

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

this evening and switched the programs around. Monday's schedule is switched to Tuesday and a special must be written for Mothers' Day. We raised hell about having to work on Sunday but he insisted it must be done anyway. J. Martinez's gifts of Red Cross food to Hyasaka are bringing results. Martinez, down with appendicitis, is living on pancakes, sugar, white rice. I don't begrudge his special diet, but can't see why Martinez with appendicitis should rate anyone's special food then Smith with TB and Cousins with a heart attack and a nervous breakdown. The latter two nearly starved to death. Oh well - that's the way it goes.

May 13 - Nomachi came in today (Sunday) for the Mothers' Day scripts and bowed his thanks. Scoop of the week: Streeter has been conferring titles upon his favorite Japanese, and some have fallen for them in a big way. If they show sympathy and understanding toward "enemjocracy" - or do Streeter a special favor - he makes them "Honorary Vice-President of the International Society of Goodwill" or something like that. Mamasan was given a title for her birthday. Hishikari got one before he left. Count Kabayama is being considered at the moment. What a madhouse. How can these Japs back a man who is so completely mad? Or are we all crazy? Parkyn got into the short wave news in the Jap office today. The last raid on Tokyo leveled seventeen miles. There have been more casualties in one raid on Tokyo than from the heaviest raid on Germany. And we're in the middle of the seventeen mile area. Everything is flat all around us. A small street in front of camp and the outer moat in back are what saved us from being burned out. Wonder if we're on the list for one of the evening attacks? Minits says the Jap navy is trying to repair itself in the Inland Sea. We're dropping ten yen notes. One side is real, and on the other is printed: "This forged bill has the same purchasing power as your real money." Others have: "Workers of Japan - you earn lots of money but what good does it do you?" Cousins received a letter from Provo in which the latter apologized for having made derogatory remarks the other night concerning Cousins' activities. Provo tried to convey the idea that he has been mentally unbalanced and on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Today, however, he says he feels better and is regretful of his past conduct. Major Cousins wrote a brief note in reply. "Our relationship is based upon mutual mistrust. But because of that it does not mean that we cannot conduct ourselves in a gentlemanly fashion at all times. I am glad you feel better." Hoblitt said that Jap radio reported 900 bombers over Kure naval base this evening. Minits says that what is left of the Japanese navy can easily be handled by any one of our task forces. Streeter came in tonight to say goodbye. Told me that he is about to do big things and that someday I will applaud his efforts.

May 14 - Dooley's food report has caused a stir. He was sent for this afternoon and with Major Cox went to the Jap office for questioning by Nomachi. Cox reports that in discussing Hyasaka's thieving, Dooley admitted that we have stolen plenty in the past in order to exist. Cox says that this stupid indecorousness on Dooley's part gave the Japs the very weapon they were seeking. Pearson and Dooley are not getting along in the galley. Pearson says that Dooley is the "most dangerous man in camp." He wouldn't harm a flea, but just can't help talking incessantly. He and Shank are constantly visiting Streeter. They say they just do it to get information which will be beneficial to this group. We don't like it.

May 15 - J. Martinez is to be sent to a civilian hospital tomorrow. A new supply of rice has arrived. It's green. The new barley is unhusked. Indigestible mess. Have had nothing but spinach for two weeks. Most of the supply has rotted in the storeroom. Consequently the leaves have been thrown out and we're now eating

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

boiled stalks! Our miso (bean paste) is half water, not properly fermented. Four hundred planes hit Nagoya yesterday.

May 16 - J. Martinez has gone to the hospital. We were inspected by two colonels from Headquarters who say our camp is too small and the bomb shelter inadequate. Colonel Suzuki from Omori prison pulled a surprise inspection this afternoon. He came in looking for trouble. The first prisoner he saw was Astarita, cleaning vegetables in the court. Astarita bowed, but Suzuki was not satisfied. He made Astarita salute hatless. He asked why we have newspapers, and when told that Headquarters had ordered them given to us, he said they must be stopped immediately. In the office he asked why we have a picture of the American flag on the wall with a black bow beneath it. Nomoto explained it was in memory of our late President. Suzuki ordered it taken down immediately. He wants our wastebaskets searched regularly "to see what they are thinking, and to find plans of escape." When he saw our eight blankets, he said that five would be sufficient. When he saw our bulk supply of black tea - (100 pounds) he wanted to know where it had come from, who paid for it. He was told it was community property. Suzuki went wild when he saw my house plans, and was disappointed when an interpreter told him they were harmless sketches, not escape plans. Ozaki slipped us some news at the station. Truman's last speech has been interpreted by the United States Army Navy Journal as an invitation to Japan to come to terms. Malsey says that only a crushing of the Jap military is required. A Jap correspondent in Switzerland is quoted as having said that Japan will surrender soon. Ozaki says that the local morale has hit a new low. Nomachi came over late this afternoon after Colonel Suzuki had departed. He says that we will continue to receive the newspapers, but they must be returned to the Jap office every afternoon so that none will be in evidence if another blitz inspection is pulled. Bread arrived - a little consolation after a trying day.

May 17 - Streeter is reported to be leaving tomorrow. Suzuki spoke to the Jap office staff after his inspection yesterday and listed twenty-four points for our administration: (1) No newspapers or magazines will be given to us in the future. (2) Our living quarters must be kept cleaner (3) Personal gear must be kept in a set order (4) Shelf spaces must be set in order (5) Personal possessions must be examined periodically (6) Wastebaskets must be searched regularly to learn what the prisoners are thinking, escape plans, etc. (7) Sgt. Light must be deprived of his map of Europe. He is a man to be watched (8) There are too many maps around. Remove them all. They are informative (9) The photo of the American flag must be abandoned. It gives rise to patriotic feeling which cannot be allowed. It might make the prisoners anti-Japanese (10) Reduce the number of blankets to five (11) Explain how such a supply of tea came into camp. (12) In other camps the prisoners have stolen electrical wire from which heaters and radios have been made. Be sure that this sort of thing doesn't happen here (13) I tasted their grain (barley) and found it excellent in quality. It is too good. Add kani (millet) at once (14) Be sure that the diet does not become too good, especially when bread is issued. Bread should only be issued to those who do good work, not to the others. (15) Prisoners in Omori receive 300 grams of grain per day. Some prisoners, however, have been found exhausted. In such cases the patients get 600 grams to boost their health. In this camp I find that the prisoners get 620 grams (We don't. He got the figures from the supply department) (16) Keep a ration chart in the future to make sure the work is effective (17) Sick men must be sent to Omori for treatment, not to a civilian hospital. (18) All broadcasts should be done on

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *ADP*
973092

recordings. Prisoners should not be trusted to broadcast direct (18) This camp should be run exactly as Mori. Treatment and food should be the same (20) All Japanese entering prisoners' rooms must be greeted with the call of attention and formal salutes. Questions must be answered from the position of attention. Hands must never be put in the pockets (21) All musters must be conducted in the Japanese language (22) Everyday conversations between Jap staff members and the prisoners must be held in Japanese language (23) Anyone caught stealing must be sent to Mori immediately for treatment (24) I shall visit this camp as often as possible and you will see that my visitations improve the work. - - - The foregoing is an example of the mentality with which we must deal. J. Martinez was operated on at 2:00 p.m. All's well.

May 18 - Today we learned that Streeter's co-workers - three men whom he asked to have brought here from Shanghai camps - have been locked up in the Jap office building for the past ten days. Streeter moved out today to a private home up the street. Smith and Parkyns invaded the other building this evening to see and talk with the new men. There are two civilians and one Marine captured on Wake Island. Smith reports that between their internment in Shanghai and the present time, they were kept in an Osaka work camp. The latter was bombed, they say, and many prisoners were badly wounded. No medical attention was given to them. Many prisoners died from disease, mostly beriberi. The diet there is inadequate, treatment is brutal. They are compelled to do hard labor and have insufficient clothing. That little Red Cross food their camp received was looted by the Japs. Smith says the men look half dead. They think our ration is enormous. We hope that now that our local authorities have three living examples of starvation and brutality, they will believe what we've been trying to pound into them for the last year about conditions in the prison camps.amoto has made a full report to Imperial Headquarters on Suzuki's visit. He thinks it will help to break our ties with the Mori authorities. In addition he forwarded written reports from ten of us - the subject of which was: conditions in this camp. Mine was a diatribe on the Japs' thieving, incompetence, lack of fair play in general. I accused them of sabotaging their own efforts, by such conduct. It should be a good point. Streeter has gone. I told him that if he succeeded in sending home all prisoners over forty-five, I'd forget what he's done in the past. We were shown a movie, "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington".amoto caught the Jap office boys stealing food out of the buckets which we send to Streeter's group. My latest Missing Man script called "Easy Living" which contrasts the luxury of American federal prisons with the poverty of Japan's POW camps, was returned from the censors today with much red pencil. Nomachi delivered it and said he had been ordered to ask me a question, and if I replied in the affirmative, he would be compelled to punish me. "Are you trying to intimate by this script that conditions in your federal prisons are superior to the conditions in Japanese prisoner of war camps?" I said "Definitely yes," and Major Cousens jumped in with "Most assuredly!" Nomachi said I had answered wrongly, but he would not punish me as I must be speaking the truth. Two corrections, he said, must be made before the script could be broadcast. A line which I had written for myself - "I'd like to do a stretch in Alcatraz after the war - for a rest cure" was deleted. And at the end a signoff must be written based on an outline sketched for me by Mr. Kojima. It said something like - "prisoners would only talk like this if they were mentally depressed over having been interned for a long period." I wrote it in for him and was quite satisfied with the result. Then, as Nomachi was leaving, I told him that he "can always count on me to write the absolute truth at all times - and straight from the heart." Pretty?

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *973092*

May 19 - In a confidential talk with Major Cousens,amoto said that nineteen of us are to be moved from this camp within the next ten days. The group includes Cousens, Ince, McLaughlin, myself, Pearson, Rickart, Parkyns, Bruce, and Antarite. The reason for the move: Tameichi wants the group dispersed in anticipation of more intense bombing. Smith and Parkyns visited Streeter's friends again this evening. I sent some money and vitamin pills to the Marine. During their visit, however, they heard voices in the hall. Unable to get out of the room, they had to hide under the bedclothes. Smith reports an interesting conversation between Tasaki and Streeter held in the presence of the new men. Streeter advised that Tasaki try to stop Humanity Calls, that it is not doing the Japs any good but rather sending a steady stream of information to Washington which is to the detriment of Japan. Ozaki arrived. London diplomatic circles predict that Russia will issue an ultimatum to Japan demanding that the latter surrender on Allied terms. Paris radio says the ultimatum has already been issued. Ozaki says there is no confirmation of it locally. Anti-military sentiment is mounting. Keiso's cabinet is supposed to have offered to surrender providing Japan is allowed to keep Manchuria and Formosa, but the Allies refused. Ozaki says it is unfortunate as by giving them these areas America could have saved many lives. He says that Japan must have room. They're overpopulated now. He told him that our governments were quite cognizant of that fact and would certainly make adequate provision for everything - later.

May 20 - Cousens visited J. Martinez at the hospital. He's doing fine. Had a successful spinal anesthesia. We're feeding him from camp. The hospital gallery has ceased operation. Streeter's group can't get their private house down the street - are to live in the Jap building temporarily but aren't permitted to talk with us. Streeter's program is to use our present broadcast time. Humanity Calls will be put on at 1:30 p.m. Another damned time change!

May 21 - Smith visited Streeter's men last night and was nearly caught again. This time, however, he climbed up on to the rafters and overheard the conversation Tasaki said that Humanity Calls would be taken off the air soon and that he and Streeter's group would have the best radio show in Asia. Then he suggested to Streeter that "enerjocracy" be used three days a week and Japanese propaganda for the remaining four broadcasts. Streeter replied that "enerjocracy" would go on the air seven days a week or he wouldn't broadcast at all. Tasaki said that high official quarters feel that to feature such a radical idea as "enerjocracy" will mean that Japan endorses it. Smith says they argued the point until all hours and got nowhere. Streeter did his old act of how he owes allegiance to no flag, no uniform, and how he is a citizen of the world. Smith says that Streeter and Tasaki agreed on one thing: their theme will be crowd noises - the sound of the masses clamoring for "enerjocracy". Rot! Smith says that the three new men don't trust Streeter. They think he's mad, that he never played square with anyone in the Shanghai camp and was threatened several times by the prisoners there. Leaflets fell in the court today. They ask the people of Japan to listen to Radio Saipan for the real news.amoto's birthday. The boys gave him a card. He was pleased.

May 22 - Tasaki called for a formal muster at midnight. Gave no reason. This morning Parkyns and Smith confessed that they had been responsible. Visiting Streeter's friends again last night, they fell over a bookcase. Tasaki heard the crash,

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

ran out in the hall to investigate, found no one. Smith and Parkyn jumped the camp wall, ran all the way around the block and came into our building from the rear. No one saw them. They made the muster formation in time. Thank goodness. Tasaki knows that something is going on and will try to make trouble. Had an idea this morning and got Major Cousens' approval to ask Donoto to come to my desk after lunch. Told him that despite Japanese orders to stay away from the new people, several members of our group had visited them. The main purpose was to take them clothing and vitamin pills and what little extra food we can scrape together. During the visits, we've learned some interesting facts. I told him of Tasaki's plans to take Humanity Gals off the air, and of how Streeter had described it as conveying double meanings in the broadcasts. I said that in being one of the main writers, I cannot have such comments being made behind my back, and I thought Donoto should know the facts to protect himself as well as his prisoner writers. He agreed, and then proceeded to name the men from our group who had caused the muster last night. Tasaki, he said, had "put the pressure on Streeter's men" and they had confessed as to who their visitors had been. Donoto says that Streeter is out to do us all under, but that we can't do a thing to buck him without definite proof. And even if we had the latter, such an upset would cause too much trouble and loss of face all around. Deoley has let out the confidential news regarding our move to new quarters. The whole house is up in arms about it. He can't keep his mouth shut about anything! He's always getting someone in trouble by his blabbing, and refuses to believe he is ever wrong. He will not be reprimanded, will go to any lengths with the Japs for self-aggrandizement. As Pearson says - "He's one of the most dangerous men in the house" - and yet one of the most likable. What an impossible place!

May 23 - Donoto says that all hell's going to break loose around here. Tasaki has been to Tsuneishi with the complaint that prisoner officers sent Smith and Parkyn to warn Streeter's men that if they cooperated on the new program, they will be court-martialed. Tsuneishi is plenty mad. Donoto says that someone, somewhere, has been talking too much, and doesn't see how we officers, in our present position, can talk of court-martialling anyone. We didn't argue that point. Smith and Parkyn confessed to Donoto and promised to conduct themselves properly in the future. They offered to take any punishment he wishes to give them. Donoto has brought us a large Scott All-Wave radio-victrola combination. The radio is disconnected, but the record player is marvelous. What a treat!

May 24 - 2:30 this morning two hundred fifty planes bombed an area just south of the Palace grounds. Saw ten shot down, and one body-crashed. Japs claim thirty downed. Lilian says that the people are forbidden to pick up the leaflets dropped by our planes. Consequently, everyone is anxious to see them, and believes every word they read on them. Before, she says, no one paid any attention to them. Donoto absent today. Railway tracks were blown up last night. J. Martinez is certainly being well fed in the hospital - white rice, sugar, flour, milk, eggs, sweet potatoes, etc. Guess it pays to have been generous with one's Red Cross food. Seems odd though that others who have been desperately ill have never gotten anything but ordinary slop.

May 26 - Starting at 10:00 last night, several hundred bombers came over with heavy explosives and incendiaries. Seemed like the biggest raid yet. Saw two shot down. Both water and electricity are off. Men had to walk to the station. All the taxis were burned. Japs are collecting parts to make a new taxi! Everything

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

is flat for blocks around the radio station. Norman Boyer, Dorsey Kurakawa, Mary (friend of Lilian's) the Flea, Hyasaka, burned out. Tokyo station is a hollow shell. Lilian hasn't been heard from. Raid lasted until 2:00 a.m. Air was thick with cinders, smoke. How they keep avoiding us is amazing. We must stick out like a sore thumb - a small hilltop, untouched, intact. Wonder how long we're to be spared. Probably until all the ministries and army groups have moved up here under the protection of the war prisoners and maternity wards.

May 27 - Eaten alive by bedbugs last night. Have started to build myself a cot. Tore up the bunkrack again and scorched the boards. Quiet day. Lights are on, but not the water. No bath.

May 28 - Kojima cancelled my script for memorial day which dealt with how we can justify our losses in Europe of both Germans and our own troops. In their memory, I said we must work together to build a new and better Germany. This part was the vehicle for a tirade against fanatical patriots, mad leaders, futile struggles, etc. It was too clear a parallel, I suppose. In another script - "Tews and Views" Kojima had made his favorite inserts: - the difficulty of maintaining long supply lines, dangers of malaria, jungle fighting, and his usual jabs which he believes will stop the war by scaring the American people. I let them go to the stencil room as they were, and asked no questions. Donoto says that Tsuneishi is really mad at us; that someone has gotten to him and said we were smart-alecking, noisecy, as if we "think we're going to win the war". Donoto said Tsuneishi wanted to come over and read us the riot act, but he advised him to put it off for a few days. Unfortunately our conduct is not beyond reproach. A few members are damned impossible, and as long as Cox will not use a firm hand, the irresponsible elements will continue to make trouble for everyone. It wouldn't surprise me if the Nampi-Tai were brought back and a real terror reign finished this outfit. We certainly ask for it by allowing a few fools too much freedom. Went to the station by train. The devastation is really incredible. Seventy percent of Tokyo is gone. Lilian says her father saw a flier parachute to the top of a building during the May 26th raid. A frenzied mob got him and hung him. Her father says he saw two others descend on one chute.

May 29 - Four hundred bombers were over this morning to flatten the Tokyo-Yokohama factory area. Donoto says that leaflets were dropped three days ago warning that the raid would be conducted, but nothing was done about them. Everyone was caught. Len (who works at the Philippine embassy) told Koblitt that the Japs have sent their terms to Britain and America through Stalin. They will give up all their armed forces, will become a democracy, wish to retain their emperor, will get out of China, but want to keep Manchuria, Formosa, and Korea. Donoto arrived late and dirty. He's been searching the devastated area for his sister who has been missing since the raid began. He found her. All she has left are the emergency rations she had stored in her dugout. We're all delighted she is safe. She sent us meat a few months ago. Finished building my bedbug-proof cot. Donoto is staying here tonight. He will leave early in the morning to take his sister to his home down the coast - Sagami Bay. Kojima is raising hell because I didn't rewrite his inserts. He says they were only "suggestions" and he expected me to redo them to get the proper feeling and dialogue suiting the Missing Men characters." I sent word back that the reason I had left the inserts as they were was because I didn't want to offend him. To rewrite them without explicit instructions from Kojima would have suggested that he didn't have a proper command

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

of English, and I thought it presumptuous on my part to assume such authority. He was soothed.

May 30 - Onaki at the station today said Yokohama is flat. It was the biggest raid yet and they suffered more casualties than in the Tokyo raid. Lemay on Saipan says that Tokyo is no longer a military target. The Stateside radio quotes radio Tokyo as having said: "Tokyo Radio admits the Jap capitol is literally scorched to the ground. We admit having used five hundred planes for the raid and having lost twelve. Four thousand tons of incendiaries. Now! All that remains standing are the radio station, palace, several of the larger buildings and our hilltop hospital district. Lillian is alright. The Imperial Hotel was hit and one wing burned out. The bakery is ruined so her Pa is on an extended vacation. Our guards have suddenly gotten extremely generous. They've been giving the boys frozen orange sherbet and cigarettes for American soap and metal articles. Hoblitt started the trading. Haven't gotten involved myself, but McKaughan got a bowl of Hokkaido butter for one bar of red cross soap. Good.

May 31 - Donato says the authorities are on the rampage about sabotage again. They blame Ince and Wisener as the instigators of the visitations to Streeter's men. Kojima has thrown out my script "News and Views". My explanation of the inserts didn't hold. This cancellation pushes my schedule up one day and means I have to turn out another dialogue. Lit into Donato about it. Told him I can't take much more. They make me carry the biggest load and then do everything they can to make the job difficult. Said I am getting steadily weaker and more nervous; and not to be surprised if they find themselves without a Missing Men feature in the near future. I feel a breakdown coming on - force or no force. They won't play fair with anyone. No food, no cigarettes, no baths, no soap, no supplies of any sort and they have the nerve to say "write!" Donato says he'll try to straighten things out but unfortunately "Provee is the fair-haired boy in the front office again." Donato says he has been making reports daily - stooling! Provee has managed to turn the Japs against Cousens and has convinced Kojima and the new program group that Ince is sabotaging the program. Donato says he'll refrain from discussing the matter with any of them until they bring it up at a meeting, then he'll jump on it with both feet. He has given Ince instructions to assign Missing Men scripts to other members of the group to relieve the strain on me. Donato says he'll try to get my quota cut from four to three scripts per week. Lillian sent me a quart of milk by Asterita. Everyone is getting butter from the guards except the officers. McKaughan is the only one who has been able to break in on the swapping. Len reported to Hoblitt: There is no further word on the Jap terms which went to the Allies through Russia. Okinawa has fallen completely. Formosa and Kyushu docks and airfields are completely devastated. Lillian quotes her father as having said that three Jap envoys have left for Moscow to negotiate for peace at "almost any price". The minute Donato left this afternoon, Provee was back in the Jap offices again! Wonder what he's trying to stir up at this late stage?

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

June 1 - Donato returned "News and Views" for rewrite and corrected Kojima's insertions. He says that, despite Streeter's comments, my stock is still high in the Jap office. Ince is in trouble, however, due to his own tactless manner, arrogance, and a comment or two from Provee. Donato says that in the event we move and the group is split up, he'll do everything he can to retain Ince. Ince's crude exterior, Donato says, is no more than a veneer. We're glad he realizes it. Camp is to be split soon. Wisener, Cox, Shattles, Smith, Provee and others will be sent to the country to grow vegetables. The remainder will stay in a nearby house under Major Cousens to continue the program. Kojima wants Ince removed, but the others think he's essential for organization. Donato praised Ince saying that his manner is something intelligent people should overlook when so much is at stake. Donato is concerned about Provee's latest activities. It seems Provee, in his many visits to the Jap office, has convinced Kojima that he is "the backbone of the program." I told him that Ince had recently been forced to order Provee to write in order to keep peace in the group and carry out Japanese orders. Then asked if that sounded as if he was the "backbone." Donato says that Provee has also been talking against Major Cousens and that Kojima is taking in every word. Donato says that although Provee pretends to be very anti-Jap around us, it's a different story when he goes into the front office. Donato described a recent interview with Provee at which time the latter revealed the name of the Buddhist priest with whom he had "studied" in Japan before the war. Provee suggested that he had not come to this country to train for the priesthood, but rather to live with this fellow. Yesterday Donato managed to get the man's address, and upon leaving camp in the afternoon, deliberately left the name and address in plain sight on his desk. Kojima, of course, saw it and sent for Provee in the evening. This morning Kojima asked Donato if a meeting couldn't be arranged between Provee and his friend. Provee was called in and, pretending he hadn't heard of the matter from Kojima, begged Donato to let him see his lost love. Donato agreed. To me he confided that the coming meeting will be observed by Kempi-Tai investigators, and if anything peculiar happens, both Provee and the priest will be removed from society. Donato remembers one thing: Provee backed Hishikari against him in the early days. Donato is bitter. Streeter is in trouble. It seems that the three men he recruited from the camps can't write, type, or even think - they're in such dreadful physical and mental condition. But Donato says that Tasaki can worry about producing their program. He's directly in charge. Wisener caught Parkyns memorizing four sentences in Japanese: (1) I speak very little Japanese; (2) I am very lonely; (3) I like you better every time I see you; and (4) Will you meet me at seven o'clock tonight? Bruce says that Parkyns plans another affair with a Korean nurse from the maternity ward next door. It seems they've been exchanging winks through the window. One thing after another. Our last cigarette issue was on Monday - two per day. Mana sent me a present of four. June has sure started off with a bang.

