation of Health

1. Medical treatment:

Two British and Dutch Army doctors would examine new patients, witnessed by a Japanese Army doctor, and, upon consultation with the American medical warrant officer, would give medicines and other medical officer, would give medicines and other medical treatment. Medicines had been given to the American warrant officer and I was keeping the statistics the day the American warrant officer brought out the medicines. All in all, the opinions of the American, British, and Dutch medical personnel were respected and medical treatment was offered on that basis.

Whenever the PsW came back from work wet by rain, or when the coldness was severe, we gave each of them two aspirin pills before retiring as cold preventatives. During the time after the patient recovered and up to the time he went back to work, we allowed him to go to the farm and do whatever work he wanted. One of two medical personnel were sent to the farms daily. Each morning, when then men were starting out for work, American, British, and Dutch Army doctors, together with a Japanese Army doctor, made a tour of inspection of ill persons and if any were found they were allowed to rest from work.

Preventative inoculations, body weight surveys (on the 15th of each month), heart and lung check-ups, and small pox vaccinations were affected. Absolute and complete preventative measures were taken. Calculations of calories (monthly) and calorie consumption computations were also made. Medical personnel made a tour of inspection of the places of work, and if any were found deficient or faulty, demands could be made to the company and those defects would be remedied. This was accomplished with the cooperation of the compound guards. Dental treatment was given at the regional medical office.

2. Body weights:

Body weight surveys were conducted on the 15th of each month and physical examinations were made at the same time. Body weights averaged from 64 to 65 kilograms.

3. Sick wards:

These were divided into sections according to illnesses and at night, one British or Dutch medic was assigned to night duty and charged with the care of the patients.

4. Duties of the medical personnel:

British and Dutch Army doctors administered medical treatment to the patients within the compound, and, according to their personal wishes.

*(Missing sentences)*

worked on the farms. An American warrant officer was in charge of patients and medicine in the medical office.

British and Dutch medical personnel (10 men): 1 man – night watch; 2 men – farms; 3 men – sick wards, dispensary. The remainder of the personnel, according to their own volition, worked on the farms. Inoculations and medicines were obtained from the American warrant officer and administered by medics assigned to the wards or the dispensary. The assisting medical unit which came from the ZENTSUJI camp in 1941 left compound (MOJI) and returned to the ZENTSUJI camp or went to those compounds which had insufficient medical personnel in the FUKUOKA P.W. camp (around September 1943).

5. Medical materials consisted of relief goods (from the main camp); medical materials received from the army hospital (received once a month); and materials procured from the regional pharmacy bureau. The use of the medical supplies was left up to the American warrant officer, and the medical personnel used them freely.

Work Within the Camp

A. 1. Cooking – Eight to ten men. The section leader was a British master sergeant. These men worked alternately on jobs designated by the section leader.

2. Shoe repair – One man worked in the shoe repair shop daily.

3 Tailor repair – One man used a machine and worked daily.

4. Bath keeper – One man heated the bath daily.

5. Others – Those who were physically unable to work outside (those recuperating from illnesses) did cleaning (light work). They were free after cleaning.

B. Other than that, we had outside workers who had chronic diseases carry wooden tags with "Light work" written on them. These persons were given the lightest of work. This matter was relayed to the company and to the compound guards and was affected to a certainty.

C. These PsW who were injured at work were, upon demand to the company, paid wages for as many days as they received medical treatment. This was based on orders from the main camp which stated that an affidavit should be made in which a witness for the injured PW signed his name and which included the cause of, the medical term for, and the nature of the injury. Injuries were mainly contusion, sprains, strains, and the like.

D. Farm work:

For officers, medical personnel, and recuperating patients, this was work of their own choosing and not compulsory. The noon meal consisted of a soup of vegetables harvested from the farms.

1. Compound Commanders: From 28 November 1941 to August 1943, TAKEDA; from August 1943 to 15 August 1945, SAITO, Akira, captain in the Japanese Army.

2. Upon issuance of alert and air raid warnings:

a. With the alert, all work was stopped and preparations to return to the compound were made. If the air raid warning sounded, we had them retire to the air raid shelter.

b. The sick were taken to the shelter by medical personnel or by healthy Ps'W (those who worked within the compound). They were taken in before the other Ps'W and, at the all clear signal, were taken out last. This escorting was my work.

c. While taking refuge at night, we had the Ps'W go to sleep in the shelter.

3. The fire bomb attack on MOJI; On 29 June 1945, when MOJI received a fire bomb attack, the PW camp was not hit, and with the Ps'W taking refuge in the shelter, not one was injured. The farms were hit in 13 places and the vegetables were damaged t some extent.