June 2 - Ince and Wisener were called to the Japanese office today and questioned about Provee. It seems that at a meeting of the Jap planning board yesterday Donato rose and gave Provee both barrels. The Japs were shocked to hear of his instability and wanted substantiation of Donato's accusations. Both Ince and Wisener assured Kojima that Donato was absolutely right;

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

723092

Provoe is completely mad and will do or say anything through fear or a desire for self-aggrandizement. Kojima then told Wisener to ward off Provoe's advances as best he can until they can find a solution. Domoto says that his tirade against Provoe's sanity shook the authorities' confidence in their informer. At the meeting they quoted Provoe as having named Ince the number one saboteur. Flashback: When Hiyooshi was here Dooley wrote a brazen commentary saying that, if the unconditional surrender phrase were abandoned, the war would end immediately. This load of dynamite was shelved long ago as unfit for broadcast. At Dooley's request, Ince has scheduled it three times, but it has always been stopped by the authorities. Today, however, on the Aussie program, Dooley read it! No one knows how it got on the program (except Dooley) and the authorities are slowly going crazy. This evening they hauled out every file in the place to find the original and see who censored the script in the first place. There was, of course, no original to be found. There are big repercussions, and Dooley is delighted. At last he's the center of attraction. Sure hope he keeps his mouth shut. Ozaki came in. His house was hit by incendiaries the other night but he managed to put them out. He says that he attaches great importance to the daily meetings of all former prime ministers, as they take the place of the genre - elder statesmen. The Japanese people, he says, will accept the fact that all is lost as soon as they learn Okinawa is gone. He says there will definitely be peace this year; the Japs haven't enough food, fuel, spirit to fight beyond December. All Yokohama was wiped out in the last raid. More casualties there than in Tokyo. B-29 fliers who parachute down are being beaten by enraged civilians. Ozaki regrets this poor spirit. He says that Hishikari was burned out. He has lost everything but his car. We're heartbroken! While Ozaki was talking, Tasaki entered the building. Fortunately Heblitt saw and stopped him. Ozaki hid in the basement until he left. It was a close call. The boys gave him a good meal - three times what he can get on the outside at one sitting. Ozaki says he'll surely starve if he doesn't get another job soon. He may join the Zero Hour as announcer - for the pay and contacts.

June 3 - Debugged the bunkrack again. Ince has started copying my diary from August 1944. Says he wants the information for his official report. Water's off again. Had to haul the bath and 24 of us had about 10 inches of scum when the Japs got through. Mr. Takabatake, new man in the censors' department, was over this morning to check further on Dooley's brazen efforts yesterday. The whole business was so well handled that it looks as if the entire responsibility rests with the Jap office. Dooley simply had the stenciled scripts withheld until an hour or two before program time, then shot them to the censors when they were too busy with other matters to make a final check on the program. Consequently, the buck was passed around and no one saw the script until after the broadcast - except Dooley!

June 4 - Last Friday Kojima ordered Major Cousens to write another commentary on the sinking of the relief ship, AWA MARU. Cousens protested, advised Kojima to leave the matter alone. Kojima persisted and finally Cousens refused flatly to do it. Kojima took the refusal to the big meeting and explicit orders have come from Tsuneishi that Major Cousens produce the required commentary immediately or else. It must be broadcast Friday. Cousens asked for their reasons, and was told to forget them and write! He asked for late news so that he'll have subject matter. This was refused. He said it would be

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

impossible to write further on the matter without late news reports. Kojima then handed over Iguchi's statement that Japan reserves the right to take action against the prisoners if such is deemed necessary, and our State Department's reply saying that any such action will be regarded very seriously in Washington. Cousens wrote - an excellent job considering what he had to work with. Domoto says the matter must be dealt with generally in Missing Men - or else we prisoners will never see another Red Cross food parcel. In other words, Iguchi will never let the matter drop, and no prisoner, anywhere, will ever have any more relief supplies. I talked it over with Major Cousens and we outlined the script. Neither of us expects it to pass the censors as it's a rocker, but we'll feel better if the prisoners go on record locally, officially, as having underlined the State Department's warning. Our food is getting fierce. Cigarette issues for the past two weeks have averaged one per day. Lucky Harris, Radio Tokyo employee, has been burned out. Says he can't get any clothes. The men have collected a few things for him. He was damned good to us.

June 5 - Postman Calls is to cease next Monday and be incorporated into Humanity Calls. The latter is to be recorded for rebroadcast three times daily. Domoto says that he and Tsuneishi tried to fix it up so the camp would be split and the Cox-Wisener group be sent out to the country farm. But - higher officials have said that, if such a group is of no use here, it must be returned to a prison camp. Unable to get their way, Domoto and Tsuneishi have decided to drop the matter of moving. Ordinary prison camp officials are hesitant about accepting members of this group. They think we know too much and aren't far wrong. Today's rations were drastically cut - even for the Japanese. Mr. Go and five office boys came over to accuse us of having stolen their food, but when they saw our ration they left, satisfied. Kojima has given Wisener orders to write three commentaries. Wisener is really upset about it, thinks something is fishy somewhere. Have had no newspapers for a week. The presses are supposed to have been destroyed in the big Tokyo raid.

June 6 - Uno's wife is reported to have received word in January that he was listed among Philippine casualties. Just retribution! A half Red Cross food parcel was issued yesterday to each of Streeter's group. One bar of chocolate and some cigarettes were missing from each issue. Starting Monday Streeter will broadcast on the present Humanity Calls radio time. We are to take the Postman Calls hour. The Japs say: "Streeter is to start off with an audience" which we've developed. Lillian says that the peace envoys to Russia have been detained. Provoe's meeting with his priest friend has been arranged. Cousens got some news today and went straight to Domoto with it to lodge a strong complaint. Red Cross food parcels have again been delivered to this camp - in secrecy. Why, he asked, can't the Japanese handle them properly and provide Major Cox, the senior officer, with an itemized account. Domoto says that the decision there rests completely with Miyasaka's department. Major Cousens said that the only conclusion we can draw is that they plan to steal our relief supplies as has been done in other camps. Then he produced American gum, soap, razor blade, cigarette wrappers which our men have found in the Japs' wastebaskets. Domoto says he knows the packages are being rifled, but he's powerless to stop it. Said he didn't know that the latest batch of parcels had arrived. Cousens said that it had been reliably reported to him that 16 boxes are in the storeroom. Domoto said he'd check on the matter

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

immediately. After lunch Donoto called Major Cox aside to say that this camp will be moved next week but he doesn't know where we're going. Then later in the day he told some of the boys. Noblitt and Parkyns elaborated on the story - made up their own minds as to how the split was going to be made, and now everyone's up in arms. Smith, Light, Fujita and Stettles are holding secret confabs at which they condemn everyone else here of willful cooperation with the Japs. They're really a poor bunch - always talking - never have any facts. Pin any one of them down and he acts like a cornered rat. What a shock they've got coming when this show is over. Flagwavers! And yet they call their personal dignity and the dignity of their country to a Jap ecclie for a damned cigarette butt! Wisener is laboring over his commentaries. Wonders why he was assigned to write them. We think - that Provee in his frenzy to make certain that he and his love remain in the same camp when this move comes off - has suggested to Kojima that Wisener be assigned to write. Once Kojima sees Wisener's ability, he will retain him with the program group. Provee is being most prolific, and visiting the Jap offices every night for several hours. We'll find out what's going on. We always do. Emergency Humanity Calls programs are being used this week in preparation for the new consolidated program starting Monday. No. 5 Emergency went over today with my message to Aunt Alice and a reference to Uncle Bill's relief.

June 7 - Two hundred British ships have joined the Pacific Fleet. Jap Prime Minister has spoken linking the fate of Japan with that of Okinawa. We're going nuts without cigarettes. They tell us no one in Tokyo has any. Kojima has brought Cousens a pile of books and ordered a series of twelve commentaries on China. They discussed the matter for two hours during which Cousens gave him both barrels on the subject of relief supplies for war prisoners. Kojima said he was amazed to hear that they had been maligned! In reference to Japan's international predicament, Kojima admitted their policy is clumsy, and that they've been unable to settle occupied territories. Cousens told him the Japs were inexperienced in every respect, and that before they tried to expand they should have proven to other nations that they are able and earned a proper place for themselves in international society. Kojima asked how this could be done at the present time. Cousens suggested strict adherence to International Law, good treatment of prisoners, getting us an abundance of relief supplies; not instead of just talking benevolence; do something to create international good will for a change. Cousens feels that his tirade was worth while as Kojima is a prominent figure in the foreign office. Donoto says that after half the camp is moved, the remaining group will be allowed to see overseas shortwave news. He says it can't be done now as the present group can't be trusted. To substantiate this he recalled Parkyns' numerous indiscretions, Dooley's and Shenk's blunders, Provee's stool pigeoning, Noblitt's frequent conversations with Mr. Co. One of Streeter's men, Corporal Andrews, brazenly descended from his third-floor confinement in the Jap office building, and walked up and down in our court. He says that they know of the contemplated move, and are scheduled to live with the group which remains. Heaven forbid that we ever have to associate with Streeter again. We've enough to contend with now.

June 8 - Donoto has suggested that Major Cox inspect the baggage of all men leaving.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

But, Cox doesn't know who is leaving! Donoto then stated that all maps, papers were forbidden. "They don't like them." "They" must mean Onori officials. Donoto talked a lot about regular POW camps, said they weren't so bad, that the Red Cross was putting on the pressure to have them moved to certain areas in the country. I don't like this sort of talk. Would hate to see anyone from here return to Onori despite our unpleasant situation. Donoto says that the matter has gotten out of his control; that higher authorities are making the decision and will act when they are ready. Provee heard of it and cried to Major Cox for an hour, screaming patriotism and insisting that he must go with the group to Onori - (Wisener is supposed to be going.) Provee said he couldn't stand doing this traitorous work and being under these appalling conditions. A few moments later Donoto came up to our room to tell us that Provee had told Kojima about Wisener's writing ability and advised that he be given assignments. Donoto realizes that Provee did this to make sure that both he and Wisener remained in this camp - together. Provee also convinced Kojima that he is the most prolific and reliable writer here. Kojima apparently assured Provee that he would remain here in the event a move is made. What is this two-faced drive! It's getting damned annoying, and we're completely powerless to deal with him. Major Cousens has discovered why our rations have been so short. A group - believed to consist of Smith, Fujita, Rodde, Parkyns and Shettles - have been stealing a bit each day from the issued rations of their fellow prisoners! They have a system of signals which are used when Dooley leaves his room where the rations are stored. What the hell next! First they beg cigarette butts from Jap ecclie soldiers, now they're stealing their mates' rations. Called Smith in for a talk today. Gave him instructions that, if he returns to Onori, he is to report to Lt. Cmdr. Calahan, USN, and give him the full story of what's going on here. Provee has been doing a lot of writing lately and we've been anxious to know what he's doing besides commentaries and letters to the Japs. Astarita rescued a couple of sheets today from the galley fire. Provee had tried to burn them but they slipped to one side. They were a letter from Provee to himself! Gripes! Are we all mad? He told himself to be a soldier, be manly, emulate Wisener in every way. He told himself that he wanted something to happen with Wisener but was mistaken to try to force the issue all the time. He advised himself to be patient and "let nature take its course." If we don't kill that bastard soon, he'll probably get us. This thing has really gone too far. This afternoon Provee wrote a letter to Tamaishi. Bruce saw it. The letter said: "If my senior officers, Major Cox and Lt. Wisener, are removed from this camp, I must go too, for I cannot stay on without them. My health is poor," etc. As soon as Donoto left this afternoon, Provee spent three hours elocuted in the Jap offices with Kojima, Tasaki and others. Goodness knows what he said to them, but it must have been important because he let his supper get cold, which is something for that gluttonous thief. Wisener is afraid Provee will fix it so they'll both have to stay here in this mess. J. Martinez says he heard in the hospital that Shinagawa POW Hospital was burned. The prisoners, he reports, have been moved to Onori. If that's so, it may alter the move from here. Onori will be overcrowded. Four cigarettes have been issued for the next four days. Honestly!

June 9 - We were right. The move to Onori has been called off. Donoto says that if

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

anyone is moved, it will have to be to the school. Both he and Tsuneishi are satisfied. So are we. Hyasaka brought in a new supply of cigarettes, but didn't issue them. Demoto brought in a bed, springs, and real mattress which he plans to use when and if air raids disrupt communications so he can't get home. He put it in our room, told me to use it tonight. I will, but don't expect to get much sleep after three years on boards!

June 10 - Didn't sleep two hours last night. Never again. Back to the boards. McLaughlin has taken over Demoto's bed. Two hundred and fifty bombers over the dock areas this morning. Seventy-five loaves of bread have spoiled in the storeroom. The Japs are eating white rice, but we must eat the bread! It's covered with green fuzz a half inch thick. Even washing and rebaking doesn't help. Feel like I'm getting flu. Ozaki arrived. He's an announcer on the Zero Hour. Patton and Doc Little are back in America. Charred remains of Hitler are supposed to have been found. Zukov thinks they're fake. Records show Hitler married former actress and is thought to be living in some remote part of Europe. The Prime Minister's speech is interesting. Give us anything but unconditional surrender and we'll quit. Shanghai POWs are being moved to Hoken, Manchuria. Lucky. Truman to Congress! No peace in the world until Jap militarism is destroyed. "These are the same Japanese who perpetrated the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor, the same Japanese who ordered the death march from Bataan, the same Japanese who carried out barbarous massacres in Manila. They should know better." He went on to say that America is at the peak of her military strength and won't relax or weaken in her purpose. Reports from the States on the daily meeting of former prime ministers: (1) They suggest another cabinet change; (2) they are putting forth peace feelers; (3) they will extend a warm hand to Russia. Ozaki says that without exception the local Japs know they're "goners," but that unless the unconditional surrender policy is altered, they'll fight it out to the last ditch. Too bad! He says that they all know we are in the only unbombed area and are rapidly moving in around us. Ozaki says it's a crime for Headquarters officers to hide behind hospitals, kids and prisoners, but admits they have done it everywhere and that's why shrines, churches, hospitals, etc., have been destroyed. They have spoiled every inviolable area because they cannot play fair. They never have, and never will get away with it. Nana brought us 110 sticks of blackmarket coffee at \$2.50 per stick. We bought it all with money from our community fund. The Kempf Warrent Officer returned today from Shanghai, loaded down with gin and Chinese cigarettes.

June 11 - The Flea has been discharged! He's been taken into the service. Demoto censored my dialogue on the AKA MANU and only insisted on one insert: "Common sense tells us the lights were on." Pappy Light has agreed to hold back the stenciled copies until the last minute to prevent further censorship. The boys are delighted with it, say it's the most sensational, blunt truth of actual war prison conditions that has ever been written. I'm afraid that if Kojima gets it too soon it will be drastically altered. The Warrant Officer and Mr. Go got really plastered last night. Mr. Go got very hostile, called Smith and Rodds into the courtyard and informed them - "We have plenty American tobacco, but you're not going to get it. You're horios! (disgraced criminals). He then called "tenko" (muster) at 11:30 p.m., but none

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

of us responded. Streeter and his group began broadcasting today. We're on the old Postman Calls time. They must think we're good the way they use us to get audiences for other shows. An flat on my back with flu. Demoto says Hyasaka locked up the new supply of tobacco and left for three days in the country. Major Cousins showed him a sickly pile of dried-up leaks, turnips, and cabbage from which our daily vegetable ration is drawn. He explained how we've been existing on this sort of thing, plus barley, for months, and how the average weight loss in camp has been four pounds per week. Hise, our only source of vegetable protein, was stopped two weeks ago. He advised Demoto to take action quickly or a drastic situation will develop. Dooley refused to accept the lunch bread issue from the supplyman. Only 12 of the 24 loaves were edible. The new supplyman, Goggles, came through with a partial barley issue to make up the difference. Provoe cornered Wisener this afternoon, and in a roundabout way, made several confessions. Said he had been told confidentially by Kojima that the move is about to take place. (He doesn't know it's been cancelled.) Kojima told him that Wisener must be sent to the new camp and he, Provoe, must remain here. Provoe said it was too bad that they must part, and asked if Wisener would outline a policy for him to live by during the rest of his internment in this camp. Said he had behaved badly in the past and asked Wisener's forgiveness, that he hadn't been in his right mind. Wisener said he wasn't interested in anything. Provoe said that he was afraid to be returned to a regular camp and into regular prisoner-of-war life. The prisoners, he said, might do him harm because of his bad reputation. He almost admitted he had advised Kojima to assign the three commentaries to Wisener. But - after realizing that the authorities were determined to remove Wisener and to keep Provoe here, he had become resigned to make the best of the situation. It seems that Provoe's love for Wisener has finally proven to be less than his love for his own welfare. Loose tobacco issued. Got out of bed and wrote Missing Men entitled "Turnip Tirade," a screed against being stuffed with turnips month after month. It describes our insufficient diet, lack of tobacco, lack of everything - and it will never pass the censors.

June 12 - Am still in bed. Demoto censored and OK'd every word of "Turnip Tirade." Amazing! Sgt. Light is to deliver the stenciled AKA MANU script this afternoon. He can't hold it back much longer. Provoe wrote Demoto a long letter begging the Jap authorities not to remove him from this camp. Demoto says that some time ago Provoe praised highly Wisener's writing ability to members of the Jap planning board. Demoto says Provoe wrote to Tsuneishi asking to be removed with Major Cox and Wisener. Now he writes the exact opposite to Demoto. He cried to Cox that he must follow his senior officers to Omori, and to Wisener that he had resigned himself to staying here and making the best of things. Demoto suggests that Provoe simply use his knowledge of Japanese psychology in writing to Tsuneishi for removal. Tsuneishi would lose face if he complied with the request, therefore he would order Provoe to keep on working here; just what Provoe really wants. He's obviously quite mad, and dangerous. He stopped me this afternoon while I was on my way to the latrine and asked if I thought he was going to be removed. I said I was in the dark about everything.

June 13 - Demoto, in a conversation with Cousins, tried to say that Japanese policy has

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

been to accept all offers for shipments of relief supplies to prisoners. Fortunately I was able to pull from my files an old script on Anthony Eden's request to the Jap government to accept a shipment of Red Cross food through Vladivostok. It occurred in June 1944. Hishikari and Uno refused to allow the script on the air. The Jap foreign office wasn't receptive to the offer. Domoto was amazed. Then we elaborated on other offers from Washington - all flatly rejected at this end. Provoc cornered Domoto again about the move. Domoto finally told him it was called off until he could arrange to take all non-producers to the country school house. Provoc was satisfied, slightly embarrassed after all the disturbance he's been causing. My ANA MARU script went on today - unaltered. Everyone feels we did a good job by the boys in the camps. I wonder how Mr. Iguchi will feel when he realizes that a group of war prisoners have knocked the props out from under him, that all the so-called facts he has used in ranting about Japan's strict adherence to international law have been completely disproven by his own radio station. The noose draws tighter, but so what. It's the truth, and everything went through proper channels - though slowly! Streeter has put "Energist" badges on members of his group. What next! Provoc asked for another talk with Wisener after supper this evening. But this time Wisener did all the talking. He told Provoc never to speak to him again, that no one here trusts him, that he's acting stool pigeon for the Japs, that he caused the death of an American Army captain in the Philippines, that he had Kalbfleisch removed by the Kempf-Tai, that he tried to get rid of Cousins, Ince and Henshaw, that he is constantly provoking dissension within the camp, that he's a sexual pervert, and he ought to keep away from decent people. Provoc went bitterly and Wisener came up to bed, satisfied. Hundreds of bombers were reported coming into our district at midnight, but turned off to another area. J. Martinez went to pieces when the report was made.

June 14 - Major Cousins had another session with Domoto about our terrible food. He asks action - quickly. "Turnip Tirade" went on the air. The Jap authorities thought it "very funny." Little do they know! The Yanks have landed on Bornoe. Sent Dorsey Kurakawa the coat I received from Ambassador Clegg in the early days of the war. The men sent some clothes to Bucky Harris who said he'd try to get us a few eggs in return. Ince brought the recordings of my ANA MARU script back to camp and we played it this evening on the Scott victrola. All hands are amazed that it was permitted to go on the air. Shank tells us he used to smoke between 200 and 250 cigarettes per day in peacetime. Are we all going nuts?

June 15 - Everyone was ordered suddenly out of the building while Major Cousins and Cox, Capt. Ince, pulled a surprise inspection. The reason: jitters in the Jap office regarding another inspection by the Gmori colonel. The Japs have asked that all maps, bits of wire, etc. be put out of sight. The matter was assigned to Major Cox. They found a few parcels of stolen food, a radio tube in Parkyn's gear. He got it while repairing Hamsen's radio, but it would have taken a lot of explaining. All's well now. Domoto gave Provoc strict orders not to visit the Jap office again. He warned him that he is violating camp orders by not consulting the senior prisoner officer before making such visits to the Japanese. Wise arrived. Don't know why

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

we're so slated when the daily issue is so small. Still, it's our only source of protein. As soon as Domoto left this afternoon, Provoc disappeared into the Jap office building for three hours. Thirty feet of eel arrived. We're to eat it boiled! What next!

June 16 - Moon reconnaissance planes let loose a bunch of rocket bombs. The noise scared the neighborhood half to death. Smith seems to have aroused the house again with anti-Cousens talk. He doesn't like the Major's last commentary on the ANA MARU business. Smith is acting like a fool. He knows nothing of the facts, yet sets himself up to criticize the actions of his seniors. He should know better. The entire group is really out of hand, but Major Cox will not take strong action. He just doesn't know how to use his authority. Big changes have taken place in Imperial Headquarters. Tsunishi has been made a Lt. Col. A new general is taking over this camp on Monday and will inspect us. Mr. Go has been called into the service. He'll leave tomorrow. Domoto says that the Red Cross parcels stored in the Jap office building were to have been issued to us three weeks ago, but when Tsunishi received reports on the conduct of this group (mainly the nightly visits to the restricted area where Streeter's men were confined), he cancelled the issue. A few members of this group ought to be severely smacked down. The actions of a few, reflecting on the entire group, prevent us from making any headway at all in getting better food and living conditions. Domoto heard "Energy on the Air." Says they're lousy. Says he can't understand the mentality of the group of Japanese who are sponsoring Streeter. Mana brought us some Irish potatoes which she purchased on the black market - 15 yen. We gave her 25. Good old girl.

June 17 - Field day for the big inspection tomorrow. Policed the entire place - a cleanup which should have been done long ago, but there was no one to order it. The men responsible for certain areas do not do their jobs. Sanitation is as bad as the discipline. Ozaki arrived. Late President's plane has been sent to Europe to bring back Eisenhower. Swell gesture. There is still small resistance in China. Yenan Communists are 100 miles from Shanghai. Strictly confidential from Major Cousins: Kojima told him that a delegation from Chungking is here in Tokyo trying to reach an agreement with the Japs. Reports indicate that the conference has made progress, and if Britain and America approve the results, peace may not be far off. Ozaki says food conditions out in Tokyo are appalling, but the people are so accustomed to poverty that they don't realize they're starving. He and his wife have no grain of any kind. They were issued a small amount of flour which is supposed to last ten days but is insufficient. They have no vegetables. Money is useless. The black market can be worked, but one must supplement cash with articles such as soap, clothing, tobacco.

June 18 - Inspected at 11:00. The new general was formerly Board of Information spokesman. Fujimura, Hyasaka, Viscount Ikeda and Count Kobayama have resigned. Hyasaka has been instructed to get his books ready for inspection by July 5th. Good. Truman has asked the Japanese people why they fight when all America wants is the unconditional surrender of the Jap Army. Hmm - is that unconditional? Domoto says the new general's program policy may be for strong Japanese propaganda. Back to the old days of "the voice of Greater East Asia, strong, determined and ever-victorious." What the hell's the difference what they do. It doesn't make any difference to

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *AMP*
973092

anyone, anywhere. This afternoon Domoto contrived to make Hyasaka produce what remained of the 15 personal packages which were sent to this camp from Omori several weeks ago. (The parcels, addressed to deceased war prisoners, have been apportioned to Omori's sub-camps.) Hyasaka produced - what was left now that the Japs' looting is finished. Embarrassed to deliver the individual packages, he dumped everything into one wastepaper bin and presented it to Major Cousens. It was a sickening sight. From 15 complete parcels, bought and sent by our own people, all that remained was a stinking pile of mouldy towels, handkerchieves, socks, toothpowder, blades, brushes, games, and a little rotten food. The parcels were all of the exact same type which I received from Mother a year ago. Therefore, we were able to determine what had been stolen. All the soap, cigarettes, sweaters, and good food were missing, plus all other useful items which had not been soiled by rotting food. Cousens and Cox made up 28 small piles and held a raffle. I drew a pair of soiled socks, three razor blades, a dirty shaving brush, a small package of vitamin pills, a pencil and several safety pins. The others drew similar assortments. All the stale raisins, candy, rotten cheese, malted milk were turned over to the galley. They're going to try boiling it all together to see what results. Domoto was extremely embarrassed. As he looked at the stinking mess on the floor - the foul remains of 15 comfort packages - he remarked: "We'll just have to wait and settle this sort of thing after the war." And how we're waiting! Six weeks ago these parcels arrived, sealed and intact for needy prisoners. Today we got what was left after Mr. Hyasaka and his group got through with them. It's quite typical of what goes on in every camp with the relief supplies sent to us by our wonderful people. And in spite of this sort of thing, they will continue to send, knowing as they do that only a small percentage will reach us. God bless them. Astarita drew the only shirt, the front of which was partly eaten away by rats. We'll try to fix it some way. Domoto said we needn't consider acknowledging receipt of these parcels on the air. However, we've kept a list of the addressees - poor devils who have died in the camps of starvation and disease. Perhaps Dismal Quille was right when he said that a little arsenic in the Red Cross parcels would end the war. It would kill off most of the local population and damned few war prisoners. Domoto, we know, is powerless to control the supply department. It has been entirely under Hyasaka and Fujimura. But now they have resigned, and if nothing alters the customary progression of events in happy Japan, we'll get some one worse. So what the hell. The boiled moud was delicious. Mama brought in another box of potatoes. Bless her. And so ends another trying day in POW camp.

June 19 - A dialogue which I wrote several days ago - along the lines of "Turnip Tirade" - was returned by Kojima who has insisted that certain lines be deleted. This one is called "Gopher Gabble." The main purpose of my script, Kojima said, was to announce to the world over Radio Tokyo that the Japanese are cads because they don't supply the prisoners with an adequate amount of cigarettes. I have used the gopher, he suggested, to represent Japan. The gopher, while helping us dig a bomb shelter, doesn't offer us a smoke, therefore he is a cad. One character suggests that if the diggers persist in their digging, they will eventually come out in China with the help of the gopher, of course. The gopher by this time has

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

become a traitorous Japanese. When we reach China, we will have plenty cigarettes. This gopher business suggests that we have an undesirable contact on the outside! Hell! What a mentality. Honolulu Lu, the Jap stenographer who was born in Hawaii, has asked R. Martinez if he will swap one pack of Camel cigarettes for 50 Jap cigarettes. Martinez explained that he doesn't have any Camels. "Oh, but they were issued to you yesterday. Haven't you received them yet?" No. She said she had seen dozens of packs in Hyasaka's storeroom and was certain we had received them with the personal packages issued yesterday. Her brother is dying for a Stateside smoke. Cousens reported the matter to Domoto who promised to investigate Hyasaka's supply department immediately for the stolen tobacco. He reported later that there wasn't an American cigarette in the place. A complete report was given Domoto on exactly what was missing. Domoto says he can't do a thing about it. The Japs have simply taken valuable items which they can use with money on the black market to purchase food. Several hundred bombers pounded Nagoya last night. All news seems to point toward some sort of negotiated peace with these people: Truman's speech, Grew's policy which is taking a beating from unconditional surrender advocates, British policy, the presence in Tokyo of a delegation from Chungking. The latter couldn't very well be here without the consent of Britain and America. Two Wiscot stenographers asked Domoto if they might be permitted to voice their opinions on Streeter's program. He said O.K. They think it's "awful, and harmful to Japanese interests." They know this because they were raised in America and knew how Americans think! Taseki told the stenographers to remember their places and asked Domoto to have them punished for being so brazen. Hmmm.

June 20 - Domoto brought Major Cousens one of a series of broadcasts being made from America by a man named Zacharias. He reminisces of a past friendship between himself and a Jap Lt. Comdr. who was formerly attached to the Jap embassy in Washington. They discussed many times their fear of a rupture in Japanese-American relations. Today, Zacharias observes, his friend who has since become a rear admiral, has resigned. He wonders why. Perhaps, Zacharias suggests, the admiral revealed unpalatable truths regarding American wealth and power to his fellow members in the high command. Perhaps these revelations were not well accepted. Zacharias recalls his "friend" President Truman's proclamation of June 1st that "Japan has already felt the might of America on land, sea, and air. These blows will continue in ever increasing intensity until our purpose is achieved - namely, the unconditional surrender of the Japanese armed forces." Zacharias says that this is the only way Japan's leaders can save Japan. Domoto describes this sort of American propaganda as being extremely effective. The only thing he fears is that America will lose patience with the slow-working oriental mind. Then, on local matters, Domoto said he is frantic about the lack of discipline within our group of war prisoners. Later in the day Mr. Takabatake told us that the one thing which distresses Domoto in connection with the big change pending in Jap office administration is - the lack of discipline among the prisoners. He added that Domoto's policy of permitting us complete "house rule" under Major Cox cannot continue unless drastic reforms are made. Provoe is unquestionably the farthest out of line, and we can't do anything about him. We called a meeting of prisoner officers in our room. Major

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

Cox was furious. He said that if there was any lack of discipline in camp it was entirely the fault of the Japanese; that they should have removed Provoc when we requested it last year. Despite this, we quickly informed Cox that it was not entirely the fault of the Japanese. It's ours, his? He never gives explicit orders. He is too democratic, too lax. We said that we had always hated his policy and had done our best to prod him into being strong, but our efforts availed nothing. Cox always says, "Come on, fellas, let's clean the place up, let's turn to and ---" He never puts it in the form of an order. He never puts any snap into it. Enlisted men won't respond to that sort of thing. It just doesn't work. We thrashed the whole thing out and Cox finally agreed to work with Major Cousens in making out a set of camp orders, assign specific duties, run an OD roster, have daily inspections of the entire camp, appoint a Charge of Quarters. We also decided that if it appears necessary, we'll accuse Provoc in front of the whole group and hold a private trial on him. He must be punished. Cousens advocates that those who misbehave be deprived of their rations for 24 hours, or cigarettes for a month, or even flogged. Everyone agreed. Provoc must be stopped. He is deliberately putting in great danger the lives of his fellow men, steals from them, reports their activities to the Japs, and is a confessed sexual pervert. We are sure that Domoto will give his full support to any move on our part to tighten down. Three days ago Tsunishi gave Hyasaka 15,000 yen from Headquarters funds to purchase peanut oil for this organization - prisoners and Japs. Today there is no oil and the money is gone. Tsunishi has been given a new post in Shikoku, and Hyasaka is busy juggling his books so everything will come out even by the 5th. Domoto says he can't take action as his own position is very insecure - due to the change in command. My number one hate, Mr. Iguchi, is among the new group taking over our outfit. He may even be directly associated with us. Wouldn't that take the rag!

June 21 - Cox is still working on his new directive. Domoto brought us a bottle of olive oil and a jar of honey. Papasan was sent to Omori and returned with 20 letters for Cox and Wisner, eight bags of flour, seven boxes of noodles. Last night the Jap office boys had a pancake feast and a box of noodles disappeared! Domoto says that Tokyo has been officially pronounced "not a military objective." Only spot bombing will be done here in future. Cox described the new orders to Domoto, the OD roster, etc. Domoto approved the idea. Then Cox said that both he and Provoc couldn't remain in the same camp any longer; demanded that Domoto "either remove Provoc or allow me to go back to Omori." Domoto said that next Monday, the 25th, he will call this group of prisoners together and lay the matter of Provoc's and Martinez's activities before them. Once that bombshell is dropped, he advised that Cox publish the new orders. The combination ought to scare the entire camp into line once and for all. Now we're gettin' somewhere! Domoto said he was going to lay the whole plan before Kojima in an effort to get him on our side and freed of Provoc's influence. Cousens, however, has laid the groundwork for winning Kojima with his new series of commentaries on China. They're hitting it off well.

June 22 - Dooley refused today's bread issue as the loaves were 100 grams short of the POW ration announced by the New York Times in February this year. The supplyman reported the incident and Kojima sent for Cousens and Dooley. With Goggles and Hyasaka they had a really hot session in the Japanese office. Goggles tugged at Cousens' arm. Dooley lost his temper, shoved his fist

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

under Goggles' chin and screamed (in very bad Japanese), "It is a Lt. Colonel!" Cousens said he enjoyed the slight promotion, and that it had a marvelous effect. Kojima ordered Goggles to leave the room. Then Hyasaka lost his temper, but was quickly called to order by Kojima. Cousens quietly explained that we are always being given promises of standard rations and that several times ration figures have been set down. However, within 24 hours these set figures are violated by the supply department. Why? He said that the whole supply department was corrupt and demanded that we be given "at least the ration announced by the Japanese government for prisoners of war" - as long as they refuse to abide by International Law and give us the same ration they give their army. Kojima was sympathetic, said he'll do all he can. BUT - we were talked into accepting the slim bread issue. Domoto is delighted with the way Kojima supported us in the supply department row; believes a lot can be accomplished if Kojima interests himself in our personal affairs. J. Martinez is reported to have told Hyasaka that all the prisoners were up in arms about the Japanese stealing Red Cross supplies and the general food, and that we're planning to take action. This is absurd. Some have shown dissatisfaction about the personal packages but nearly all have kept quiet in order to let Cousens and Domoto do the talking. R. Martinez says he was once approached by Hyasaka and asked to report on conversations he heard among the prisoners. He was promised cigarettes if he would do this. Hyasaka said that he wanted these reports in order to know us better and be able to fulfill our needs. R. Martinez says he made a few stupid reports - after first discussing them with Pearson. They did it to get extra cigarettes. Hyasaka never got anything of importance and finally dropped him for J. Martinez. Any weapon Martinez can give Hyasaka at the present time is particularly dangerous. He must be curbed. Hyasaka is trying to retract his resignation and oust Domoto. Truman is in San Francisco closing the conference. Local papers say it was a flop. Crux of the parley - the veto issue - is still unsettled. Have been instructed to do a Missing Men dialogue - a tribute to Ernie Pyle. Have been given a file of Bessie information on Pyle's life. The Japs say that in presenting this tribute they intend to show that "even in war there is respect between fellow journalists." I have been told - "there is a female lead of 8,000 in the population of America. What is to be done about it?" Write! I am ordered to show that if more men are killed in the war, there will be a greater percentage of women in America. Haloney. Several days ago Cousens and I were ordered to write on Japan's balloon-borne bombs, justifying their use as just as inhumane as America's B-29 night raids on Japan. We fought the assignment and finally agreed to stall. Today those orders were cancelled. I am now "to make light of the issue" - to suggest that the balloons could be put to a better purpose if they were used to return war prisoners to America prior to the end of the war. Wrote a beauty on the subject, packed full of good punches. Domoto says that the new administration is seriously considering moving us all to the country school house, laying a cable to the radio station and broadcasting that way. He added that this time it has really gone beyond the talking stage! We are now under the Imperial Headquarters publicity department, propaganda section.

June 23 - Major Cousens today thanked Radio Melbourne for having complied with our request of several days ago to rebroadcast certain messages to war prisoners

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

77-3092

which we failed to receive due to faulty reception. Japs in the front office are making inquiries to decide whether or not Dooley should be made to apologize to Goggles for having shoved his fist under the latter's chin. Went to the station today with the Aussie group, and during the program I was able to talk with Lilian and her sister. They say that thieves got into their shelter and stole all their winter clothes and reserve food supplies. It seems that those who have been burned out are extremely bitter toward those whose homes are still intact. There is much thieving going on. Certain groups have suggested that the government strip those who have not lost their possessions in order to supply the requirements of the air raid victims. The papers, however, praise the people for sympathizing with one another and sharing. What rubbish. It's easy to tell what the actual situation is from what is printed in the newspaper. It's always the exact opposite. Ganie gave me a few cigarettes and complained about the dullness of their lives. She says it is considered traitorous to play swing music on the victrola. Cousens has given Kojima both barrels on this place. Says he hit every department and Kojima is definitely on our side.

24 - Minniebelle, female of our three dogs, is about to produce. And we can't even find enough food for one of them! Ozaki here. End of Okinawa campaign has been announced by Nimits. Japs are said to have surrendered in unprecedented numbers waving red, white, and blue propaganda surrender leaflets. Cox posted the new orders in the office and announced their introduction at muster. Unfortunately he was as weak as ever, apologizing for having to publish such orders. He just doesn't have the stuff!

25 - Hoblitt, after reading the new orders, greeted me this morning with: "Does the ensign wish to be saluted by his men even if they are harchessed? It's against Marine Corps regulations." I said nothing, walked away. What insolence. Some of the men are taking the new orders very poorly. Those fault is it that they think they should have all the rank and privileges of a vice admiral? Gursi; Donoto brought in several pages of short-wave news on German prisoners of war. British subjects, returned to England, are to be received by the King and Queen at a palace. Of 83,000 in one camp, only 22,000 remained, and they - according to correspondents - "were so far gone that nothing could restore them to humanity. A quick death is the best thing that could happen to them." News reels of German atrocities are causing a sensation at home. People in the theaters weep, get angry. It may all help to effect radical changes in the local policy towards us. Hope so. I asked Donoto what the local Japs feel about ex-POWs being entertained by royalty, when in Japan we've regarded as disgraced criminals. He didn't know! My script on the 6,000 female lead in America, entitled "Back to Amazonia," was returned with the comment that I had "deliberately poked fun at a very serious assignment." The Jap office insists that the general American populace won't know enough about Greek mythology to understand the reference to Amazonia. I explained that they would - at least "the higher intellectual classes to whom our work is directed will understand." They agreed that such was a possibility. However, the script seemed "terribly light." I suggested that since Britain has for years had a 2,000,000 lead in females, I really didn't think their propaganda point

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 973092

was particularly strong. Nothing more was said. They passed the script. Inspected by a Lt. Col. Don't know who he was and couldn't care less.

June 26 - Weather has turned very hot, mosquitoes thick. Donoto called a general meeting after lunch, described the changes in the Jap administration and appointed Major Cousens to take over Cox's job as senior prisoner officer. He said he is completely in the dark as to policy of the new administration. Under Taunoishi, Donoto said, he had complete authority over us. But now, he doesn't know. He then ordered Provoe and J. Martinez to stand, and addressed them as "two men who have said and done things in the front office to the extreme detriment of your fellow men." Donoto said that only by his constant battling and luck had a tragedy been avoided. The prisoner officers might have been either jailed or shot as a result of their activities. He advised Provoe to stop being erratic, stool-pigeoning for the Japanese, writing love letters. And to stop trying to convince himself and others that he's crazy. Looking straight at Provoe, he said, "You're not in the least insane and quit kidding yourself that you are in order to cover up your traitorous activities." He further told Provoe he is a complete fool. "You should know better. And if you violate my orders in the future, I shall not be responsible for you." He then turned to J. Martinez and announced that the information Martinez has been passing to Hyasaka has always been taken direct to Imperial Headquarters and has caused many serious sessions there. Fortunately, Donoto said, he had been called in on them and had always managed to get things straightened out. Martinez was also warned to tow the line from now on. The meeting was sensational and did a great deal toward consolidating the group fully in support of Major Cousens, and the rest of us. Some, like Smith, who have so often agitated and condemned their officers, now realize that our hands have been tied all along due to the actions of these men. Everything we ever said, every action ever taken, was reported straight to the Jap authorities. Hoblitt called me aside after the meeting to apologize for his insolent outburst yesterday. He said he had no idea we had been up against so many problems. He asked that I treat him in a friendly manner. I said I would providing he conducts himself like a good soldier and does his job quietly. Cousens talked to the group at supper, gave a complete picture of what has gone on behind the scenes, what he expects in the future regarding camp and program problems. He explained how and why the move fell through; Hyasaka's activities against us, Donoto's solid backing, the decision of prison camp officials to try to stop Humanity Calls, what we have actually tried to accomplish and what has been accomplished, our campaign for Red Cross relief supplied, and general presentation to American authorities of liberal thought in Japan. Cousens then summarized war news, outlined his policy for us and asked for full support and cooperation. The men are delighted with the whole business and have pledged to support Cousens one hundred per cent. They are happy with Truman's formal press statement which made clear his intention to press the issue of relief to prisoners, and the fact that he has been deluged with letters from all over the country regarding our welfare. Cousens explained the predicted move to the country school house, the fact that the cable is being laid, etc. He then stated that if anyone here felt he could not carry out Japanese orders regarding this work, he would inquire as to the possibilities of their being removed to a regular

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

camp. However, he would only be instrumental in making the transfer if he was first assured that the new camp was all right and not one of the horror work camps. Those who remain here, however, must carry out Cousens' orders to the letter or else he will use his authority to see that they are punished. As punishment he said the officers had approved: deprivation of rations for 24 hours, no cigarettes for the remainder of internment, flogging. After supper Cox and Wisener approached the Major to say that no matter what the conditions of the "other" camp - they want to get out of here. The men, on the other hand, haven't made any such request. They have been regular prisoners and know what it's like, and they're not entitled to the so-called preferential treatment given officers. I do not believe anything can be done anyway. The original Jap orders are still in effect, and though many do not work at all, the authorities are quite content as long as the rest of us produce a show for them and carry the load. Consequently - we shall continue - as we have in the past - to support the non-workers, earn their rations, their cigarettes, and their better chance of getting through this miserable mess alive. Cox's new orders are in full effect. There is an OD inspection daily at 9:30. Everyone seems to like it. The camp is spotless. Provo is moping around, cried to Cox for an hour this afternoon. "But everyone thinks I'm a traitor!" Thinks? Major Cousens went to bed this evening with slight heart palpitations. It's been a big day for him.

June 27 - Miyoshi returned. He's been on an island off Okinawa. Says he interviewed several captured pilots. Their treatment from the army and Kempi-Tai is good. The civilians are hostile. Miyoshi lived in a cave. Saw 30 to 40 raids per day. Says he stole food while unloading Jap ships at night. Had asthma badly. Made inquiries as to how our food has been, and got retorts from all sides. Smith had a long talk with Cousens; apologized for his lack of cooperation, and failure to understand his seniors, etc. Said he thought we had been kidding ourselves regarding the value of Humanity Calls. But now he realizes he has been a fool. Said he has known nothing of what went on behind the scenes and has conducted himself like an irresponsible child. Now he wants a chance to do anything which will bring pressure to bear in connection with getting better treatment and more relief supplies for the men in the camps. Cousens told him that he, Cousens, was assuming full responsibility to our governments for the actions we take from now until the end of the war. Smith sent for me after his talk with Cousens and repeated his apologies. Smith is a good soldier. Actually he has only gotten out of hand a few times. The reason his actions have been felt so strongly is because he is so very much more intelligent than the other men. Smith told me he thought he was through in Donoto's estimation. I assured him that such was not the case, suggested that he see Donoto tomorrow and apologize for his past conduct. Major Cousens spent three hours this afternoon with Kojima over a bottle of brandy - which he needed. They talked about China, Russia, and general American policy. Reported that Kojima had said the Japs know they're beaten. They keep fighting because the Army won't face the facts. There are signs of insurrection within the ranks of the Jap army. Kojima said to Major: "A subject is only good propaganda if I can convince you of my point." This he seldom accomplishes. He asked Cousens why America was showing German atrocity films after the defeat of Germany. Said he thought perhaps it was to bring pressure in Tokyo for better treatment

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

of allied prisoners. Cousens said he believes the only course for Japan if she wants to get anything out of this mess is to make a big gesture for the benefit of her war prisoners, to accept as much Red Cross relief as America will send, and see that it is properly distributed. Comply as closely as possible with International Law. Otherwise, he said, the economic strangulation which America and Britain can impose after the war will be worse than present conditions. Cousens believes that his recommendations will go far in view of Kojima's connections with the Foreign Office. He thinks there are better days ahead.

June 28 - My riotous "Back to Amazonia" script was broadcast today. Returned from the station by train. It was the worst trip ever, crowded, filthy, schedules don't exist. People nearly kill each other to get on or off. Incredible conduct. The newspaper describes a new "volunteer corps" into which all women between 16 and 60 are being conscripted. It makes the usual sense. The prime minister has spoken again urging all brethren to unite in their "sacred war of righteousness." He announced the loss of Okinawa.

June 29 - Four letters came from Mother. One acknowledges receipt of Mab's birthday message in '44. Donoto sent for me to ask about the conditions in Zentsuji when I left in '43. His reason: Stateside radio tells of a statement made by a Korean, formerly attached to a Shikoku Army unit near Zentsuji who escaped through China. He described the prison conditions as desperately short of food, that the prisoners had starved through the winters of '43 and '44. The Jap Army is reported to have taken out 154 prisoners and used them for bayonet practice. He asked if I believed this story. I said no. Was the food bad? No. And then I told him that, while conditions were far from satisfactory, they were the best I've ever heard of in Japan. Donoto said that if he can get proof that such an atrocity was committed, he will quit this country. Saw Lilian at the studio. She said: "Something wonderful will happen on August 8th. All the Japanese civilians know that it will happen, but they don't know the details." I asked her to explain further. She refused, asking that I simply believe in her prediction and keep going until that date when everything will be all right. What the hell! I told her I wished I were back in Zentsuji camp. She disagreed. Food is desperately short on Shikoku, and the POWs in Nagano prefecture are known to be starving to death. They have only a handful of rice each day and must eat grass. She says we're lucky to be in Tokyo as the official ration here is the biggest in Japan - due to the farmers and Army who see that the emperor's home town is supplied first. If this ration is the best, I'd hate to see what it's like in other areas. I asked her why the Japs don't permit American shipments of Red Cross food to be sent in to alleviate conditions. She says the Japs aren't big enough. "Japanese people like to suffer." Lilian promised to send us some flour next month. She doesn't know what's going to do for clothes this winter. The robbery left her family with very little, and nothing can be purchased. We have been given orders from Headquarters that no further mention of Russia is to be made on our program. Hmmm. We brought home yesterday's program recordings and played back my "Back to Amazonia" script. It was funny and well worth the effort it took to get it on the air.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *97-3092*

June 30 - Red beans, flour and sugar were issued for "mid-afternoon tea." Seventy-two people are to have them! Hyasaka seems desperate to create good will among all of us as he makes his last bid to retract his resignation. He has large stocks in his food stores - all stolen from us, of course. The new regime takes over the front office tomorrow. One of the incoming officers is a lieutenant whom the boys describe as "sleepy looking." His name is Kimura and he was formerly connected with Asahi. Radio Saipan has announced that Tokyo will be raided tomorrow. We're ready. Lillian sent us a few cans of vitamin B powder containing nicotinic acid which we have needed desperately. Domoto advises that we be cautious during the next few days. He doesn't want anything to go on the air which is ambiguous and apt to cause a divergence of opinion. Many of the Jap office force are leaving. Streeter and his group have been moved to their own quarters, a private home down the street. I don't envy them having to live with Yasaki and his gang.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *97-3092*

- July 1 - No raid occurred today as promised by Radio Saipan. Our water has been off for three days. No explanation. Had to haul water for our bath today. Warrant Officer Otake says he is leaving permanently - ousted by the new regime, according to Domoto. Mama says she's dubious about the new Jap administration. Ozaki came in this evening. Predicts the Japanese will definitely make a last ditch stand with their bamboo spears and spirits, but he promises to join us when we escape into the manholes. He's annoyed because the newspapers print so much trash instead of the intelligent reports which come from the American radio. Such items as Halsey's white horse business are featured, and other comments which demand extermination of the Japs. None of it helps, he says.
- July 2 - Domoto says that under the new order, Miyoshi will replace Hyasaka under a regular Jap army supplyman. The new people have taken over the offices but haven't, as yet, decided when they will inspect their wards - the prisoners. Domoto asks that we are ready at all times for a surprise inspection. July 6th has been proclaimed Ernie Pyle Day by his home state, Indiana. My script on Ernie, a tribute written from the Domot file which was given me, must be ready for broadcast on that day. It must show that even in war there is brotherhood between journalists.
- July 3 - Finished the script on Ernie Pyle and think it's good. It has been a week since Cousens took over command of the camp, one week since Domoto embarrassed Provoc and J. Martinez before the group. The Mexican is as arrogant as ever, but Provoc is subdued. He told Odlin that he felt he had been deliberately left out of the radio work and wants to be assigned his proper share of the burden. Provoc said he thought he would see Ince about it but Odlin said he'd better keep quiet; that if Ince needs his assistance he will ask for it. Provoc is out to get even with us. If he starts writing again, he will thereby have entree to the Japs in the front office - as is the case with all members of the script department who are summoned to discuss their assignments with the authorities. Once he gets in there, Provoc will of course start talking again. No! Everything else is in order, very military, clean, everyone carrying out orders. All like Cousens' strong hand. There is much saluting and heel-clicking during the CO's inspection each morning. Wisener is flat with stomach trouble again. No wonder, the food is so vile. Cousens says he will request the remaining 50 parcels tomorrow. Can't understand why they must always hold onto them. Guess they're just too damned small to sit while our prisoners eat better than they do. The newspapers are full of incredible drivel. They say that Japan is ready for this, ready for that. Actually they're ready for nothing. Miyoshi says that many of the American fliers he interviewed believe that the first landing will take place near Tokyo, not Kyushu. Wish they'd hurry.
- July 4 - Domoto arrived today with a small jar of pears. Wisener, Smith and I had them in Smith's isolated room. Were they good! An army supplyman is definitely coming and will be assisted by Miyoshi. Warrant Officer Otake told Domoto that he wants to get us some butter before he leaves permanently. He's really a square-shooting old soldier. Hate to see him go. At first he was a little rough, but after Domoto got him drunk and told him we were a good bunch, he's been quite decent. Otake thinks Cousens is a marvel and

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *973092*

has implicit faith in him to handle this group.