4. Recreation:

a. Reading Material - - books contributed by the YMCA; books were procured by the camp and also procured according to the requests of the Ps'W.

b. Music program. On days of rest such things as accordions (2), mandolins (3), Harmonicas, horns, an organ, a phonograph, and recordings were made available.

All were for the free use of the Ps'W.

c. Ping-pong, trumps (cards), chess, football, and boxing equipment were contributions from the YMCA and all were at the disposal of the Ps'W.

d. Religious services were held in the Christian church every Sunday, following the evening meal. The services were lead by British Ps'W Capt. FOOTES and 1st Lt. BIBUN.

e. On Christmas a Japanese Christian Minister was called and worship was held. Wine, one of the relief goods, was afforded them; a musical concert was given; meat, fish, and vegetables were procured; flowers were also procured and the rooms were decorated.

After the End of the War.

With the end of the war on 15 August 1945, the Ps'W were relieved from work. In accordance with orders from the main camp, a 3 month's supply of food was acquired. With the release of the Ps'W on 2 September 1945, the goods in stock in the camp were turned over to the ranking officer, Capt. FOOTES. After negotiations with a brewery a ration of beer was turned over to Capt. FOOTES daily. I observed "comfort": goods being dropped from the air. Pursuant to requests from Capt. FOOTES, an automobile, a truck, souvenir goods to foodstuffs and the like were afforded. On 14 September, for their return to their countries, they left from the MOJI station for NAGASAKI. Compound Commander, Capt. SAITO and 5 others went to see them off. There were 305 returnees, and the Americans, British and Dutch each numbered about 100.

1. PWs who died:

From 28 Nov. 1941 to 31 Jan. 1943 – 121 men.

From 1 Feb. 1943 to 31 Dec. 1943 – 2 men

From Jan. 1944 to Dec. (1944) – 2 men.

From Jan 1945 to 15 Aug. 1945 – 34 men.

Total number of men who died – 159.

The main causes were the living conditions while in transit, changes in the climate, and the shortage of food. The fact that the procurement of nutritious foods (such as milk, fruits, beef and fish) became difficult from the start of 1945 is also one of the causes.

2. Canteen (goods sales store):

Sales: An averaged 3 cigarettes per day; candy (Japanese, dried candy, biscuits); fruits (apples, oranges, pears, peaches, bananas, and such) I can't recall the amount.

Allowance: An averaged 3 cigarettes per day, candy; fruits; toilet paper; tooth brush; tooth powder; razor blades; and soap.

3. Clothing:

(1) Western style clothes, shirts, etc. from relief goods and army clothing from the company.

(2) Shoes were from relief goods and army clothing.

(3) Towels and other things-relief goods, and from army clothing.

1. Prisoner of War Squads: Composed of 10 squads from No 1 to No. 10. Average strength was 30 men. To each squad was assigned one special duty non commissioned officer as squad leader and one officer (TN presumably a PW) as assistant squad leader.

2. Life of the Prisoners of War.

a. Administrative orders were carried out in accordance with the Regulations on Handling of Prisoners of War (Prisoner of War Intelligence Bureau) (FUKUOKA Main Camp), just as in the Japanese Army.

b. Reveille at 0530: fall in for work, 0630-0700; commence work 0730; quit work at 1730; return to camp 1800; bathe and evening meal at 1900; roll-call at 2000; taps at 2100. Hours differ according to the work (amount of work left over).

c. Reveille was one hour later on the day off.

d. After reveille 10 minutes of physical training was carried out. (depending on the prisoners' desire).

e. Food was served in the dining room. Patients were cared for in sick wards.

f. Washing of clothes was done in the wash room using soap allotted to each person.

g. Though bathing was enforced every day, lack of fuel may have reduced this to once in 2 days or once in 3 days.

h. Blankets for bedding were relief goods. Excluding personal items, they were allotted five blankets (used for many army clothing).

i. A barber was assigned to each squad and hair cutting was done at will. According to an order of June 1943 the head the head was to be shaved.

j. Names of persons applying for diagnosis were turned in to the army doctor after breakfast and again upon returning to camp from work. Patients were admitted to the sick ward after the evening meal if they requested it. (Admitted by the medics).

My actions.