July 5 - Cousens has written a letter to Otaka thanking him for his leniency, cooperation and extolling his treatment of us as gentlemanly, officer-like, "something which prisoners of war have never before contacted." It was well received. Kojima visited with Cousens for two hours this evening. He said that big changes in the Truman cabinet indicate a radical change in U.S. foreign policy. He predicts that America will be more lenient in regard to the unconditional surrender policy, predicts that a proposition will be made by Tokyo in the very near future. He believes that the war stands a good chance of ending soon. Mama smuggled us a hundred yens' worth of potatoes. A Jap corpsman arrived from Osmi and gave us the first of two typhoid shots.

July 6 - Inspected by a Jap major - young, pleasant, thorough. He inquired into everything. Said he would not be active here in camp but will supply us with necessities after we move to our new quarters. He heads a cavalry unit near the school house. He told Donoto that when the Headquarters truck takes out a load of our supplies, preparatory to the move, he will see that it comes back full of vegetables. Donoto says he is a go-getter. Shank's radio series entitled "Only for Women," which has been on the air every Monday, is not to present Japanese recipes anymore. Shank has been instructed to "branch out into world problems." An interesting development! Otaka sent us three pounds of butter. Newspapers say that the "hundred million brethren" must get ready to live on bark and leaves as the soldiers did on Guadalcanal. The radio has been giving out raid warnings 24 hours a day. We see many reconnaissance planes but haven't had actual raids in the Tokyo area. Most of us are feverish and lacking in appetite due to the typhoid shots. Food is worse than terrible. Joe Astarita is down with flu.

July 7 - Major Cousens spoke to the group at breakfast. He announced receipt of the butter and described his letter of thanks to Otaka. Then he brought up the matter of our raids on the Jap storerooms. He says that further raids will not be tolerated. Anyone violating this order will be punished. Pearson has been instructed to hold back a small amount of grain from our rations each day. With this he will make individual emergency rations. This is so each man will have a little food if we are burned out. Yesterday's inspection was a success. The Jap major is making food contacts for us, will be in charge of laying the cable from Radio Tokyo to the school house. Donoto says he will bring all possible pressure to bear to get us the remaining Red Cross parcels as soon as possible. However, he asks that we try to be patient in view of the new administration. Our own new Jap major arrived today. He too is young, pleasant. He will be directly in charge of the broadcasting. Donoto brought us a bottle of Worcestershire sauce. He took McLaughlin, Cousens and me to the dentist. The clinic superintendent is a U. of Pennsylvania dental school graduate, also a friend of Donoto. The latter requested that our teeth be filled with something other than putty.

July 8 - Was sitting on Astarita's bunk in the men's room this morning when J. Martinez asked Hoblitt when he'd be through reading the paper. Hoblitt said Ince had given him instructions to take it to Major Cousens as soon as he was finished. J. Martinez commented: "What the hell! The officers around here have to get

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *973092*

everything first?" Hoblitt repeated that Ince had ordered it to go to Major Cousens next. J. Martinez stormed into the room repeating what he had said previously, then saw we stopped. I asked: "What's the matter, Martinez? Don't you approve of that?" Martinez said, "No." "Well," I replied, "you'd better get over it, now!" Martinez stamped out of the room. Learned today that after discovering Hyasaka had been looting the personal parcels in the Jap office building, Smith, Fujita and Parkyn made a key to the supply room and raided a few parcels themselves. They've kept quiet about it, kept some items, and swapped the remainder with Jap guards for food and tobacco. I'm delighted they got the stuff and so is Major Cousens. Ozaki came in tonight. Otaka sought him in our room but said nothing about it. Cousens says he's sure there won't be any trouble over it as Donoto knows of these secret visits. Astarita, Ozaki and I had a long talk. He says the ranks of the Jap army are riddled with spies and the high militarists are in a panic over the situation. He says that everything of importance seems to leak out. Then he mentioned American relief supplies and the way they are mishandled throughout the country. He told him of the way Hyasaka had looted our personal packages. He said he wasn't surprised. Then he recalled that early this year, when our winter clothes were sent here from Osmi (Japanese issue clothing as well as Red Cross), he was offered a complete outfit. Refused, but says that many Japanese accepted Hyasaka's offer and outfitted themselves. Ozaki said he could never have looked any of us in the eye again if he had done anything like that. Then he said that when Hishikari found out what Hyasaka was doing, he was furious about it, warned Hyasaka to quit it. (Didn't bother to upset Ozaki with the fact that any such attitude displayed by Hishikari was simply part of an act he and Hyasaka were playing. We know that Hishikari had first pick of all the clothing!) Ozaki said that Hyasaka vowed, after Astarita was caught stealing bread, that Astarita would never get the shoes he has needed since March 1944. Lately he has been wearing Rickert's, which are two sizes too small. His feet are swollen with bunions. Osmi authorities must think we're the best outfitted prisoners in Japan, what with all they've sent to us. Little do they know - we've actually received practically nothing!

July 9 - Donoto brought in two quarts of meat soup for the sick people - almost everyone. I got hold of Fujita today and instructed him to see his pal J. Martinez and straighten him out on the newspaper incident which occurred the other day. He is to warn Martinez that he is still in the pay of the U.S. government, still a soldier, and owes his officers complete loyalty and respect. Fujita says Martinez is thick and arrogant, but he'll do his best with him. Am feeling very feverish, turned in. Have no appetite - thank goodness!

July 10 - Feel worse than ever. Astarita is still down with flu. Quille has diarrhea. Cox went to bed at noon with a fever. Ince has altered programs for the next few days and inserted old, used Missing Men scripts. He can't use the new ones as long as Joe Astarita and I are both ill. Major Cousens says that this illness is the best thing that ever happened. It may draw to the authorities' attention that they'd better give us something to eat if they want a program. One hundred students from Imperial Headquarters propaganda school are coming to camp at noon. They will be shown the motion picture "Adam and Four Sons" and will analyze it! Later they will analyze a Humanity Calls program.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

Kojima has selected one Cousens' commentary and my script on the ANA MARU incident for them to analyze. He thinks they are the most impressive to put on display. Hmmm. At 4:00 this afternoon Hyasaka sent for eight of us and offered to give us diarrhea injections. I told him I hadn't had a bowel movement in 48 hours. He asked why. I told him I hadn't had enough to eat to stimulate one. He asked if I had eaten the starch he prescribed for the sick men. I said yes, I had eaten half of it. He asked why I hadn't eaten it all. I said, "Because it was revolting." He started to get mad. Miyoshi stopped interpreting for me and left, asking Noblitt to interpret. I left telling Noblitt he wouldn't have to interpret. Why should I trust that one war criminal with a hypodermic needle? We can't trust him with anything else. Lilian sent Joe and me one cucumber, two tomatoes, three biscuits, and a little salt. She's swell. Otaka has issued orders that if Ozaki visits us again, he is to enter camp through the guard room or ask permission from the Jap duty officer. Japan raided all day. Eleven hundred and fifty bombers have been used from a task force of ten carriers.

July 11 - Donoto says the raiders yesterday used only "11 kilo bombs." Heeey! He also says we're all ill because we didn't chew our beans well. (We had a small bowl of them a week ago!) Hyasaka, he reports, is doing a big act to win friends in the Jap office - his final effort to keep his job here. A doctor from St. Luke's hospital examined us today. I was first. He said I was OK - just weak from "lack of proper food." Cousens told him that everyone suffered from the same thing, and proceeded to elaborate in English in order that Hyasaka, who was attending, couldn't understand. When Hyasaka left, Cousens finished his talk in Japanese in order to protect himself from Prevoo and Martinez. He asked the doctor to make his report on our condition direct to our new Jap commandant if he really wants to help us; that Hyasaka is thoroughly unreliable. The doctor promised he would. Said TB is rampant in Tokyo and he's surprised we don't have more of it. When I was leaving, our new lieutenant, Kimura, and Donoto arrived. Heard the doctor giving them the lowdown; that we're weak due to malnutrition. He prescribed fats, meat and more vegetables. Shattles has had beriberi and neurosthenia. Nana brought us 150 yen worth of potatoes. The entire lot wouldn't cost more than 50 cents maximum at home. McNaughton has uncovered an all-time high in Japanese poetry in the local newspaper: "A spring breeze blows. The Lord of Tajima is a second-class private."

July 12 - Hyasaka is giving us vitamin B shots according to the St. Luke doctor's orders. Lilian sent Astarita and me a pound of flour and some yeast. Donoto says that a "more civilized warfare" has begun with Himitz' inspection and release of a Jap hospital ship at Suva. He believes that such an incident will serve to assure the local militarists that "all will be well if the game is played." He thinks that if Truman abandons the unconditional surrender policy, the Jap militarists will be deprived of their only argument for continuing the war. I'm still in bed and have written nothing. There is no script for today or Sunday. Ince is substituting old used stuff, and although the Japs don't like it, they realize there is nothing they can do. Who knows? They may even start giving us something to eat! (if they want a program).

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

July 13 - Went to the radio station today and saw Lilian and Dorsey Murakawa. Lilian promises to give us big news on the 8th of August. She says it won't necessarily be the end of the war, but she will definitely be able to tell us when it will end. Beyond that she said she couldn't discuss the matter. We're skeptical, having soaked out too many rumors. However, Lilian has never been wrong and she has given us plenty of important information in advance of big happenings. Donoto says that news on Red Cross supplies for us is magnificent. A new supply has been sent to Russia, and the Swiss authorities are on their way from Moscow to the Manchurian border to expedite delivery. He promised to bring us the full short-wave text tomorrow. Dorsey has promised to send us thread and black-market laundry soap - if he can get it. His mother is well, living far out in the country where there is adequate food. Lilian says she'll bake more biscuits for Astarita. Nana has brought in more potatoes. The new Jap commandant has ordered Kojima to keep a week ahead in his schedule of programs, and list his reasons for broadcasting each script. That's going to be difficult!

July 14 - Last Saturday Major Cousens asked Australia to rebroadcast their July 3rd and 4th messages from Melbourne. Reception was faulty on those days. This morning they complied. This sort of acknowledgment makes Cousens' hand stronger in the front office. Donoto believes that the new shipment of Red Cross supplies for prisoners is due largely to the efforts of this group. Dodds, Fujita and Parkyn, taken by Headquarters truck to a Tokyo coal yard to get our fuel, found themselves in the midst of 800 war prisoners who live and work there. They were greeted with shouts: "Look, white men!" Talking with the prisoners, they learned that most were brought over from Shanghai - British and Americans. Everything around their camp is completely flat. Their coal yard and a nearby gas works are the only things standing - an isolated oasis, like our Dunkle Hill, in the midst of complete devastation. It sure looks as if our boys knew where we are. We were given another typhoid shot. At last we have learned the policy behind Shenda's "Only for Women" broadcasts every Monday. Through this feature the Japs hope to counter the U.S. postwar plan for the emancipation of Japanese women. From the radio station we learned that during the past few weeks several of the younger employees have been picked up and questioned by the Kempi-Tai. Most Radio Tokyo officials blame Lilian and her sister for the whole thing. The latter are, of course, immune from investigation by the Kempi due to their father's position as baker for the general at the head of the organization. Nearly everyone has gone to bed with a fever - resulting from the typhoid shots.

July 15 - The worst night we've ever spent in this misery - chills, fever, head and body aches. Raid after raid went on all around us but we couldn't have moved from our beds if we'd had to. Major Cousens nearly passed out. He was violently ill, nauseated. Everyone is flat out, food is vile. Hyasaka sent us each another revolting bowl of starch. No visit from Ozaki. No news. Papers give prominence to T. V. Soong, Chungking's representative to San Francisco, who is closeted at the moment with Stalin. I wonder what happened to the Chungking delegation which was here several weeks ago negotiating with the Japs?

July 16 - Feeling better, got up. America hopes that Japan will accept the Red Cross

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

97-5092

relief supplies for prisoners - now that America has acknowledged complete responsibility for the sinking of the ANA MARU and expressed her regret and willingness to do everything within reason to rectify the mistake. Donoto is delighted, but disgusted with the local Japanese because in letting America apologize they passed up a tremendous opportunity to do something really big. Now - as always - America has come through - the bigger nation. If Japan, when the disaster occurred, had said: "This sort of thing is very bad, but we won't let it interfere with your shipping vital supplies to war prisoners," Japan would have gained much face, and America would have lost a bit. But Japan didn't! Japan couldn't! It isn't in them. Donoto says they will probably bungle the peace. He's really depressed but believes that Mr. Iguchi and others may get the sack over this incident when the Japs realize what has happened. Fifteen hundred tons of Red Cross supplies have arrived in Vladivostok. For lunch we had mouldy bread and one bowl of burned misc and beans for 24 men. It might have been a ration for four people. Certainly no more. We draw straws in the mess hall to see who would have lunch and who wouldn't. Donoto was so upset when he saw our ration, he called over Lt. Kimura to inspect it. They traced the matter to Hyasaka, but nothing has been done about it so far as we know. Donoto assures us that action will be taken, to be patient. A working party has been designated to move certain supplies to the main gate this evening. The supplies will be taken by truck tomorrow morning to our country school house. Major Cox, Wisener and Fujita will go along. They are expected to bring back the promised vegetables. A task force shelled the Hokkaido coast yesterday. Leaflets fell on us today stating that Japan is entitled to the four freedoms: want, fear, press, oppression from within. President Truman, before leaving for the Big Three conference, said: "In going to Berlin, I have two thoughts in mind - to minimize the loss in American lives and the prevention of future wars." There is considerable speculation on T. V. Soong's talks with Stalin. All are contradictory. Stalin was 24 hours late for the Big Three Conference. Wonder why? The local papers are trying to make something of it, but they aren't sure quite what.

July 17 - The Potsdam Conference began today. The commandant, Miyoshi, Hyasaka, Cox, Wisener and Fujita left early this morning with a truckload of books and office furniture for the new camp in the country. Before they departed, Major Cousens cautioned Donoto that he stands a chance of losing considerable prestige with the prisoners due to his laxity in dealing with our vital problems now that the new Jap office staff is established. A tobacco issue was due yesterday. Hyasaka brought in a fresh supply, but did not issue it. Cousens said we want an issue today. Before Hyasaka and the group left for the country, Donoto was forced to ask for the tobacco. He did so in the presence of the new Jap commandant, and it caused quite a scene. The result: Our commandant ordered the tobacco issued "now." Donoto then warned us to be more patient, that his own position is far from secure with the new administration. We appreciate that, but we've been patient for a year and a half and the net result is far worse living conditions than we knew under Hamamoto's reign of terror: an exaggeration, but in many respects true. Cox brought back an interesting story. All Tokyo, he says, is flat with the exception of the palace and Bunke. They saw the place where Hishikari's home was, and bowed

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

97-3092

their thanks toward Arnold. The country school building consists of three decks, is newer than this building, and is to be our work quarters. It has a piano, running water, unlimited brush and trees for fuel, is surrounded by farm country producing vegetables and fruit, and commands a magnificent view. The dormitories are farther down the hill, and there are small buildings nearby which will house the Jap administration. These were formerly used by the school faculty. The only drawback, as we see it, is the proximity of the cavalry unit, which will place our activities within a legitimate military target area. The boys returned with a truckload of carrots, daikon, potatoes, cabbage, onions, and eight boxes of peaches. Now! Cox says the new commandant seems okay. He gave them a good lunch, smokes, and treated them well. Hyasaka, they say, followed the commandant around all day like a pet poodle. Miyoshi assures us that an army supply man will soon replace Hyasaka. Hyasaka is listed in the office as "attached - unpaid." to this camp. A large filling in one of my back teeth, which was put in two months ago, fell out. Agency!

July 18 - Donoto has ordered a second Ana Maru Missing Men script written for broadcast tomorrow. It is to acknowledge receipt of America's apology and generous acceptance of responsibility for the sinking -- before the Jap planning board and Board of Information have time to think about the matter and make any more serious blunders. Major Cousens helped me outline it. It's called "Thanks for Everything" and is a beauty. A task force has been shelling the Chiba coast all day. Occasionally a big salvo shakes our building. Tomorrow morning's grain ration (millet) has been cut in half. New ruling: Donoto, Miyoshi and Papasan can no longer draw rations in this camp. They must bring lunchboxes. Jap newspapers are furious about the secrecy of the Big Three meeting. Major Cousens was ordered to do a commentary on it for broadcast Friday. He turned out a magnificent tribute to Truman, entitled "Democracy Goes to Berlin." Hope it goes through the censors.

July 19 - Donoto explains our decreased rations as part of a general cut throughout Japan of ten per cent. Prisoner enlisted men are to get 350 grams of grain per day, while the officer prisoners receive 350 - because they don't work. He suggested to Donoto that in view of such orders, perhaps we'd better stop working! Donoto hastened to assure us that the new commandant is quite aware of the fact that we are working. POW Headquarters has us all listed as non-workers, therefore the whole camp is only supposed to get 350 grams per day. The commandant is upset because he is listed as heading an organization in which no work is done. He went to Mori and to POW Headquarters this morning to see about the problem. Yesterday, we are told, Lt. Kimura saw Hyasaka's storeroom full of tobacco. He asked what it was. Hyasaka explained it was the bulk supply for both the Jap office and the prisoners. Kimura asked why the prisoners hadn't been issued their full share. Hyasaka said it was his policy to issue it a bit at a time. Kimura ordered him to issue our entire portion to Major Cousens and let him ration it out to us. Hyasaka, furious about the order, said he would see the commandant about it. He just doesn't know that you can't jump rank in a military organization! Now he has made himself another enemy. Good. Donoto confided to Major Cousens, and asked him to relay the information to me, that T. V. Soong's talks with Stalin were the result of the Chungking delegation's visit to

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

Tokyo. T. V. Soong presented Japan's terms to Stalin for presentation at the Big Three Conference. The meeting is definitely to decide the war in the Pacific. If the terms are satisfactory to Churchill and Truman, this misery may well be over in 30 days. It's beginning to look as if Lillian knows something after all. Domoto says we must keep the matter an absolute secret although it has gotten out in Tokyo and will have swept Japan by tomorrow. The Jap commandant is reported to have told POW Headquarters that they were quite wrong to assign us the smallest rations when we're doing the biggest work for Japan of any group of war prisoners. My script on the ANA MARU was broadcast and was excellent. It really thanked our people for doing the big thing. One plane, passing overhead at 8:00, dropped a big bomb squarely in Tokyo railway station tracks. They say it made quite a mess. Domoto's train was due in the very minute it landed. But his train, like everything else in Japan, was late. Thank goodness!

July 20 - Was taken to the dentist. Such filth as one sees in that dentistry could not be observed in any other country in the world. One is treated with grimy hands, unsterilized instruments, soiled napkins, foot-pedalled drills, and annoyed by millions of flies from lidless wastebuckets. Hiyoshi believes Hyasaka will be kept on in his present job as our supplyman. It was too much! Ince and I joined forces and let loose such a barrage against Hyasaka as has never been heard. We enumerated his crimes - mishandling of Red Cross supplies, thieving of our Jap army rations; that we considered him Japan's number one war criminal. If Hiyoshi is an active Kempi, he is obliged to make a full report on our conversation. He was an hour late for lunch after our return from the dentist, so perhaps that's what he was doing. Good. At the last minute today it was decided that a British voice was unsuitable for reading Major Cousens's commentary on Potsdam - "Democracy Goes to Berlin." So - the script was taken from McNaughton and given to me. It was a magnificent tribute to President Truman. Domoto's comment: "It was the best thing ever done over Radio Tokyo." The general of all the POW is to inspect us tomorrow. Otaka, our warrant officer, is leaving soon. Potatoes are to be added to our regular ration Monday - to make up the difference between our present ration and that of a working prisoner, 500 grams. I'll believe it when I've got them inside me. Domoto came over tonight before going home and said that at a big meeting this afternoon he had been asked to give his views on Streeter's program. He apparently criticized it bitterly, for Tasaki stood up and accused him of preselecting our views on the matter. Domoto says that certain Japs may be over to question us. We are to say that Domoto has never mentioned Streeter's program to us. But we know it's lousy because we know Streeter and his style.

July 21 - Domoto brought us a small bottle of plum liqueur. Held field day. The inspection was called off. We've been given another ration cut in order to make up shortages brought about by Hyasaka's thieving. We're to lose one kilo of grain each meal. Cousens called in Domoto and together they checked figures with the supplyman. Result: They obtained, for the first time, a set of figures representing the exact amounts we are supposed to get each meal. We are now receiving half of what we had last week. Tomorrow's issues, however, are the best we've seen in months. Encouraging. Hope the potatoes come on Monday. Otaka, the warrant officer, returned this evening as a lieutenant in

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

the Kempi. He came over, drunk, to tell the boys of his promotion. Says he is trying to stay with us permanently. Good. There was a big meeting today in the Jap office. The commandant proclaimed that we, while officially prisoners of war, are to be looked upon as on an equal footing with the Japanese in the organization. This, he said, is due to the nature of our work. We don't like it, but if it produces better show, we'll manage. A full ten-day supply of tobacco has been given to Cousens for us due to pressure on Hyasaka by Lt. Kimura. Also one extra box - "emergency ration." Domoto says Kimura definitely has Hyasaka's number. After the Australian program today, we were taken to a different studio where the recorded voices of 15 Radio Tokyo announcers were played to us. We were asked to criticize them, and that's exactly what we did - with the exception of Bucky Harris and Dorsey Kusakawa, whom we recognized. Hyasaka gave us injections of vitamins B and C this afternoon. He has been ordered to give them every other day to Cousens, myself, Shattles, Astarita, Light. The plum liqueur is very good.

July 22 - Though our grain ration is small, meals today were the best in a long time. Folks at home, however, would be horrified at them - but to us they were quite palatable. Otaka's new rank certainly hasn't gone to his head. He has been more friendly and informal than ever. He spent the entire day in a G-string and towel turban, sunning with the men, passing out cigarettes and singing. He's a good old soldier. Hyasaka issued mashed potatoes in addition to our regular rations as a reward for our having held a successful field day. Actually, the order was given by the commandant, Major Hifumi. The general is supposed to inspect us tomorrow, and afterwards the new Headquarters department under which we operate will be officially in operation. Domoto says we may then be considered entirely separate from Smori camp and directly under Headquarters. That should be interesting!

July 23 - Inspection postponed until Wednesday. This is getting annoying. The other day I was ordered to write a dialogue on certain changes which have taken place in the Church of England. The finished script was returned from the censors today with the following lines inserted: "Why do you suppose these changes were made?" Answer: "In order to give the surplus women a wider field in which to look for husbands." It's just another weak jab for which the Japs are famous. They're always quite innocuous, but always below the belt tactics for which they will never be forgiven. Had a long talk with Nanase. Her rations are almost nothing, and with the new regime here Japan has been deprived of his daily issue. She says they used to be dependent on the noon ration which he got from our galley, but now their only source of food is the inadequate Tokyo ration. Nana says that Hyasaka is trying to get them moved out of camp and has more influence in the front office than we realize. She hates him because she has seen him stealing supplies not only from us, but from his own people. Recently, she said, she caught him and went direct to Tsunetschi about it. Unfortunately her complaint did no good. She is dubious about the new Lt. Kimura, says he is working with Hyasaka. I told her about the tobacco issue in which Kimura is supposed to have reprimanded Hyasaka, and she seemed encouraged. Cousens talked with her tonight, asked her to forgive us if we're just barely polite

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

in the courtyard as we've been warned that she'll go if we're caught fraternizing. She understood. Mama looks very ill and depressed these days. Starting tomorrow, Pearson is going to give her a full ration from ours at both the noon and evening meals. Cousens has ordered it. We can't tell the rest of the group. If they knew, there'd be trouble and it would get back to the Japs. They just don't remember the days when Mama risked her neck every day to be our only source of tobacco and medicine. No potatoes were added to the ration today as promised. We didn't really expect them. Major Cousens raised hell with the supply department again because they discarded the ration figures we were given last Saturday. Now he has a new set like nothing we've seen before. They are called "the minimum POW ration for non-workers," and are quite impossible. We'll all be dead in a month. A person can be pushed just so far with a bayonet - and no farther. There comes a time when one simply turns around and says, "Go on and jab!" We'll see. Donoto is at work on the matter and Major Cousens never stops from morning until night.

July 24 - Cold as hell last night. Most of us used five blankets. I don't think it was as much due to the weather as to the lack of food under our belts. Ozaki was at the station today. Looks bad. Says there is no food on the outside except what one can get on the black market. And money is useless without additional articles like soap, clothing, etc. Says he misses being able to visit with us. He has obviously been warned to keep away from us. He told McLaughlin that T. V. Soong, returned from Moscow, made the statement in Chungking that this war will definitely end this year. Then he slipped a bunch of short-wave news reports to Ince. The task force which pounded the coast the other day was under Halsey with a British carrier force. They launched a thousand! Guam has been well developed. Truman's speech closing the San Francisco Conference was excellent, also his remarks at the ceremony in Berlin at which the American flag was hoisted. Ozaki still thinks the Japs will fight to the point of national gut-slitting. Prominent persons in America are advocating the removal of the emperor. I think it is unwise talk at this time. The so-called prominent people don't know what they're talking about. The battle of rations still rages between Major Cousens and the Jap authorities. The dogs are starving. Brownie is nothing but a skeleton, chewing up chairs and his own paws. Pearson and Coggles nearly came to blows at noon. Coggles tried to take an extra grain ration from our pot. Pearson grabbed the paddle from him and slammed back the lid on the bucket. There was much cursing. Mama is extremely grateful for her ration. Bless her heart. She has earned it all right, and some of us won't ever forget it. The inspection is set for tomorrow.

July 25 - Nearly froze again last night. Inspection called off. What the hell is this - a game to make us keep the place clean? Donoto says that Captain Zacharias is again prominent in the news with "get out from under" campaign. This time he says that unconditional surrender for Japan will mean the same as Lee's surrender to Grant. We looked it up - as everyone in the foreign office will do - and results are interesting. Grant returned Lee's sword and President Lincoln granted amnesty - no prisoners of war were taken. Is that unconditional surrender? Clever propaganda, but I'm afraid it's over the heads of the Japs. Had a letter from Babe - dated February 27, 1945. It's the latest I've received but is addressed to Zentsuji. Why? I told them my new camp address

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

a year ago. Pearson and the galley crew made a good haul from Jap stores. Had a good supper! Raided until midnight and we're all exhausted. We have no margin at all. The least expenditure of nervous energy and we're down for the count. Someone's gonna pay for this. Had to do my sixth script on the point system. Why? They will not give me an outline, a reason or anything. They simply say "write on the point system." Donoto doesn't understand it either. Wrote them a bunch of drivel which they didn't like but have to use on account of the deadline for censorship. Now I must do another comparing the army and navy systems. Told them I couldn't do it with what little information I have. They ordered: "Do it anyway!"

July 26 - Donoto says a task force is cruising up and down the coast. No one knows what it's going to do next, and therefore he expects the Japs to be nervous with their sirens. He advises we ignore them. There have been periodic blasts all day and nothing ever happened. Inspection, set for 12:00, was cancelled and set for tomorrow. We don't care anymore. Donoto says that Col. Suzuki of Omori was caught abusing war prisoners, court-martialed. He had been transferred to another camp, drank all night, slept all day. Got the prisoners out of their beds at night in order to abuse them. The new commandant, Lt. Kimura and Hyasaka had lunch with us. Donoto says they plan to do it every week in order to "get to know the boys." What agony. No one was particularly sociable. I don't think they will come again. Pearson juggled the rations, gave us all very little. It must have impressed the visitors. We had less than usual, and that's going some. It looks as if Hyasaka is definitely in with them. To hell with it. Time is so short. What's the difference if they do return to the old reign of terror business. A cigarette ration from Omori was issued: one per day for 30 days. We each got 12. Oh well, the workings of the abacus are difficult for a westerner to understand! One of Hyasaka's geishas probably got the rest. We have been granted the remainder of the Red Cross food parcels by the commandant. Issue is set for tomorrow morning and will consist of six boxes between 24 men. Four are to be kept in store for an emergency ---- or Hyasaka's personal use. Better one between four than none. Typical! The commandant "didn't know the boxes were in the storeroom" until Donoto told him about them. Then he was mad - not because they hadn't been given to us, but because he hadn't known about them. We were inspected at 3:00 by the general: Unimpressed. He went through the building quickly, said nothing. We had been instructed to learn a list of questions and answers - in case the general interviewed any of us. Donoto and the commandant had composed them "in order to extract the maximum from this man." They tried to cover every possibility. How is your health? Answer: Thank you. How is the food? Answer: Thank You. We manage. What do you think of our suicide tactics? Answer: They are difficult for us to understand. All answers were evasive, courteous, suggestive of genteel poverty. Hyasaka failed to give us our vitamin injections today. We expected that oversight. Major Cousens is looking bad. If he gets sick again and has to give up his job as senior prisoner officer, we're ruined.

July 27 - Biggest day yet. Donoto took Cousens into the Jap storeroom and opened the Red Cross parcels. One package had only one pack of cigarettes in it (instead of the usual eight). It must have been an oversight at home. Couldn't have happened here as the box was glued tight and sealed with metal bands. Some

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 100
723092

debutante with a hangover can be blamed. The cigarettes were taken from the parcels, as usual, and turned over to the Jap office. Cousens says there were exactly 26 packs. We were each given a pile of cigarettes, six smoked short of the amount we should have received. Domoto and Miyoshi were very much upset about the shortage. Domoto brought over Kojima and several others to hear a play-back of my reading of "Democracy Goes to Berlin." Cousens says Domoto's purpose in doing this was to show the Japs what can be done with a commentary which reflects nothing but credit for Japan, and at the same time credit to us and good will in America. But they won't understand. They much prefer to curse Roosevelt or something. Lt. Kimura is obsessed with the idea of people wearing shirts. When he catches us sunbathing, or walking about in the court, he orders: "Put on shirt, otherwise you will take illness." It's damned annoying. Labor has won British elections by a sweeping majority. Churchill resigned. At five o'clock this afternoon Major Cousens called several of us aside and in strictest secrecy told us of the stupendous ultimatum issued by Churchill, Truman and Chiang from Potsdam. It puts forth, for the first time, explicit terms for the surrender of Japan. He had a vague idea of the terms. We're to have the actual text as soon as Domoto can get it. The Japanese cabinet has gone into session and will remain closed all night, if necessary, until a decision is reached. Peace may come tomorrow! Domoto says that a tremendously important factor to be considered by those who are to make this big decision is Japan's acute rice shortage. There will be nothing with which to feed the people after September. Large scale incendiary raids are anticipated to destroy the present harvest. Perhaps they aren't far wrong on that point.

July 28 - The Potsdam ultimatum has been flatly rejected. A second report on the rejection doesn't put it so strongly. It says the cabinet reached a "decision to take no immediate action," as it is clear that Britain and America are adopting a line independent of China. This is apparently a reference to whatever decision the local Jap militarists reached with the Chungking delegation sent here prior to Y. V. Soong's trip to Moscow. The prime minister is to make his first public address this afternoon at Nibya Hall - a "victory rally." Much is expected. Kimura, in a talk with Cousens, said that China and Japan had recently come to an agreement, and the war is only continuing because America will not concur in this agreement. The Australian group couldn't get to the station due to the taxi breaking down and being too late for the train. An emergency program was used in which Major Cousens asks his wife to contact my parents and tell them I'm okay. Our Red Cross show syndicate gave Domoto a bar of chocolate for his kids. He nearly wept. "But you men need this food. You shouldn't give it away." He brought us a jar of apple jam yesterday. Shank, Major Cousens, Astarita and I had stolen rice fried with canned pork and stolen onions, plus a hard-boiled egg each, with thick cheese sauce. The latter was made from flour sent in by Lilian. Barn blackmarketed for the eggs - three yen each. Coffee and Chesterfields finished it. He eat rather well when all the breaks come at once. After muster this evening, Cousens called the camp together and gave a full report on the Potsdam ultimatum. Provoe asked peculiar questions during the meeting: "What does the Major know of a possible insurrection locally? What does the Major know of the operations of American task forces?" He is definitely off on a new tangent of some sort. After the meeting, he called me aside to say that he

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

has a "strange presentiment of impending disaster." He says he believes that Major Cousens is going to be beaten by the authorities, and he (Provoe) in his great loyalty to Cousens will be obliged to grab a bread knife and "run amuck." Maloney. He asked what he could do to "be of real value to this group." I said, "Shut up, and do your job of keeping the recreation room clean. No more." But he insists that he wants a big part in the program. He thinks marvelous work is being done. I suggested he talk it over with Ince. He'll get an earful there. Provoe is up to something.

July 29 - The Potsdam ultimatum was printed in this morning's paper under the banner: "Potsdam declaration to be ignored by Japan. Truman, Churchill and Chiang demand unconditional surrender of Japan." Text: Foreign Minister Togo reports contents of the declaration. It was indicated that the Japanese government would ignore the declaration whatever its nature and say nothing on it. Further indications are that things like the joint declaration would not affect in the least the basic policy of Japan which is that of pushing the work of carrying the War of Greater East Asia through to its end. The declaration: "We adhere to the following conditions leaving no room for option or delay. (1) To remove forever the authority and power that have induced the attempts of world conquest. (2) To occupy various points in Japanese territory designated by the allies in order to secure realization of our objectives. (3) To enforce various provisions of the Cairo declaration thereby limiting Japan's sovereignty to the mainland, Hokkaido, Kyushu, Shikoku, and the islands to be designated by us. (4) To disarm completely the Japanese armed forces. (5) To punish strictly the war criminals. The Japanese government shall eliminate obstacles to the restoration of democratic inclinations, respect the fundamental rights, and the establishment of freedom of speech, religion, and thought. (6) Japan shall be allowed the maintenance of industries which will enable her to maintain her economy and to pay reparations in kind, but no industries that will make rearmament possible shall be allowed. To attain these objectives Japan shall be allowed access to material resources and to participate in international trade relations in the future. (7) In case the above-mentioned objectives of occupation are realized by the Allies and a peaceful and responsible administration based on the free expressed will of the Japanese people, the Allies will withdraw their troops. (8) The Japanese government is requested to declare immediately the unconditional surrender of its entire armed equipment, otherwise Japan shall be speedily and wholly destroyed." This is obviously a Jap interpretation of what was actually published. Even so, we are shocked at the leniency. Major Cousens summoned Provoe today for a serious talk; told him he was having a "period of mental aberration again, a period which I can recognize instantly." He then insisted that Provoe be quiet, do his job, keep his mind from abstract thinking, and plans for independent action on any particular issues. Cousens warned that any foolish move on Provoe's part at the present time may be disastrous. Provoe rambled on doing a great act, talking an endless stream of irrelevant rubbish as usual. He is definitely up to some sort of mischief, and with Domoto's position in the front office as insecure as it is, Provoe could do a lot of damage. He undoubtedly knows it. He'll have to be careful. I asked Major Cousens why he thinks the Japs printed their version of the Potsdam ultimatum in the newspapers. He thinks it is a deliberate attempt to feel out public opinion. If the authorities can be

DECLASSIFIED
Authority ANP
973092

Aug. 1 - The new commandant told Domoto this morning that Hyasaka will be released as soon as a new supplyman can be employed. We have been put on "frontline rations" - whatever that is. In some parts we've heard it is tree bark and nutritious grass! Kojima went to Hyasaka's house for dinner the other night and had canned beef, coffee with sugar and powdered milk, American cigarettes and cheese. He told Domoto that it didn't register with him until after it was over. Convenient! Crew has been sent into the Pacific as advisor to Nimitz. Domoto slipped Major Cousens a complete overseas short-wave news file. Cousens spent the afternoon briefing it and called everyone together after supper for a resume. Food and fuel shortages in Europe have provoked chaos, anarchy. Capt. Zacharias is in the spotlight again. Domoto says he is clever, and has a far-reaching effect here. There seems to be a wide divergence of opinion at home and in Britain regarding the policy of the Pacific war. Many seem to think Japan should be let out from under quietly - preserved as a buffer against Russia. The New York News says that Stalin delivered to Potsdam a Japanese offer to withdraw from Manchuria, permit American occupation of Korea and Formosa - providing Russia remained at peace with Japan and no allied forces occupied the Japanese homeland. Interesting. Kure Naval Base was pounded on the 24th. The remainder of the Jap navy was caught at anchor and sunk. More than 200 Jap fighters were downed. The Japs, however, claim exactly 200 of our planes for that day.

Aug. 2 - Sailed from 9:00 last night until 2:30 this morning. Everyone exhausted. Heavy explosives were dropped all around us. Domoto asked Cousens to warn members of the galley force, especially Astarita, to be careful. The assistant supplyman, Goggles, has announced that Astarita kicks potatoes under the scales when supplies are being weighed. Then, of course, he returns later to collect the potatoes! Domoto says that Hyasaka encourages these accusations against the prisoners, and has it in for Astarita. They have no proof, but promise to catch us someday. Domoto says they refuse to establish a definite figure for our daily vegetable ration as then they will have to keep books which will make it impossible for them to steal. Provoe cornered me for a talk this afternoon. He said he was feeling vibrations from Nimitz and our fleet off the coast. Said he used to get them when he was on the air broadcasting to America, but now that our forces are closer he gets his vibrations direct and much stronger. Nimitz has vibrated the message to Provoe that he is going to land. If this happens, Provoe says he will have to defend himself against the Japs. They will beat Major Cousens, he says, because the Major has such a strong hold over this group. And when Cousens is beaten, Provoe says he will grab a knife and run amuck - because he is so loyal to us. (He said this once before on the 28th of July.) I made no comment. Provoe then asked me what I thought he should do to quell these fiery thoughts which bother him 24 hours a day. I suggested that he keep out of everything and bother his own business - otherwise the time will come when he pays in full for all his past sins. Provoe is nobody's fool. He has set out quite deliberately to convince everyone here that he's insane. But it won't work. He tried to pump me on possible plans for escape, what I know of revolutionary tendencies within the Jap army ranks, news in general which he feels Cousens has purposely kept from the group. In other words, he wants some bit of information which he can use to influence front office authorities to put us all before a

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

firing squad. And even though he gets nothing out of us, he will still tell the Japs anything he feels like telling them -- when he gets the chance.

Aug. 3 - Domoto brought our room some tomatoes. Last night's raiders dropped 6,000 tons. The boys monitoring Melbourne this morning got the news "accidentally." Miyoshi asked me whether or not captured B-29 pilots are likely to know if this hill has been proclaimed an inviolable area. I said they might, but then they might not. And if they did - I was certain they wouldn't tell. Then he asked if I thought they would tell "if you were taken to Headquarters to question them." I doubted that too - and don't like the idea. Latest news: Viscount Ikeda has again been put in charge of the program. Domoto says to stand by - Ikeda will be interviewing us soon and has a lot of ideas for changing the program. Yes, we know all about them - "the Voice of Greater East Asia, strong, determined and over-victorious!" We're sorry to see Domoto losing out all around. The new regime apparently doesn't favor his policy, methods or anything. He has been demoted to prisoner welfare and studio escort. Warrant Officer Otake left this morning. Sorry. Kojima, returned from his vacation, took McLaughlin and me walking this evening. He was very pleasant, didn't ask questions. Talked of London, Mikimoto pearl culture, Japanese gardens, Ceylon. Oh yes - the pearls. They put fleas in the oysters. The fleas bite and the oysters exude something all over the flea - thus forming the pearl. Amazing. Provoe called me aside during today's broadcast while we were sitting in the control room. "Listen - do you hear Captain Inse? He's a marvel with his voice. He's not talking to America, but to Nimitz just off the coast. Please listen to me when I read my commentary. I'm going to project my voice only so far, and no farther. Listen." I did. Afterwards he asked if I thought he had accomplished his objective of talking direct to Nimitz. I said that it had sounded no different from his usual readings, except that he made a few more mistakes than he normally makes. He ignored the insult, saying I was too new at radio and didn't understand real technique. Kojima talked with Cousens this evening. He says that no mention of the Potsdam ultimatum is permitted by this program, Radio Tokyo, or Domot news. Kojima said: "I needn't tell you that this is a very good sign."

Aug. 4 - Domoto took today off after priming us to say he is ill. Actually, he's black-marketing. Viscount Ikeda sent for Major Cousens and informed him of the new setup. Ikeda is in complete charge; however, Kojima and Abe will make all assignments to the script department. Domoto will be responsible for our welfare, and food. Cousens asked if the food wasn't entirely Hyasaka's responsibility. Ikeda stammered and went on to something else. Ikeda then asked him how he felt. Cousens said, "Very ill - in fact, every member of the group is on his last legs." Ikeda suggested that perhaps Cousens is thinking too much of his wife and the journey home. Cousens said we never think of home, or returning home. We're too busy keeping mind and body together from day to day. Ikeda produced Upton Sinclair's "They Call Me Carpenter," and asked Cousens if he didn't think it would be nice for McLaughlin to write a series of 15 plays on the book. In the plays he thought that perhaps McLaughlin could quote the Bible. "After all," Ikeda said, "the Bible is book of wisdom, and if we quote it and do this sort of play, people will realize that war is bad - etc. - etc." Cousens said: "Mr. Ikeda, if you

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

start quoting the Bible from Radio Tokyo, the war will never end!" Ikeda stammered, "Well, it was only suggestion." Then he went into his old song and dance about how well the Japanese understand western culture, sang a few bars from Scheherazade, and called the interview closed. McNaughton was summoned. Ikeda said he was going to cancel one Missing Men script each Thursday and do weekly dramas again. McNaughton said flatly that he would write absolutely nothing; that he is too weak from starvation. Ikeda didn't press the matter, nor did he suggest McNaughton write the plays on Sinclair's book. He simply loaned the book and added that he would put some good books in the Japanese recreation room which McNaughton and only McNaughton may read. If, however, McNaughton thinks anyone else in the group might be interested in them, he may loan one of the books for one week, but only if the person borrowing writes a commentary on what he reads. Ikeda then sent for Ince. But when Ince arrived, Ikeda refused to see him. Ikeda hates Americans. He thinks we're crude and lacking in culture. Perhaps he'll regret it someday. Americans don't like him either.

Aug. 6 - Our syndicate - Astarita, Cousens, Shank and I - finished our Red Cross parcel with a fabulous meal. Thick cheese sauce on rice, with diced potatoes, white rice porridge with a topping of butter, sugar, klm and grape jam. It was out of this world. Pappy Light is really ill. Cousens thinks he's had a nervous breakdown. Smith is running high temperatures each day, is very thin, feels his TB is active again. J. Martinez is running fever, has diarrhea. Quillo's face is swollen with a toothache. Not one of them has had any medicine or special food. A doctor arrived this afternoon and was brought in by Hyasaka. After checking Martinez, he left camp without seeing the other boys. During the visit Hyasaka noticed Martinez's electric heater cooking rice. Asked where the rice had come from, B. Martinez said it had been ordered drawn from our ration by Cousens to feed the sick men. Hyasaka was furious about the heater. Martinez is in a quandary. Six months ago Hyasaka saw them with their heater and at that time simply said, "Be careful." Of course in those days he was receiving gifts of American chow from J. Martinez's Red Cross parcels. Now that there is no handout, he is annoyed. There may be trouble. Then Hyasaka looked into Smith's room, saw another heater in operation, got madder. Major Cousens is furious that the doctor didn't see Smith, Light and Quillo. These three are far more ill than J. Martinez. As in most camps, we must use our own medicine. Ince still has a little sulphanilimide which he brought through from Corregidor. Our food is inedible for a sick person. It's almost unedible for those of us who are comparatively well. Big raid this evening on the Chiba coast. McNaughton had a long talk with Tasaki. Tasaki said if he had any authority the ultimatum would be accepted. The government is powerless. Three military leaders are in complete control of the country. Tasaki asked if McNaughton thought Japan had made enemies of all the prisoners. McNaughton said yes. Tasaki then said, "Well, for every one of you we've made a million enemies among the people of the Orient." He is thoroughly disillusioned; believes, however, that the Allies handled the ultimatum clumsily. He says that in dealing with Asiatics it would have been handled quietly and might have seen immediate acceptance. "Our leaders are telling us that we must realize our past mistakes." Tasaki further stated that he had been wrong in backing Asia for the Asiatics. He now feels that the people of the West have far wider views in dealing with foreigners than the Japanese.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

He confided that a relief ship loaded with Red Cross supplies was on its way to Japan two weeks ago. Kimura was over this afternoon and was amazed when Hoblitt delivered a bold tirade against Hyasaka in Japanese. The lieutenant suggested misunderstanding, but Hoblitt insisted that such was not the case; that we have seen plenty and know exactly what Hyasaka has been up to.

Aug. 6 - Major Cousens cornered Domoto today and raised hell about Hyasaka's not having brought the doctor in to see the sick men. Smith's temperature hasn't been below 100 in days. Light can hardly move. The slightest noise makes him jump. Cousens told Domoto to warn Hyasaka that if he dares mention the electric heaters to the Jap authorities, he will really start something. Cousens says he's completely fed up and will demand an audience with the commandant and have a real showdown. Big meeting at 10:00 this morning discussed the move to the country. Domoto didn't tell us much about it, but designated more furniture to be sent out to the new place. R. Martinez was called to the Jap office and before Kimura, Domoto, Miyoshi, and Hyasaka, accused of having stolen white rice. He explained about Cousens having ordered it taken from our rations in order to feed the sick men something palatable. Hyasaka refused to believe it. Martinez offered to get Major Cousens. They didn't want that. Hyasaka then asked how the heaters had been obtained. Martinez countered with "Why didn't you take it from me when you saw it six months ago - - because I gave you a small can of meat from my Red Cross?" Hyasaka was quieted with that one. The Lieutenant then announced that, as regulations don't permit the use of heaters, these must be removed. They will be locked in the Japanese storeroom by Domoto. Also, the remainder of the barracks will be searched for similar heaters. Domoto said later that R. Martinez had handled the situation extremely well. McNaughton was summoned again by Ikeda and asked to write the 13 plays on "They Call Me Carpenter." He refused. Ikeda asked, "Why do you not write anymore?" McNaughton said because he was mentally and physically at the end of his rope, and everyone else in camp is the same. Ikeda suggested that perhaps he had better get "new blood" from the prison camps. McNaughton said he was certain that men from the camps would be in the same if not worse physical and mental condition. Twice Mr. Ikeda said: "I know I am the number one war criminal. They (Japanese) say to me - 'you started the show, now you must finish it.'" So - that's the situation. All the Japs are beginning to see the light, and after playing around for 10 months they push Ikeda back into the saddle and make him take the rap. McNaughton, Cousens and I went for a walk this evening with Kojima and Takebatake.