It happened in August 1945 (the date, I do not remember) while I was escorting the prisoners of war to the air raid shelter after the sounding of the air raid alarm. There was no toilet built in the air raid shelter and it was a rule to excrete outside the shelter. Other than that there were 3 toilet cans (tin cans) placed near the entrance of the air raid shelter;; But tho' it was placed there to be used, the prisoners had also prior to this time excreted within the air raid shelter while hidden from my view. Since there were many people within the shelter the air became quite pungent. I assigned an officer within the shelter advising him to notify me if the air becomes bad. When the air inside got bad it was the policy to go outside to breathe the fresh air, to ventilate the bad air within and return to the shelter. I had orders from the commandant to reorganize in the shelter. At that time two Dutch prisoners of war were urinating inside the shelter. Upon, my cautioning them, they answered that they had never heard any warning given on the subject. Through the medium of the officer of the week (prisoner of war officer) that all personnel were lectured to during roll call, so I believe he should have known. On that occasion I left them with a warning: But when I made my rounds only two hours after the incident, one of the Dutch prisoners was again relieving himself. The commandant was nearby so I reported the incident to him. He ordered me to beat him, so I slapped him twice with my open hand. The branch camp commandant permitted the beating of any prisoner who did not correct himself even after having been given a warning on his violation of regulations, laxity in work or wrongful acts; And he has beaten them himself. We the personnel of the camp have never beaten an innocent prisoner, nor have I beaten a prisoner to express one's own sentiments; We acted in accordance with the policy, orders, and commands of the camp commandant. That an order must definitely be carried out is the foremost regulation of the Japanese Army and is extremely necessary from the point of view of military discipline. I have seen the camp guards, whose duty it was to supervise the prisoners, receive a scolding from the camp commandant on four or five different occasions. That was because the prisoner was lax in his work and was violating regulations. The commandant often scolded his subordinates (camp personnel) in front of the men. We had something in common with the prisoners on that point. The "GUNZOKU” (army civilian employees) were employed by the army and worked harder than the soldiers and received different treatment. The prisoners had a day off approximately once a week or three days a month. I had no day off. I was unable even to return to my family, and served only at the internment camp.

In the Japanese Army, to beat a person is one way to train him. When I was a recruit I was beaten every day and every night for absolutely no offense. Japanese soldiers consider slapping a person is one method of training him and the local people believe that to be true also. When I think about it now I realize that it is a very bad thing, but at that time there was no occasion to think so and I beat the Dutch prisoners inside the shelter just as I was ordered. Whenever we beat the prisoners, it was reported to the branch camp commandant. The order, the execution of the order and to report follow on another. The prisoners worked hard. The camp personnel never beat a prisoner who knew nothing. I believe that they did beat those who did not correct themselves after being repeatedly cautioned for their wrongful acts. I slapped prisoners only with my open hand and did what I could for sick patients. There were times when I was told by the branch commandant that I was too lenient with the prisoners.

After the liberation of September 2, 1 received a letter of appreciation and a ring as a souvenir from Captain (Med. Corps) BERKLEY and I still have them in my possession. From them I believe it will soon be seen how just sincere I was towards the prisoners.

On September 14th when the prisoners left MOJI HARBOUR station I saw them off and I was among the large number of people who, from the sorrow of parting, had tears in their eyes. Again the first 1943 group of prisoners on the BRAZIL Maru, Showed immense gratitude. Before their return I gave about 3 parties. We drank, sang, and parted after a pleasant party. After the war, many people helped me in my work. Even now they are grateful. In short, the policy of the branch camp commander in the camp was bad and undoubtedly he himself had no moral standards. Before, when 1st Lt. TAKEDA was in command, the prisoners were very happy even while doing their work and this internment camp was highly regarded. The policy of the branch camp commandant was merely to raise the efficiency of the workers (prisoners) and the men in charge of the sick wards always disagreed with him about the disposition of sick persons. The policy of the sick ward was to cure the patient completely and unless he was diagnosed to be fit he was not discharged for labor. American Warrant Officer DOORU was in charge of patients and the medical department respected his opinion and have been continuing his work.

Personal History:

Date, month, year of birth: 7 February 1919

Full name: MORIO INOUE

School history: Graduated 10 March 1936 from middle school

Occupation: April 1936 – began work in pharmacy.

December 1939 – Quit pharmacy because I was to be inducted.

Service in army: February 1940—Inducted into OGURA 14th Regiment.

February 1940—Transferred to MANCHURIA KWANTUNG ARMY. 1 August 1941—Transferred to air unit. Promoted to corporal on 10 December 1941. 9 October 1941—Entered the SAITAMA—GUN

TOKOROZAWA-Machi Army Air Training School 4 December 1941—Hospitalized at the TOKOROZAWA Hospital due to illness. 18 March 1942—Relieved from active duty. 21 March 1942—attached to the FUKUOKA-KEN KASUYA-Gun KOGA-Machi Wounded Veteran's Recuperation Center. 20 February 1943—left the Recuperation Center. 22 February 1943—Started work at the FUKUOKA Prisoner of War Camp, Branch camp No 4. As an army employee and served until the termination of the war.