Aug. 7 - Miyoshi took me to the dentist this morning and we conducted mutual pumping. He asked why I think the Japanese ignored the Potsdam ultimatum. I replied, "Soloney. Don't try to kid me!" Miyoshi said, "Well, they had to say 'ignore' for local consumption." After lunch I was sitting on my bunk looking at photographs of my family when Domoto walked in. He saw what I was doing and said he thought I'd be with them around November of this year. I laughed and he called me outside to explain why he thought I'd be home by November. Last night, he explained, a new bomb was used on Hiroshima, a bomb which has the devastating power of 2,000 one-ton bombs. It is made of uranium, whatever that is. It levels and burns everything within a three- or four-mile radius. The one dropped last night is reported to have killed 180,000 people. I asked

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

97-3092

if prison camps were located in the vicinity of the explosion. He said he'd check the matter for me. The local people are in a state of real panic. Domoto believes that this new weapon, promised by Roosevelt and Churchill, will force the Japanese to surrender and accept the Potsdam ultimatum immediately. The prime minister, Domoto says, is closely guarded by the military and is not permitted to leave his quarters. The emperor's advisors which he maintains in each prefecture, can not report to the palace as they too are being restricted. Domoto believes the bomb will force the issue and release all these men for action. If no action is taken immediately, Domoto believes there will be a revolution. The Japanese people are going about quoting President Truman's speech about the four freedoms. Now! Domoto says we must watch for the name of General Uzeno to appear in the news. (He is the only leader acceptable to China.) When his name appears, peace will not be far off. Major Cousens says that the general's name appeared in the news several days ago. All plans for our move to the country have been cancelled. Transportation and equipment are no longer available. Lilian saw Astorita in the studio today. She says that she has been investigating our new camp in the country as it is located one mile from the farm where she and her family do their black-marketing. The farmers in the vicinity are very hostile toward the military who check their gardens and strip them of the produce. All of them know, she said, that near our schoolhouse there are underground laboratories. They are known to the farmers as "the military secret," and are in a restricted area which was recently strafed by P-51's. Lilian said: "Of course you will be told to broadcast your location, then their laboratories will be safe, they think." The commandant bent for Domoto this afternoon and said he was extremely annoyed with reports that Mamazan has been blackmarketing for us. Both Mama and the prisoners are to be warned that he will not permit this sort of thing. Cousens and I talked with Mama this evening. Mama says she knows that Hyasaka is trying to oust her but that she can handle herself where he is concerned. She knows too much about him and will make a big scene if he tries to make trouble again. She is, however, afraid of Provoo who comes to her every day with requests for cigarettes and blackmarketing. She always refuses to do anything for him and feels that he is her "enemy", knowing she does favors for the other prisoners. She is also afraid of J. Martinez who has tried to make her buy things for him. Yesterday afternoon Martinez spent some time in Hyasaka's office and upon returning to camp he did not report the purpose of his visit to Major Cousens as is the custom when a prisoner is interviewed in the Jap office. Odlin's commentary dealing with repatriation of prisoners prior to the end of hostilities was broadcast today. It was incredible. The last line: "If you can do something for us, for God's sake do it - NOW!"

Aug. 8 - Today is Lilian's big day. I was given orders from Mr. Abe to write a Missing Men dialogue on the Japanese expression "Tozan." I asked what it means and was told: "If you are mountain climbing and autumn comes up, you are undecided whether to continue, turn back, or remain where you are. This state of mind is expressed 'tozan.'" Mr. Abe wants a script which will describe America as being in such a state of mind. America has come

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

97-3092

this far in the war. Now she feels the Japanese storm, and should decide to turn back, because she has accomplished all that she set out to accomplish. I wrote on it using a slightly different twist, inferred that the Japs have had all they can take. The analogy, which is put across in terms of Red Cross relief supplies, is baffling Mr. Abe and the censors. Have been ordered to do another script locating this camp. It must be broadcast Monday and is a special confidential assignment from Domoto. Big raids this morning. Two major railway stations were hit. The commandant has ordered Domoto to search this building for all home-made electric heaters and confiscate everything he finds. Domoto told Cousens to inform the men that they are not to use their heaters in the daytime, only at night, and must be careful. Hyasaka is still accusing Mamazan to the Jap office. Today he is saying that she loans cooking utensils to members of our galley force. Mama took it calmly, laughed. We're out of cigarettes and the Japs won't issue any due to the upset over the electric heaters, Mamazan, and the hell Cousens raised over the doctor's visit. Our food is really bad. An atmosphere of real hostility prevails between the prisoners and the Jap administration. Any small incident could set off a real explosion. The commandant is reported to get very nervous and upset during the raids. We must be cautious. His latest order: Prisoners are not to stand in the courtyard and watch the raiding planes. Smith is still very ill. He has no medicine and no special food; has steady fever, no appetite. Light is still in bed. Appears to have had a real nervous breakdown. Ince has turned in - a nervous wreck, with diarrhea. Some butter was stolen from the Japanese office boys last night. They accuse the prisoners, and believe it or not - for once we really don't know a thing about it. Major Cousens asked at muster that if anyone knows about it to see that it is accounted for immediately. He explained the present strained relations with the Japanese, and warned that the slightest spark will set off serious trouble for all hands. He described Domoto as almost finished. He has practically no authority in this camp. Hyasaka has succeeded in working his way into the new commandant's confidence and they're leagued against us. Domoto, however, has said that he will not resign. He doesn't believe there is a chance of his being asked to quit due to his powerful contacts, and has resolved to fight our battle for us until the end. Mamazan informed Major Cousens that Hyasaka is keeping two women in a nearby house. He feeds them with our Red Cross food plus what he steals from our Jap army supplies. She says she will talk plenty if he causes her any further trouble. She said she would not worry and kept patting her chest and saying "Mama O.K. Mama O.K." You bet she is! Ten five-gallon cans of peanut oil arrived. Hope we see some of it.

Aug. 9 - The Jap office group was over again for lunch "to get to know the prisoners better." Pearson and I sat at a table with Kojima, and put on quite a show. I said: "Oh, look at Viscount Ikeda. Doesn't he look badly. He looks like he's dying." Pearson replied: "Yes, thank goodness." Kojima chuckled. The new commandant addressed us after lunch. He will take full responsibility for us in the future. He will enforce strictly all regular prisoner of war camp regulations, but due to a "special feeling" which he has for us,

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

"I shall try to treat you like human beings." (That will be pleasant for a change.) Because he served two years in intelligence units on the Manchurian border, he had numerous contacts with Russians. He knows the Russians well, likes Russian food, knows Russian psychology. Therefore he knows foreigners well and knows exactly how to treat us. The Russians are his very good friends. He then returned to the Jap office to receive word from Headquarters that Russia has declared war on Japan, and atom bomb number two has been dropped on Nagasaki. Demoto came straight back to report the coincidence to Major Cousens. Cousens told me. We agreed to keep it absolutely secret until it is officially announced by the Japs. Pandemonium reigned at the radio station. Noblitt went upstairs for the recordings and met Len in the hall. Len, of course, told him of the Russian war declaration. Noblitt, back in our studio, called me aside and said he had the biggest scoop of the war. I told him I knew all about it and to keep absolutely mum until he had talked with Cousens upon his return to camp. Then we congregated, without a guard or Jap technician, in the control room. Dodds "accidentally" switched on the English news broadcast and over it came. "...the declaration of war on Japan by the USSR today..." I yelled and Dodds turned it off, looking like he'd swallowed a baseball. Noblitt then switched on the Japanese news which Demoto ordered shut off immediately. Then Demoto called me into another studio, told me of Russia's war declaration, which I received as if I'd never heard of it before, and proceeded to spill additional astounding news. Noblitt and Ince have been trailed for the last six months by Kempi-Tai. Every time they go upstairs for recordings, they are trailed. Every time they hold secret confabs with Radio Tokyo employees in the dark hallways, they are observed and overheard. Both have been listed as tactless and disobedient. Demoto says he has warned them repeatedly, but they ignore him. He is fed up and through with them. He suggested I report his remarks to Major Cousens for action. He advises that Ince become ill and stay in bed for the next two weeks. He recommends that Noblitt be made to keep away from the Japanese radio, talking with outsiders in Japanese, going upstairs in Radio Tokyo to get our daily recordings, news, and blackmarket food from station personnel. He says we must not take any more risks when we are treading such a hair line with the Jap army authorities. "A blunder on the part of any one member of the group right now may cost the lives of several." Demoto says the Russians have poured into Korea and Manchuria. He believed a week will see the war ended. The Jap military are going nuts and may declare martial law. I cautioned Dodds not to reveal what he had heard. When we returned, I talked with Cousens who called in Noblitt and Ince. Both agreed to be cautious from here in. No cigarettes. POW ration is one per day or 20 a month. (The abacus again.) Tokyo civilian ration is three per day - and try to get them. We're going crazy eating eggplant and cucumber. Bread arrived - vile stuff made of acorns and old newspapers or something. My script on "Tozan" was cancelled. Demoto says it caused a sensation. We anticipated that. It also caused Mr. Abe to be ousted from the planning department. Good. We are to go underground for all one-plane reconnaissance raids from now on. They might be carrying the atomic bomb! Demoto says the Japanese are terrified, irritable. We're to be extremely careful and above all keep everyone quiet.

Aug. 10 - Today is the day on which Lilian promised to tell me "something wonderful" which occurred two days ago - Rescript Day, August 8th. Yesterday I wrote to

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

her, explaining that we cannot see and talk with her anymore, and asking that she write whatever she wants to tell us today. Major Cousens addressed the group at breakfast this morning, described the extremely critical and delicate relations between ourselves and the Jap authorities. "If a crisis arises, I shall expect every man to carry out my orders on the double. We may have a fight on our hands." The latter he described as highly improbable due to the emperor's edict ordering the lives of prisoners spared. "If we're suddenly faced with a firing squad, you owe it to yourselves and to your countries to die like gentlemen and good soldiers." We then spent the rest of the morning in the galley while carrier planes, P-51s, B-29s, and B-24s passed overhead. The Japs had a meeting at 10:00 and were given official notification of Russia's declaration of war. Mama says they have had no Japanese newspapers for two days. She says that the Japs in Manchuria are merely fighting in self-defense until they receive definite orders from Tokyo. Interesting. If the Japs refuse to declare war on Russia and quickly accept the Potsdam ultimatum, they might bar Russia from the peace table. Demoto once said that if Russia ever declared war, it would give Japan the biggest face-saving opportunity they've ever had. This may well be it. Demoto still says peace within one week. Major Cousens says peace within two weeks. I say peace any minute, but then I've been living on optimism for three and a half years. Prevec cornered me after lunch. "Why does Major Cousens always look directly at me when he talks of irresponsible people within the group? Why doesn't he let sleeping dogs lie?" I said that there were many irresponsible persons and not to take it so much to heart unless his conscience forces him to. He then said, "If Cousens persists in his present attitude, I shall have no alternative but to fight back. And I can fight!" He said that the consequences would be most unpleasant for everyone. I asked him if he thought such a fight would be wise. He backed down. When the peace is dictated, he says he will be there. He has powerful contacts in this country and is qualified to represent them. Everywhere he has been in Japan, every Japanese he has met, he has "tied the knot whenever an opportunity presented itself. My position is secure!" An hour later he called me out to apologize for the conversation and asked that I forget about it. He said he was just "emotionalizing." Rubbish! Before Demoto left this afternoon, he called me into the court to say, "When Major Cousens wakes up, please tell him that something very big is going on outside. It may be very good for us." Major Cousens called a meeting of all hands after supper. He read the new camp regulations which are very strict, except that Demoto or Hiyoshi can give permission for any of them to be violated, like daytime napping, cold baths, games, use of the victrola, etc. Quiet evening. Reconnaissance planes passed over but there was no fighting. I wasn't permitted to go to the radio station today and no one of our group there was able to see Lilian. The program was all changed around at the last minute. Heavy commentaries were deleted and light stuff and music substituted. Hmm. I wonder if Lilian can tell us, as she promised, when the war will end. The boys say they were too closely guarded to make inquiries about her. She promised to tell us today. The supplyman brought in a letter from our old Warrant Officer Otake. He sends us all his best regards. Incredible. Today I found out what happened to the cigarettes which were missing from one of the Red Cross parcels in our last issue. Smith, Parkyns, Dodds, and Fujita

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

made a special key to Hyasaka's storeroom. Two weeks ago they walked in, removed one package, opened it carefully, took out seven packs of cigarettes, resealed it with rice paste, put back the metal bands, and returned the parcel to the storeroom. They originally intended to eat everything, but didn't know how to dispose of the cans. So - the cigarette shortage wasn't caused by a debutante with a hangover. Good for them. Cousens is delighted about the matter, as Hyasaka would have stolen the cigarettes if the men hadn't.

Aug. 11 - Donoto was reprimanded by the commandant who is upset because the prisoners know of the Russian declaration of war. Don told him Hoblitt overheard a conversation at the station, reported the news to me and I ordered him to keep quiet about it and report to Cousens upon return to camp. News just got out! Donoto says we are apt to be pumped, to be careful and stick to the same story. Commandant accused him of being lax in his treatment of prisoners and ordered him to tighten up. War Minister Anami declared war on Russia last night. Donoto says he expected it; that the Japs must do their traditional banzai charge to end the war in the traditional Japanese spirit. It gives them face all around. Behind the scenes, however, important steps are being taken. He believes that a few more atom bombs will have to be used before a final decision is reached, but still insists: peace within the week. Before leaving for his usual weekend of fishing and blackmarketing, Donoto told Major Cousens that Japan has made a definite reply to the Potsdam ultimatum. America has acknowledged receipt of the Jap note and all bombing has been called off for awhile. Wow! He gave Ince and me a can of powdered buttermilk and promised to bring in a bottle of cooking oil for Smith on Monday. It seems that the office force has split up the newly-arrived peanut oil and very little has been left in the storeroom for our use - about one quart. Lt. Kimura spent the afternoon talking with Hoblitt and McNaughton. He predicted the war will end shortly. (Don't we know it.) Provoe, completely ignorant of what is going on outside, is making some sort of final attempt to get us in trouble. We have watched him carefully to see that he didn't contact any Japanese at any time. The only time he goes near the other building is after breakfast when he begs a cigarette butt from the guards. That trip usually takes him one minute. However, we have good reason to believe that he slips notes to either the guards or the interpreters. Consequently, information is still getting through to the front office while Provoe appears quite innocent. Information on Cousens' meetings with the group, the confidential news he reveals, opinions, instructions, etc., are all getting back to the Japs. It's amazing. He is the only one who could be doing it. There have been no repercussions on the leakage of the Russian news. On the contrary, the Japs sent over a newspaper with the declaration of war in it. Another crisis passed! Provoe certainly took a beating there. He had hoped to start something, and is trying desperately to get an interview with the Japs. He never leaves the room when a Jap visits us. Always pulls up a chair and tries to be very friendly. Hmm. We'll take care of him later. Donoto is optimistic. Predicts that the Japanese will ask us to do a Jam-boree broadcast as soon as hostilities cease. No one made any comment, but we are resolved that there will be no broadcasting after the end is announced and the bayonet is sheathed. Mame's birthday today. A group of us headed by Major Cousens made a presentation of gifts after supper. We took them

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

quietly into the galley so that no Jap would see the proceedings. The men collected 100 yen and we fixed up packages containing handkerchieves, soap, a towel and four Chesterfield cigarettes, some sewing thread. All were items which she needs desperately and which are priceless today in Japan. In fact they are unobtainable. The galley crew fixed up a package of stolen uncooked food, including dried fish, rice, two tomatoes, flour. She can fix her own birthday dinner. Ma was very happy, on the verge of tears. She's 52 today. We all must have kept bowing for five minutes. It's such a breach of etiquette not to return these salutations and we didn't want any breaches with Ma on her day. We'd have condemned the whole Japanese race if it hadn't been for her. She has saved her people, in our eyes, and there is nothing in this world too good for her as far as we're concerned. Her people, if they ever seriously reflect on Mame's attitude toward us, may realize - too late again - that had their whole country been made up of lovable mammas, they'd have at least won the peace - the respect of all the nations of the world. May God bless her sweet old heart. The Aussie group returned from the studio with an interesting bit of news. A note to Parkyns from Mary, one of Lilian's friends, says that Japan surrendered yesterday - on the day which Lilian predicted months ago. "You will be going home in three or four days. Best of luck." Muga (Radio Tokyo employee) sent a farewell note to Cousens and Ince with two pounds of Hokkaido butter. I got out a cake of Lifebuoy soap which I've hoarded for over two years and invited Ince, Astarita and Wisener over to the bathhouse for a real disinfecting. We had quite a celebration - in cold water, but then it's good to have water for a change. Reconnaissance planes started coming over at 8:30 p.m. and continued until midnight. Hiyoichi and Lt. Kimura, both on watch, kept saying, "But it can't be. This is impossible. They can't be going to bomb!" Hiyoichi said, "Wouldn't it be awful to have come this far and then get bombed off the map in the last five minutes of the war." Of course we don't infer anything from such remarks. We still don't know anything!

Aug. 12 - Sunday. The all clear was sounded at 12:30 this morning. But just after we turned in hundreds of Jap planes filled the sky going north. There was a steady roar overhead for two hours. We're all exhausted this morning - no resistance at all. Before breakfast Kojima told Major Cousens that all the Potsdam terms had been agreed to. One factor, concerning the status of the emperor, stands between the present situation and peace. Kojima didn't give details. Surely we can't be insisting on the ousting of the emperor! Or perhaps they intend to involve him in an investigation to see who is responsible for the war. Of course, unless he's absolved from blame in advance, these people will go on fighting to the last pickled radish. There's no question about it. We wouldn't renounce Christianity. It's the same thing as asking the Japs to give up their emperor. Lt. Kimura came over early this morning and smilingly presented Hoblitt with a few rusty Gillette razor blades which he suggested might be sharpened for the boys. Then he passed out cigarettes and was unnecessarily concerned over my having removed my moustache yesterday. I don't blame him. I look like a corpse, heavily lined and splattered with dark gray and yellow patches. I should have shown him my beriberi or my eight-inch bulging biceps! Both, of course, are a direct result of starvation. It's a common ailment in the camps - brought

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

about by the benevolence of the Japanese army. Mama says the war is almost over. Miyoshi is acting like a cat on hot bricks, waiting for news to come through. There's a real tension in the atmosphere. No one can find anything to do. Everyone is pacing the court, listening. Provoe is writing a commentary advocating a strong postwar government for America. The radio has been blaring musical programs all day. Their newscasts have been cancelled, and believe it or not - they have ignored the Jap army's ban on western music. Today they played Moonlight on the Colorado twice! It looks good. Feel bad. Can't eat. The Japs drank beer all afternoon. Rumors are flying all over camp. Local people were extremely friendly to the prisoners on today's water-hauling detail. Strange Jap on a bike tipped his hat and said "howdy boys." If anything has happened, the Jap authorities wouldn't tell us. They're always suspicious - probably think we'd run amuck, get hilarious, loot the storerooms or something. Major Cousens spent an hour talking with Kojima this afternoon. We sweated out his return, but despite Cousens' pumping, Kojima gave him absolutely nothing except a couple of glasses of port wine and an endless stream of chatter about the China problem.

Aug. 13 - Sirens started blowing at 5:30 this morning, short blasts - and hundreds of carrier-based fighters passed overhead. Dropped nothing, and didn't strafe. At 8:30, however, when another flight passed over, Jap anti-aircraft opened up on them. Our hearts sank to new depths. Kojima said to McNaughton: "I think the news will change now. I am very sorry." So are we! At 9:30 Major Cousens called a meeting of prisoner personnel and read the Jap commandant's new air raid orders. Shelters have been allotted to different groups and details were given on the effects of the atomic bomb. Latest reports on the morning raid: only one Jap battery did any firing. Sounds better. It might be like the truces of Singapore, Wake and Corregidor when certain positions didn't get the word and kept firing. Domoto arrived at noon. He was six hours getting here by train. Says all communications are disrupted, everyone panicky. A railway station near Omori prison was strafed this morning. Says he doesn't know exactly what is going on, but American radios say that the people at home are going wild with excitement. He believes it is only a matter of a few days. Headquarters is thinking of sending us back to Omori camp as soon as the war is over but he is trying to stop it. Domoto wants to turn us over to the Allied authorities as a separate group. Miyoshi says we needn't be alarmed over this morning's strafing - that negotiations are still on. We were escorted to the radio station by the commandant, Kojima, Miyoshi and Domoto. They watched us closely, every move. We weren't able to get to Lillian. The commandant made us extremely nervous pacing the studio and looking over our shoulders. We presented the Missing Men dialogue which locates our camp. Ozaki was there. McNaughton asked him, "How many days?" Ozaki replied, "Days, hell! Hours!" Domoto brought Smith and me a small bottle of anchovies. Good. Major Cousens asked that he get a Red Cross food parcel issued immediately for Smith. The boy is obviously dying and nothing has been done for him. Domoto got the parcel - and also the other three emergency parcels for the rest of us. We are to split our share with Streeter's group. The parcels will be issued tomorrow. Hyasaka objected to insulting them and put up quite a fight. Major Cousens called a meeting after supper. Announced the issuance of the Red Cross food

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

tomorrow. He said that the distribution would not be equal as it has been in the past. This time he is giving the important items to the sick men and a full parcel for Smith. He warned that if anyone dares protest this distribution, he'll take stern measures. Then he broke the news: that Japan broadcast an offer to the U.S. to surrender according to Potsdam. The U.S. acknowledged the offer. Japan then entered a plea for the future status of the Imperial family. The United States is considering. And so the truce goes on. It was a tiring day. Miyoshi came over to tell me that the music which we played following the Missing Men script today was particularly fitting. He asked if we had always tied in the music with the themes of commentaries, etc. I said "of course." He was dumfounded. It just damned on him!

Aug. 14 - Miyoshi took me to the dentist with Provoe and Quille. While waiting to be called, Miyoshi asked me if I thought the Humanity Calls group would be kept together after the war for special interrogation. I said I didn't think so. I thought perhaps Cox, Wisener, Ince and I (the American officers) would be asked for statements. But nothing would be required of the troops as our word is quite sufficient. I said that enlisted men weren't responsible when there were officers around. Provoe, with both ears wagging, got purple in the face, said, "I'd like to have a talk with you later, apropos of your remarks to Mr. Miyoshi." And his tone didn't indicate that the talk would be pleasant! I'm agreeable. But if Provoe starts any threatening at this stage, he'll get an earful. He is the man who three days ago was going to fight Cousens. He is the man who three days ago tried to threaten me with "our hardest days are yet to come; we'll either stick together or hang separately." He is the man who has been telling the enlisted men's room that there will be no interrogation of Humanity Calls as "he one will dare ask for it." His conscience is causing him to panic as he sees the end of the war and realizes he has been free here compared to what lies ahead for him. Lt. Kimura visited McNaughton this morning. What a changed man he is. He apologized for raising so much hell over our sunbathing without shirts. He says he was only thinking of the general health. He gave McNaughton some flowers - "flox, from my own garden!" He then told McNaughton: "You are truly a great gentleman." Of course they exchanged addresses and McNaughton was asked to send him some warm clothing for his children. In exchange he will send lots of heavy silk to England. All the Japs are getting too, too polite. Kimura said he was not a regular army man. Domoto is very dejected. The Jap authorities are really knocking him around. He has asked that they try to feed us better during the last few days, but Hyasaka and the commandant, leagued together, refuse to do it. Domoto asked for some of the peanut oil and the commandant told him it was Hyasaka's personal property. We all know it was purchased with Headquarters funds for us. Domoto is accused of being a traitor, of continual fraternization, of being lax in his administration. He says they have done everything in their power to make him resign. Any ordinary Jap would have quit long ago, but he has resolved to see us safely into the hands of our own people if it kills him. Then he plans to go away to his country place for a long rest. Major Cousens assured him he need never worry about our attitude. We appreciate all he has done for us and regard him very highly. Domoto said he had never held such a humiliating job, directing a group of

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

973092

men, some of whom are well-educated gentlemen, living under filthy conditions, forced to do a job against their will and oaths of allegiance. But he said he always felt he was needed here - and had stuck to his job despite strong opposition from nearly all the Japanese. He said he had protected us, tried to bolster our spirits, and tried to be a real friend under extremely adverse circumstances. He says that from us he has learned patience, and gained experience in human psychology which would have taken him 20 years under normal circumstances. He has seen our desperate needs for food, medicine and clothing and has fought hard to get us what was required. But nearly always he bucked up against a stone wall of opposition. If some of us, in whom he has placed the most faith, would like to remember him in the months to come, he would like us to send him a watch - "one with a dial you can see at night. At night is when I do most of my thinking, and each time I look at it I will remember you men, and remember to be patient." He would like the watch engraved with our names, and promises that it will mean more to him than anything in the world. He's a hell of a good egg, old Domoto - the whitest Japanese any of us have ever met and ever will meet. We've been damned lucky to have him here. Cousens, Ince and I can thank him for having saved our lives more than once. I, for one, shall never forget his loyalty and how he has helped me fight the toughest battle I've ever fought in my life, not to mention his devotion to Smith even when Smith was misbehaving and gave Domoto every reason to drop him flat. Went to the studio today in Smith's place - at the last minute. Did his job as the Camp Reporter. It was a good commentary on prisoners receiving mail and the job this program has tried to do for the men in the camps. We saw a special microphone being set up for a five o'clock broadcast to the entire nation declaring martial law. Domoto expects it to be followed with an announcement of the unconditional surrender. When we returned from the station, there was a tremendous fire on a hill about two miles away - Imperial Headquarters! Bits of burned paper fell into our courtyard for two hours. Strange. It must be the end. Domoto confided to Major Cousens this afternoon that as late as last Friday, August 18th, Provoc almost had the prisoner officers put out of the way. Information he has been sending to the Jap authorities has been well received - particularly by the team of Hyasaka and the new commandant. Both have believed every word Provoc has sent them, and even went so far as to accuse Domoto of being in collaboration with Cousens, Ince and myself in sabotaging the program. Provoc has reported everything that goes on in this house. Domoto says that the commandant might have taken regrettable action had not he and Miyoshi sworn that Provoc is mad, a liar, a thief, a confessed sexual pervert. Immediately after the interview the commandant received word of Japan's surrender and Domoto says he was so upset he forgot about Provoc's accusations against the prisoners. It looks as if we were just saved by the bell. Domoto says that Provoc has been the cause of many scripts being pulled out of the program just before broadcast. The majority of cancelled scripts have been those written by Smith. Provoc has pointed out dubious lines and thereby gained the confidence and support of those Japanese who are always suspicious and looking for trouble. From the start of the program in December of 1943, despite the constant changes of the Jap administration, Provoc has always had at least one member of the staff who believed in him and helped him in his efforts to do away with those of us whom he knows will see him to the gallows. But he always failed to get rid of Major Cousens

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

973092

and myself. Halbfleish was his only real victory. And now we find that during the last weeks of the war, in complete defiance of Major Cousens' orders and Domoto's warnings, he has persisted in contacting the Jap authorities, because he knows that if we ever get back, he's a "goner." Mama refused to blackmarket for him, so he reported her. The old girl might have been jailed or removed from camp if it hadn't been for Cousens and Domoto. So much for Provoc. I'm so nervous I can hardly write. Have no appetite. Am smoking anything I can lay my hands on. This suspense is really something. At 8:00 this evening Ince called me aside. IT'S OVER! THE WAR IS OVER! Domoto told him about it before he went home this evening and warned that it may not come out officially for a day or two. In the meantime there is to be no sound from our building, no piano playing, no victrolas, no games in the court, no shouting. He says that the authorities are taking it well, except for a few who are bitter and touchy. He says that any sign of jubilation on our part might be disastrous. Some are on the verge of committing harakiri in their extreme humiliation and we're to be very cautious. That's all. It's over, but we don't know a thing about it. Provoc cornered me after supper and announced that the prisoner officers can count on his complete support in the event of a showdown with the local authorities. But once he got this off his chest, he got around to what he really wanted to talk about. Unaware of the latest news, he feels that there will be a real purge within the camp before the end of the war. Certain prisoners will be interrogated by the Kempi-Tai, and they may be "done away with" to destroy important remaining evidence concerning this program. He suggested that the Kempi-Tai might say, "You were given orders to work for peace and carry out the policy set down for you by the Japanese authorities. You have failed to do this. Instead you have fanned American hatred of Japan by getting over information regarding the conditions in the prison camps, bucking Japanese officials by presenting views which made them look like fools, etc. You are guilty of prolonging the war and having caused enormous unnecessary casualties!!" What a lot of rubbish! Then he described how the Kempi might produce one of my Missing Men scripts and point to certain bits of dialogue - (all of which he has undoubtedly already pointed out for them). The dialogue, Provoc said, might describe starvation, the sufferings of prisoners. Provoc is definitely up to something. There's no doubt about it. He recognizes the symptoms after 18 months of his treachery and are determined not to allow anything to happen at this critical stage. The slightest false move might precipitate a very regrettable event. After muster, at a meeting of all camp personnel, Major Cousens issued strong orders governing our conduct from now until the end. He said that several weeks ago he had given explicit orders that no prisoner was to enter the Japanese administration building. That order, he said, has been violated. It will not be violated again. Edlin foolishly asked what plans the prisoner officers had made for reporting Japanese officials as war criminals. Cousens handled the discussion carefully, but I'm afraid it gave Provoc a lot of information which will be extremely dangerous if he gets it back to the authorities. We're sorry the discussion took place. However, after the meeting Major Cousens, Major Cox, and Captain Ince stood Provoc at rigid attention in the upstairs recreation room and Cox put him under close arrest for the remainder of our internment here. Provoc may not leave his room at any time without the Charge-of-Quarters

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

in attendance. It's a big relief. Reconnaissance planes started over at 10:00 this evening. We're jittery. I tell you, we're right on our last legs. If anyone says anything in a tone slightly louder than usual, we nearly collapse. If a door opens suddenly or bangs, I nearly have a heart attack. Good night!

Aug. 15 - Takabatake told Hobbitt this morning that we can ignore the sirens. It's all over. He said that the fire we saw yesterday was Imperial Headquarters burning all their important papers. The camp authorities, he says, are scared to tell us of the end of the war as they don't know how we will react. Takabatake thinks it will be kept from us until the very last minute. Hardly slept all night. Sirens went steadily. Nothing was dropped, but the Jap people are scared to death. They don't know what's going on behind the scenes, but do know that every reconnaissance plane is a potential atomic carrier. At three o'clock this morning I smacked a mosquito on my stomach. Unfortunately it made a resounding pop like a gun shot. Both McNaughton and Major Cousens nearly jumped out of their beds. Cousens yelled, "That will be enough of that!" Light reports that Provee kept everyone in the enlisted men's room awake all night while he paced the floor. Domoto arrived early this morning. He says that the emperor will announce the surrender personally at noon today. The Japs sat at 10:00 this morning and were given the surrender news by the commandant. We're right on the edge of our seats and if an end doesn't come soon to this expenditure of nervous energy, some of us aren't going to make the grade. At lunch Major Cousens ordered absolute quiet. No one said a word. We could hear radios in surrounding hospitals blaring stand-by signals. The signals continued for 45 minutes prior to the big announcement. Then they played the national anthem - Kimi ga Yo - then a high priest chanted, then the national anthem was played again. And then he spoke. We hardly dared breathe. The whole city was dead quiet. Pearson broke down, got hysterical. He was taken down into the galley. The rest of us, who knew what was going on, suffered from acute indigestion. After it was over, Domoto asked me to act as master of ceremonies on today's program, asked Major Cousens to read both commentaries. One is an editorial from yesterday's newspaper - the finest thing we've ever read in this country. It is entitled "We are a Great People." The editorial says that progress without moments of reflection is bad; that as long as the Japanese people have their Imperial family, that is all they want. It is a real tear-jerker. I wrote in a personal message to the family - asking that they save me a place at Bab's birthday dinner (October 1st). That should let them know that we are well up on the news. Domoto says the authorities plan to ask us to do a special program after we are told of the peace. Major Cousens flatly refused. He said that we are broadcasting under duress, and once the duress is officially removed, we are through broadcasting. Domoto was in a spot. He had to convey this idea back to higher authorities without letting them know that we know the war has ended. He must have handled it skillfully, for immediate orders came back from Headquarters cancelling today's program and all future prisoner broadcasts. Humanity Calls is finished! The greatest propaganda comedy in the history of radio warfare is off the air! The bayonet has been put back in the scabbard. We feel considerably better. Hyasaka ran out on us last night. An army captain, with whom he has been living, suggested to him that he might be considered war criminal number one

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

by the prisoners. (This message was undoubtedly delivered to the Japs by Provee.) So Hyasaka departed to the country loaded down with food, tobacco and a lot of cash. The commandant is furious about Hyasaka's leaving. Marasan is delighted. She has seen just retribution for all the misery he has caused her. He won't tell her what he has coming from us! Domoto says martial law was not declared and he doesn't believe such a move will be necessary. The people seem to be taking the surrender calmly and quietly. The emperor announced that he had assumed full responsibility and asked his subjects to cooperate fully with the incoming Allied authorities. Domoto says that the Kempi-Tai are arresting hundreds of would-be super patriots who might cause trouble when the occupational forces take over. He warns that we will all be searched and given a physical exam. Advises that we hide or dispose of any dubious written matter. Boy - will I! Astarita and I have finished making a waterproof belt in which I shall wear this diary. It fits well, around my middle. Let's hope the Japs aren't too thorough in their examination of our possessions. Fixed up a package of soap, two handkerchieves, gum, and a St. Paul medal for Lilian from Astarita and me. We'll never see her again, but Domoto promises to deliver it and express our gratitude for all she has done. She has been a real pal. Domoto is delighted with Provee's arrest, and asks that we take special caution to see that he doesn't get loose for the next few days. Says he is bucking all efforts on the part of the Jap authorities to move us back to Omeri camp. He wants to see us to the gangway personally. Well, it's over. Guess I can give all my belongings away to people who have treated us well. They can use them in the days to come. Bless 'em all. It's hot as hell and we're all so sleepy we can hardly keep our eyes open. Wish Minits would hurry. I'd like a good bath, a good meal, and a good sleep. Enough for today. Sorry - but after supper Papasan returned from Omeri camp with a whole cartload of potatoes, cigarettes and Red Cross medicine. It is to be issued tomorrow. Isn't that typical? Red Cross medicine on the last day of the war! We don't need it now.

Aug. 16 - Light reports that Provee again kept the men awake all night by pacing the floor. They're all afraid he'll do something rash - commit suicide or harm someone. Beginning tonight, ordered by Major Cousens, the men will stand one-hour watches over Provee. Provee looks completely made, has fits of staring and crying throughout the day. At 8:00 this morning, at formal parade in the courtyard, we were addressed by the Jap commandant. He told us the war had ended, that Japan had accepted the Potsdam ultimatum. "You do not have to do anymore work for broadcasting." The war is over, he said, but the Imperial Army is still intact. Therefore we must remember that we are still prisoners of war and still subject to Japanese orders. Miyoshi says that nothing has been signed yet. They expect a party will leave by plane for Manila via one of our island bases, Iyosima or Okinawa. The signing will take place tomorrow. MacArthur is to command the occupation forces - a real blow to the Japanese. Miyoshi is terrified about the surrender. He feels the Army will refuse to accept disarmament quietly; that they'll have one last fling. However, he says that such action will only be brief as it will be contrary to the emperor's orders. The Japanese will welcome British and American occupation forces but are afraid of the Chinese. War Minister Anami,

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *AMP*
973092

the man who declared war on Russia, committed harakiri last night. No such pleasant report has come through concerning Tojo, Sugiyama, or Minami. Donoto says thousands of Japanese are on their knees in front of the place thankful for the divine guidance which has restored peace to their country. Astarita brought me a wild rumor about the program which was called off yesterday: that the commandant specifically selected me to be master of ceremonies, Cousens to read the commentaries and Roblitt to do the prisoners' messages in order to have us available for the firing squad after the broadcast. Cousens and I were to have been taken to Headquarters and shot. I traced the rumor back to its original source - a precaution vitally necessary at this stage - and learned to my relief that it had been created by Quille. He said that he believed it. It was his interpretation of all the terrifying reports we've had during the past week, plus Provoc's activities, and the obvious attitude of the Jap authorities toward Cousens, Ince and myself. We're on guard anyway. Major Cousens has written letters of commendation for Hiyoshi and Donoto. They were gratefully received and have been well earned. Not one member of the group disapproves this action. Hiyoshi wants to have our guard increased. He says the people outside are quiet now, but no one knows when they're going to get upset after a day or two of serious reflection. We're not worried about the civilians. The authorities are burning all records and files in the front office. Viscount Ikeda sent for the books he loaned us and left camp. He can't go far! Provoc asked to talk with me after supper. He asked for my support in the event the Japanese court martial him for sabotage. He believes that Cousens and Cox placed him under arrest and confined him to quarters for his own protection. He thinks we have had secret information that the Japs intend to shoot him. He asked, with tears in his eyes, that I intervene and help him get back to his own people. I let him rave on. He said he realized that his conduct had been contemptible, that he deserved no consideration. He confessed that he has said, written and done things in the past which jeopardized the lives of his fellow prisoners. "And to think I might have been responsible for someone's having been shot." He squeezed a tear on that one. He did a hell of an act, crying one minute, ranting the next. Finally he broke down completely. Major Cox, he said, had led him to believe that the Japs were after him and would I help him get back so he can confess to his own people. If his own people decide to shoot him, that's okay. He feels he has it coming. But "Please don't allow me to be shot by the Japanese. Please!" I said that I felt certain Major Cousens would do everything in his power to see that Provoc was turned over to the American authorities. Provoc then explained that everything he has done since Corregidor surrendered was inspired by fear. He says he knows these people well from his former training and is terrified of them. He asked if I think he has lost everything. I said I didn't know. He then asked me what he could do between now and the day we're released to make up for all the trouble he has caused in the past. I suggested he carry out Major Cousens' orders to the letter, remain in his quarters and not bother anyone. He promised he would (as if that means anything).

Aug. 17 - A member of Streeter's group came into camp this morning to ask Donoto and Dooley if they would confer with his leader during the day. Donoto agreed and set a time for the meeting. Dooley asked permission from Major Cousens

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

and received explicit instructions on how to handle himself. Results of the meeting: Streeter asked to rejoin our group, before we are turned over to the American forces. Streeter said he had had a sort of semi-parole and wanted to be reinstated as a regular prisoner of war with us. In addition to the request, he sent a warning to all of us that if anyone dares prefer charges against him, he will see that we all hang, including Donoto. He says that he knows everything about everyone here and will not hesitate to give a full report to the American authorities if we accuse him. Major Cousens flatly refused to allow him to join us and ignored the threat. We'll attend to that when we see our own people. Streeter has put the last nail into his own coffin. Murayama came into camp for five minutes, evaded the guards, the front office people, and camp regulations prohibiting visitors. He wanted to say goodbye. Said U.S. Navy bluejackets were patrolling Yokohama Harbor; the Japanese are terrified of Chinese occupation troops; Tokyo Koreans have organized themselves into bands and are looting Japanese homes, spitting at the people. He asked if we would put in a good word for him with the American occupation authorities. He said he would hate to have his home ransacked. Told him we didn't think any such precautionary measure would be necessary unless our own people have changed radically since 1941. Siren blew at 10:00. No one knows why. Jap army is being disbanded in a hurry. Troops are reporting to various areas, dumping their equipment and being told to get the hell out of town and back to their farms. They receive no pay, no medical exam, no instructions, nothing. Our own guards (Imperial) are ready to depart at any time. When they do, Donoto says he will ask that we are protected by the local police. The commandant is packing and plans to leave shortly for parts unknown. Inspection of our gear and collection of Jap army issue clothing has been cancelled. Not one of the Japs seems interested. A week ago Donoto was being kicked around and had no more authority than an office boy. Today he is the only one left. Hiyoshi is sticking with him. The two of them, with the help of the local police - if they can get it - will turn us over to our own people. It could only happen in Japan. All women army workers and attractive girls have been ordered into the country. There is no transportation. Most of them are making the trip on foot. Donoto is taking one dog - Shiro - to his home in Sagami Bay. The other - pregnant Minnie Belle - we'll try to turn over to the occupation forces. Surely some group will take her as a mascot. She is enormous in her pregnancy, due the middle of September. None of us have the heart to put her out of the way. She proudly wears her identification tag: Miss Minnie Belle, Prisoner of War, Bunker Hill Camp, Tokyo, Japan. The trip to Manila has been postponed. Our people refuse to sign until all the fighting has been stopped by the Japanese. A prince of the blood is leaving shortly to visit various outlying areas to order the cessation of hostilities. San Francisco radio says such a proceeding may take from six to ten days. I wonder if we'll be left here until the final papers are signed. If so - there will be hundreds more dead in the camps who could have been saved had they been rescued earlier. It would be regrettable if such a formality resulted in additional tragedy. A new Jap cabinet is in. We think it may be headed by Kenoye. Churchill has announced that a reign of red terror is sweeping eastern Europe. It's only what we've felt would happen all along. Stalin refused to stop when the Japanese surrendered in Manchuria. He went right on through to Peking. Trouble. Lt. Kimura predicts we'll be out of here soon, as there

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

are hundreds of transports lying off the coast. Discouraging. Streeter sent another of his men into camp this morning. The fellow was obviously here to get information and found prize suckers in Quille and Shattles who explained in detail the sentiments of the group toward Streeter. Streeter's man, Corporal Andrews, said that the theme of their program had been the restoration of peace in the Pacific. Streeter now plans to make a formal press statement immediately upon returning to America, in which he will claim full credit for the settlement which has occurred. (What the hell can you say in response to a statement like that?) Streeter is still the arch criminal lunatic of all time - as far as we're concerned. Provoe appealed to me for another confidential chat today. He was crying, pale, drawn. His conscience is killing him. He said we had all treated him very well in spite of his deplorable behavior. He has decided to let his officers make a report on him. (That's nice of him.) He says that he intends to say nothing, that he cannot defend himself on any issue as he has been completely wrong from the start. He asked that I convey to the other officers his one wish: that as soon as this mess is over, we forget him forever. "To remember my part of this show would be to recall to mind everything that is rotten, stinking, and lousy. I don't want to live in anyone's memory. Thank you for your time and patience. I'll never trouble you again." With this he returned to his bunk where the boys are standing one-hour watches over him, armed with a baseball bat and Cousens' explicit instructions to use it if Provoe shows the slightest sign of violence. What an outfit! Mamasan, bless her heart, brought up eight packages of cigarettes for the group. The only place cigarettes can be purchased today is on the blackmarket at 18 yen per pack. She has obviously spent all her birthday money on this farewell present to us. She's a real sweetheart right to the last.

Aug. 16 - Hoblitt talked with Takabatake today. Results of Hiroshima atom bombing - 120,000 dead, many wounded. Party is expected to leave for Manila today. Communications are non-existent with Jap forces in places like the Borneo hills - consequently the delay in signing. They do not anticipate any difficulty with die-hards in Tokyo. If anything develops, Takabatake will warn us. Mamasan has also volunteered to scout the neighborhood and warn us if there are signs of uprisings, or if the local Japs decide to storm this camp. The entire Jap army is expected to be disbanded by the 28th. Domoto says the trains leaving Tokyo are jammed with discharged soldiers. Finally had a good night's sleep. For a while the lack of sirens and explosions made sleeping impossible. It was too damned quiet. Feel better now that we're getting accustomed to peace. One Jap squadron which has refused to carry out the emperor's orders flew about Tokyo this morning dropping leaflets urging the people to continue resistance to a gut-slitting finale. They are being ignored, we're told. Miyoshi says that Radio Tokyo has warned our ships to keep out of range of coastal batteries; that some garrisons refuse to relinquish their posts. Looks bad. Mr. Watanabe took our farewell package to Lilian and returned with a note to me and Astarita. I quote the note: "Remember how I told you how the war would end on the 8th? Well, I must see you before you go to explain how I knew." Major Cousens is anxious that I obtain this extremely vital information and will try to arrange through Domoto that Astarita be allowed to see Lilian. He will explain Lilian's past kindness and the fact that they had a sort of crush on each other. It

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973092*

might work. There's something strange about the whole business. Three months ago through her father's friendship with the head of the Kampo-Tai, plus a few other sources, Lilian was able to tell us when the war would end. I think she knows plenty. Domoto let one slip which might tie in with the matter in some way. Months ago when Germany capitulated Russia asked Japan to continue resistance against the United States and Britain, promising to supply the Japs with aircraft, ammunition and fuel. The Japanese replied to Moscow that they were on their last legs and suggested it would be better if Stalin acted as mediator and helped call the whole thing off. Then came Potsdam and the atomic bomb. Domoto says the new cabinet is headed by a prince of the blood, reliable. Komeye is minister without portfolio, advisor, political expert. The new prime minister has made two broadcasts really laying down the law. Our commandant, Major Hifumi, is almost hysterical over the surrender. He says he'll be damned if he'll give up his arms. He wants to get rid of us - send us back to Omeri prison - so he can get out to the country. Domoto says he is getting orders from higher authorities and that guerrilla warfare may be planned. Hifumi went to Omeri today to ask that they accept us so he can close this camp. They refused on two counts: (1) They're overcrowded; (2) they know nothing of what's gone on here but have heard rumors that our activities were not quite lawful and they want no part of us. In other words, they refuse to allow themselves to be put into a position where they might be forced to accept responsibility for this number one atrocity. Hifumi plans to go to POW Headquarters tomorrow to see if they will arrange to put us in some other camp for the remainder of our imprisonment. Domoto thinks the commandant is very dangerous. Miyoshi is still raving about how our guard should be increased. He fears an uprising of some sort. I have a hunch we'll be right here at the end - with Domoto, Miyoshi and Mama. The rest are all afraid, and rightly so. They've got plenty to be afraid of. Most of them have gone, but they will be brought back someday! And here's a real scoop: One night last week Mary (Lilian's friend) and Dorsey Kurakawa actually came here! Parkyns went over the fence to see them and got the latest news which Major Cousens passed on to me and I recorded not knowing the source. What fine kids they are. It's just another example of the way they have risked their necks to help us.

Aug. 19 - Sunday. The peace party left by plane for Manila this morning. Miyoshi says everything is going okay. A priest in Nara has announced that he hopes MacArthur's troops will do a good job here as the entire nation is banking on them. Hmm. Astarita learned this afternoon that eleven men were originally sent here to produce Streeter's program. But while they were confined in the Jap administration building, one man died. After that the Japs sent seven back to regular work camps. Three were kept. Corporal Andrews came into camp again today and had to be ordered off the premises by Major Cousens. This is the second time he has been told to stay away from our group. He is an arrogant little fool, snooping for information. You can't tell him anything. He's full of Streeter's ideas! Saw two movies this afternoon prior to carrying out the commandant's orders to burn all films. Domoto fixed it so we could see them before they were destroyed. Fujita ran the projector. Ozaki came in after supper. Watanabe, who had the watch, let him in "to get various books loaned to the prisoners." But when Ozaki left, he was so loaded down with clothing we had given him that he had to leave his books. He says

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

he'll try to make another visit tomorrow. In the meantime he'll try to see Lillian at Radio Tokyo, deliver a note from Astarita explaining that he can't see her again and asking that she write out a full explanation of how she knew the war was going to end. The biggest mystery in our prisoner-of-war experiences - how certain Japanese knew as far back as May 1945 that the war was going to end on or around the 8th of August - may be solved. Ozaki says that a Japanese plane was seen over Iyojima this afternoon. He believes the signing will take place either tonight or tomorrow morning. Then he hinted that there is something peculiar about the way this war ended. He wasn't clear on the details, but obviously he has heard something too!

Aug. 20 - The Jap party arrived in Manila last night and went into immediate conference which lasted five hours, breaking up at two o'clock this morning. The actual signing is expected to take place today. Rumors are flying around Tokyo that the Yanks have actually landed in Yokohama, Sagami Bay and other places. Some people have actually fled to the country. Domoto says he's relieved we weren't sent back to Omeri. He says the place is reported to be very crowded, short of food, full of dysentery. We have hoped for last-minute mail. Domoto made inquiries and learned that the Japs have stopped sorting and distributing. He says that thousands of letters are stacked in Headquarters. There isn't the personnel or organization to get them to the camps. They never had it to begin with. Streeter is furious at Major Cousens' refusal to let him rejoin our group. He promises to get his revenge when he returns to America and becomes prominent. He still claims full credit for having brought about the end of the war. He's mad as a latter. The civilian prisoners here say that he will hang whether we ever mention his name or not. Colonel W. W. Ashurst, North China Marines, Major Luther Brown and Major James P. Bevereux of Wake Island are all after Streeter for the trouble he caused them in the Shanghai POW camp. The men here say that Streeter wrote many letters to the Japanese authorities preaching against the prisoner officers, how it was unfair for them to have their special quarters, special food, special treatment, etc. Streeter also wrote anti-U.S. Government articles which the Japs printed in their English language newspapers throughout Japan proper and occupied areas. I recall having read one of the stories while I was imprisoned at the Kentsuji camp back in 1945. Saw Lives of a Bengal Lancer before burning it this afternoon.

Aug. 21 - One member of the Manila group has returned to Tokyo with instructions regarding the handling of war prisoners. Domoto is dejected. He thinks our return to Omeri prison is a certainty. The supplyman has told the galley force that he is checking out tomorrow. The Jap office boys say we're leaving this place soon. Mamasan has gotten the word and is on the verge of tears. Domoto says he'll get here early tomorrow morning; suggests we're ready to leave camp on five minutes' notice. It looks as if the era of Showa - meaning "era of brilliant peace" - is about to end for us. Being a Japanese idea, however, it has had the exact opposite effect. Whether we go to Omeri or a stinking dungeon, it will be good to leave this loathsome compound and all its unpleasant memories. The number one atrocity of the war, Humanity Calls America, has been brought to a rather satisfactory close, I think. It's a grand feeling to be able to turn one's head and find that it is still attached. I have Major Cousens to thank. Bless his heart. Hope Ozaki comes to see us

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 973092

tonight; would like the details on the peace business, if there are any. If they're what I think they are, the War Department might be very appreciative. Enough for today. Come on boys - get us outa here!

Aug. 22 - Major Hifumi is scheduled to make an inspection of all our personal gear at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow. We will not be permitted to take any written matter with us. All programs, files, etc. must be burned or turned over to Domoto. Domoto, knowing I've kept a file of the Missing Men dialogues I have written, asked me if I would care to turn it over to him for safekeeping. He will forward it to me at a later date. I had no alternative but to turn it over. As for this diary, only a few reliable people know I have kept it and Astarita has finished making a belt. It fits well and will do the job of getting these records through providing the Japs don't do their usual frisking. I must take the chance anyway. Major Cousens says that if it is discovered, he will threaten the Japs with all the strength he can muster. He will say that he has ordered me to carry through my diary and that if any Jap dares destroy this official record, he will be reported to the occupational authorities. Major Hifumi, the commandant, has ordered preparation of a special dinner for us this evening. Streeter and his group have been invited to attend. Major Cousens protested this invitation, but his protest has been ignored. We were ordered to carry all furniture from our building to the administration building this afternoon. Streeter had a special conference with the commandant this afternoon. Domoto reports that Streeter asked to be hidden from the American occupation forces. The Japanese owe him this much protection, Streeter said, in payment of all he has done for them. He doesn't want to return to America. Major Hifumi asked him how he ever expected the Japanese to trust him when he has never played square with his fellow-prisoners. (Actually, Hifumi doesn't know much about the Streeter case. He hasn't been here long enough and doesn't care what happens to Streeter one way or another.) When Streeter realized he was not going to be protected, he asked to be allowed to take through his program files "to show as evidence of good intentions." Hifumi refused this request also, and added that anyone trying to take out written matter will be punished. Everything is to be burned. Hifumi produced three quarts of sake; Pearson and crew turned out a good meal for supper. The galley force led by Astarita stole everything they could lay their hands on in the storeroom - as a parting gesture. Not one grain of sugar remains! Hyasaka actually had the nerve to return for this evening's dinner - all smiles - to have one last look at the half-starved, nervous wrecks he has made of 24 helpless prisoners. The dinner went smoothly and we froze the "guests" out early. This afternoon Wisener got out all his papers, poetry and love letters from Provoc which he had intended to take through as evidence against this madman. In view of Hifumi's order, however, he decided to burn them and forget the whole filthy business. I asked him if I might incorporate some of the more important writings in this report and Wisener thought it a good idea. Together we selected one poem and two letters which seem to tell the story of Provoc's unsuccessful courtship. The following documents, dated March 15, 1944, May 14, 1945, and May 18, 1945, respectively, are quoted. The originals remain in my possession.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

973092

"Frankly.

"So easy to tell you
'I love you'
Paraphrase millions
Words tawdry, over-used
Vastly inadequate.
For most,
This is culmination:
For me,
Only the beginning
Of unending gladness.
How can I tell it?
On lazy morning,
Eyes clouded and sleepful,
Where summer suns have crossed
The Texas skies -
There I have seen you.
All my heart
Infinitely tender and willing
Back through the years
To be with you.
Life wasn't drab,
But quite silly
Until you walked in
Bearded and wholesome.
Forward with minutes,
Follows my yearning.
If you didn't know this already,
Vain are my hopes and my verses:
Because you do -
War can be peace
And this, the first spring.
How vain to qualify statements,
Studied or practiced:
Your unconscious gestures,
More than reward me.
Spring of the mind,
And spring of the morning!
What seemed to be age,
Was only maturing:
Now I am able,
To love you entirely.
What can you give me?
Sound of your footstep
Sight of you smiling,
Fills up my life!

"John"

DECLASSIFIED
Authority

973092

"May 14, 1945.

"Lieutenant Jack Wisener.

"Dear Sir:

"As time goes on, I find myself confronted inwardly with an ever clearer perception of the real nature and extent of my unseemly conduct toward yourself. That it has constituted a real burden, and added to the general discomfort of our unfortunate situation, is today quite apparent to me. Doubtless, it is evident to you that such aberration from the course of relations ordinarily enjoyed between civilized men could only result from a seriously disturbed or deranged state of mind. I do not presume that you have, or will in future, pronounce judgment upon me; but I cannot but feel the reaction which is inevitable to any lawless or irresponsible act. It is my good fortune that your attitude in the matter has been the result of patience rather than a vindictive quality.

"It was not another's lack of stamina or character which caused my mental breakdown here due to strain; nor could the lack of the proper medical attention be remedied. Thank you for having kept the matter as private as you have, and rest assured that the loss of respect of my fellowmen - not to mention the personal and irreparable loss suffered - has been and continues, a punishment of the most severe character.

"I entertain no hope whatsoever regarding the possibility of there existing between us anything more cordial than the relationship dictated by our respective military status; but it is my earnest desire that I be allowed continued opportunity of demonstrating my capability of fulfilling the office of a soldier.

"It is with the knowledge that no apology or excuse is adequate to the occasion or sufficient to invoke pardon that I have written this letter; but rather, because I feel it to be the least I can do toward effacing the unworthy circumstances that prompt this writing.

"I tender herewith my sincere apology for having intruded repeatedly upon your privacy and most intimate and personal affairs, as well as having otherwise caused you mental discomfort and embarrassment on numerous occasions. The only explanation is that I was not in full charge of my faculties, which fact I realize does not lessen your annoyance or excuse my guilt.

"Trusting that you will find this acceptable, and a creditable evidence of my mortification, having regained my normal state of mental health, I remain.

"Respectfully.

"S/ John D. Prevoo
Sgt. U.S.A."

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 973092

"May 18, 1945.

"Lieutenant Jack Wiscner:

"Any evidence of a lack of faith in you on my part is absolutely without foundation in fact. Depend upon me to stand by you in any decision you make or anything you decide to do. You know I have not been myself here for a long time, but don't believe you pronounced any final and irrevocable judgment on me, in the privacy of your own mind, because of my past behavior. I'm happy to be able to tell you that I have fully recovered command of my faculties, and clearly recognize why our association had to be abruptly terminated when it was as a matter of sound sense.

"Recently I felt that you had demonstrated a lack of support of my efforts to improve my position relative to the radio work. This was an entirely impulsive and unjustified attitude on my part, and was, upon reflection, seen to be such. You have never given me any verbal reason to think that you would have my interests in mind particularly, or that you would act to help me especially, when and as possible; nevertheless, in spite of feeling unworthy of such consideration, I do, and will continue to place my faith and implicit trust in you personally.

"Your good will, that I believe you have never entirely renounced toward me, is held in highest regard with an understanding of its really inestimable worth to myself. You know that it was the hope on my part of being able to repair myself in your eyes which gave me the strength to face realities again after my serious mental disturbance, and my gratitude is yours today that I have a full understanding of my proper position as a soldier as well as my own normal balance as a self-respecting and responsible person.

"You must be aware that I am too easily subject to the influence and uses of others - to a point that my own primary interests are frequently threatened. I assure you, this is less likely to happen today than a year ago, but I am unfortunately the heir of my own past errors the same as anyone else. I believe you know that I always hope for your timely concern with my welfare, believing that you will, as judgment dictates, give me a restraining or guiding word. Likewise, that I do not expect such action as my right, but rather look upon it as a privilege without which I would be really at a loss. This is not a revelation of weakness, but a statement of fact. I feel capable of executing anything you might advise, and hold myself in readiness to fulfill such opportunity.

"Nothing brings me greater relief than the generous tendency you evidence to overlook the unhappy circumstances of our past association. And I likewise realize whatever action you took - formerly interpreted as unnecessarily hard and unjustified - were fully appropriate to the matter concerned and decidedly lenient.

"In future, I will not expect you to do anything for me which is

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 973092

not prompted by your own judgment and sense of your own interests. Any action whatsoever coming from you in my behalf will be what you determine entirely, and as such will neither be questioned nor criticized by me. It is my good fortune to be in duty bound to you by the fact of our military relationship, and also to proudly cherish for you the deepest sense of personal loyalty and esteem of which I am capable.

"Trusting that such truth will not in future prove either a burden or embarrassment, but rather be of some conceivable value to yourself, I remain.

"Sincerely,

"/s/ John

"P.S. This writing doesn't communicate anything you don't already know, but my impulsive action recently was misleading and a bad reflection on what I know to be true."

The following is a letter which I received from Sgt. Proves on 16 May 1945. I did not consider it worth recording in my diary at that time as the sentiments expressed are similar to those I had recorded on numerous other occasions. The letter is obviously an attempt to justify the derogatory remarks concerning Major Cousens and myself which Proves made during a discussion on 25 April 1945.

"Bunka Camp
May 18, 1945.

"Lt. G. Benschaw:

"Your pardon requested for the informal nature of this note and somewhat personal character of the general content, but I feel it due you - and want to write it as a matter of information for yourself.

"This is being written because it will take up less of your time, and doesn't ask any answer anyway. The fact is, as I told you recently, I am very sorry about having expressed my ill-conceived sentiments so discourteously to you and the others concerned. On top of everything else you have to put up with here, it must be an added annoyance to have had to listen to half-baked mouthings from an enlisted man. The fact is, this whole thing was just too much for my temperament - because it wasn't clear and only recently has become sufficiently orderly to be so to me. Of course I realize that the loss of perspective and clouded outlook was my own. Doubtless, the simple basis for our activities here was a matter of simple comprehension for you from the beginning; this was decidedly not the case with me. A clear perception is what would be expected of any normally intelligent person.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

97-3092

however, I have been through a prolonged period of serious mental disturbance which has constituted a danger as well as an unpleasant circumstance for the other people in this house. The lack of proper medical attention could not be remedied, and I do feel that everything possible was done for me with the general welfare in mind, by some members of this household. But not to discuss further what has surely been apparent to you and is looked upon with a real sense of shame by myself, I am anxious to efface as far as possible the discreditable conduct of the past.

"In checking through the things which I have written for broadcast, I am somewhat relieved to find that without conscious reasoning, I have instinctively written articles which in effect have been undoubtedly to the advantage of our country. Capt. Ince said recently that in his opinion, the program during the time that I was most actively engaged in writing, etc., was not harmful to any degree to American interests. It must be apparent to you that I am thinking of myself in relation to the work in general, but now in full cognizance of its significance and bearing upon every other individual's fate as well.

"Let me assure you that with the return of a normal viewpoint and perspective, the nature of your own efforts are quite clear to me. Forgive me for having ever entertained any notion really unworthy of my own judgment in regard to them or even for a moment questioned your position; due, I assure you, to my illness which rendered me not in full command of my faculties. Depend upon me for assistance in any way possible, and rest assured that I am now by my own admission 'fit for duty.'

"It is a singularly unfortunate characteristic of mine to read, almost everything in personal and highly emotional terms: for that reason, in the past I have interpreted certain lines relative to Leo and Leo's part in being intended to further unsettle, embarrass, and injure me. This I know to be untrue now and unworthy of you, likewise that such lines which may have reflected upon my character were in all probability written so as the result of my own actions having warranted them.

"Rest assured that such inconsiderate, selfish, and ill-mannered conduct as I have been guilty of is in a very real sense its own reward: the loss of respect and the community of interests normally enjoyed between civilized men even under these circumstances, is a punishment of the most severe character.

"The last thing I expect is a pat on the back for having 'seen the light.' The matter is far too serious to expect that an apology or explanation is sufficient to make amends for what has amounted to months of real difficulty for other people; but it is the least I can offer for the present, with my firmly expressed assurance that no further discrediting aberration from normal behavior on my part will occur.

"That I have just recently suffered the loss of access to the good counsel and kind assistance of Major Cousens, proved to be a shocking

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

97-3092

revelation of the extent to which I have over-taxed the patience and endurance of those who have a right to depend upon me under these circumstances as well as whom I would serve through personal inclination, respect, and a sense of personal loyalty of which I am really proud - however ill-represented it may have been during the period when I was actually not capable of fully rationalized behavior.

"In simple English, any evidence to the contrary notwithstanding, depend upon me in any emergency to act in full support of and regard for, our respective military status.

"Thanking you personally for the fair attitude you have expressed in your treatment of me at all times, I remain,

"Sincerely,

"S/ John Proves"

Aug. 25 - Major Hifumi inspected each man's personal gear at 8:00 a.m. I was the last to be examined and the commandant was not very thorough by the time he got to me. Thank goodness. I had on the belt with this diary strapped to my back. Over it I wore two loose-fitting jackets, an Army belt and canteen. The latter, sticking out in the rear made the camouflage perfect. No one could have noticed the hidden diary providing I stood erect. We left Bunka in two Headquarters trucks at 10:00 a.m. after saying goodbye to Mama who cried over each of us and said she was going to be very lonely. We have given her plenty to keep her going. Minnie Belle accompanied the group. If she can't be taken to Australia by Parkyns, she'll be turned over to the occupation authorities. Arrived at Gwari at 11:30 a.m. and found Gordon Braden acting G.D. Ironically - we were placed in Barracks 3. The situation is ironical because Barracks 3 has been the imaginary prison barracks in which all my Missing Men dialogues took place over Radio Tokyo. We were well received by all hands. They knew what we've been through. Kalbfleisch communicated with them when he passed through. George Williams also sent in a note describing the activities at Bunka. But men are definitely still alive but had difficult times. The men tell me that after we left this place in December 1945, it really turned into a horror camp. Corporal Watanabe conducted a reign of terror like we've never heard before, and caused many deaths among prisoners. All the officers were made to work and if they refused they were beaten unmercifully. Captain Martin, whom I knew well, a veteran from the battle of Iatan, was one of the first officers who objected to working. Watanabe beat him for thirty minutes. Martin was in bed for a week, unable to move. The doctors say that his reproductive organs are crippled for life. Most of the enlisted men went through both winters without shoes or proper clothing. The food has been inadequate and what there was of it was almost inedible. Watanabe conducted daily kit inspections, confiscated everything he could lay his hands on, demanded impossible courtesies from everyone, inflicted every conceivable type of punishment, kept himself a private storeroom full of Red Cross food parcels. No one was allowed to sit on his bunk until taps. If a prisoner failed to salute him, that prisoner was forced to face a tree, a barracks, or the latrine and salute steadily for

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

as long as eight hours without stopping. Capt. James, elderly British captain, suffered this indignity several times. One man was tortured with lighted cigarettes in his nostrils. Sgt. Lyons, British soldier who helps in the Jap storeroom, tells us they sent us all sorts of supplies - food, clothing, tobacco - but had a hunch that very little of it ever reached us. They were all told repeatedly that the Bunka prisoners were receiving marvelous treatment, etc. But knowing the Japs, they assumed the opposite to be the case. Gordon Braden, Australian lieutenant, spent a year working in the camp post office which handled mail for all the Tokyo camps. He had charge of all personal packages and was ordered to turn in to the Japs all parcels addressed to deceased prisoners. Several of these he readdressed to me, McNaughton and many of our old friends in Zentsuji. Of course, neither McNaughton nor I ever received them. The night of 15 August, after the emperor had made his surrender speech to the nation, some drunk Japanese guards tried to break into the British enlisted men's barracks "to kill the prisoners." Just as a guard swung at one of the prisoners with his sword, Lt. Morigishi grabbed the blade with his bare hand. It nearly cut his thumb off. The drunken guards, seeing they had struck one of their own officers, returned to their guard house. Later they fought among themselves with knives and swords. One was seriously cut in the head, one had his neck slit open. Morigishi is highly credited in camp as having been the only decent Japanese these prisoners have known since the camp was opened in 1942. A complete new guard was afterwards assigned to protect the prisoners. One hundred and thirty-six B-29 pilots are isolated in Barracks No. 1. They look like death. Most of them are walking skeletons, weighing around 100 pounds or less. Most have been in Kempi-Tai dungeons since capture, beaten frequently, fed one riceball per day, never allowed to shave or wash, clothed only in G-strings, interrogated regularly, charged with having deliberately bombed innocent Japanese women and children. Ince talked with one who seemed to know the American reaction to the prisoners' broadcasts from Radio Tokyo. He said intelligence was getting plenty from us. The food here is so good that we can't eat a full ration! The Japs have opened all their storerooms and the galley force is doing very well. Yet - we wouldn't think of eating this sort of thing in normal times. Colonel Suzuki, the character who proposed that treatment of prisoners at our former camp, Bunka, be directed according to his famous "24 points," made a speech this afternoon to all camp personnel, assembled on the Guri parade ground. (Obviously, Suzuki isn't dead. Donato was quite wrong on that score.) The Colonel said he was pleased to announce that our conduct had been satisfactory to him. He has ordered our rations increased at Commander Arthur Maher's request. He is now laying aside his sword to comply with the emperor's orders and will return to a peaceful civilian life. (So he thinks!) However, if America and Britain don't cooperate with Japan, there will be uprisings. And we must remember that Japan is our only buffer against Communism. We should therefore build Japan into a healthy nation again, capable of acting as a strong barrier between Russia and the western world. Major Cousins and Major Cox called on Senior Prisoner Officer, Comdr. Arthur L. Maher, reported the presence of Provoe and Streeter within our group and the fact that Provoe is under arrest. Maher advised Streeter also be placed under arrest and guarded for his own protection. When arrested, Streeter said he would not recognize Cox's authority over him, but would, however, remain in the barracks to prevent unpleasant incidents. There is no electricity in camp. We had early

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

973092

muster and turned in. Millions of bedbugs cover the walls, just waiting for us to get into bed. The flies and fleas are more brazen. They attack on a full 24-hour schedule. The Japanese issued a bar of Jap army chocolate and ten cigarettes to each of us.

Aug. 24 - Muster this morning was at five o'clock - an incredible hour. There is no water for washing. I slept for about an hour before dawn - from sheer exhaustion. Tonight I shall sleep on the mess table. McNaughton and Major Cousins have decided to sleep on the washrack - ten feet from the open latrine. Rather foul, but more comfortable than being eaten alive. The bugs never let up for a minute. Most of the men paced the parade ground all night. It's the routine around here. The prisoners visit each other all night and sleep all day, now that one is permitted to lie down in the daytime. I called on Comdr. Maher today to pay my respects and report on Bunka. He said he had heard rumors about our activities, some of which were unpleasant - as rumors always are when prisoners are placed in difficult positions. However, he said none of the reports were anything to be alarmed about, with two exceptions: Provoe and Streeter. He advised that these two men be kept under close guard, as other prisoners might try to put them out of the way. They are famous for their activities in other camps. I told the commander we had done our best under the circumstances and that I had brought through a complete record which would be ready for his inspection at any time he desired. He said he was delighted that a proper record existed to be turned over to our authorities. He suggested that I continue to guard this diary carefully, as there is still a chance that the Japanese will pull another inspection and confiscate everything in their last-minute desperation. The Japs gave us each 30 cigarettes, five cookies, and 4,000 vitamin pills. They have had these Red Cross pills for a long time - perhaps two years. They were sent here to help keep us alive, and these people have simply kept them in their storehouses and let men die! We don't need them now. They're too damned late! There are hundreds of boxes of ashes stacked right here in our barracks, ashes of our own men who have died in this hellhole because the Jap authorities refused to give out the relief supplies our people had sent. Many of the men are getting sick on the sugar-coated vitamin pills. The B-29 boys from Barracks No. 1 were released today, and 85 of them have been moved into our barracks. I have never heard such horror stories or seen such human wrecks. Most of them have lost from 50 to 70 pounds. Many are unstable mentally, as well as physically. Swiss officials arrived at two o'clock this afternoon and inspected the camp with Col. Suzuki. They announced that our stay here is only a matter of a few more days. Food is to be dropped to us by American planes tomorrow! The Swiss doctors spotted and talked with every sick man in camp. One lad, a grey and yellow skeleton, with both arms broken and healing crookedly, a boy who is completely incapable of doing anything for himself, has been placed on the bunkrack next to Asterite. When the Swiss doctor saw this halfdead-looking kid, he was deeply touched. "My dear boy," he said, "are you terribly ill?" The kid mustered all the strength he had, smiled, and looked straight at Suzuki. "No, Sir, I'm not sick!" Another fellow here spent two years in a Kempi dungeon for having defended himself against the attacks of civilians when he parachuted down from his burning plane. He looks the least alive of any of these pathetic cases. His skin

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *WAP*
92-3092

is like waxpaper and when he talks or moves he looks like a robot.

Aug. 25 - Never have I spent such a day. Carrier planes, our own planes, arrived at 9:00 this morning, swooped down over us, waved and dropped small parcels with notes. We all stood around, almost unable to believe what we saw - our own, marvelous people here at last. Couldn't help crying, couldn't stop. But wasn't embarrassed as everyone else felt and acted the same way. The notes: "God bless you, gang. We'll be in for you in a couple of days." "Keep your chins up. Uncle Sam's on his way." "Have a smoke on us - the Yorktown mess." Many of the pilots dropped small personal gifts and notes wishing us well, explaining that organized relief supplies could not be dropped today by the Army bombers due to bad weather off Okinawa. A case of Cashmere Bouquet broke away from its chute and went through Barracks 5 roof. The Swiss were here again; said they had wired the Fleet asking that soft food be dropped for the bed patients. They replied saying that milk, butter, cheese will be delivered tomorrow. God bless them. The visiting officials have checked the health of every man in camp and classed us in three categories: Class 1 can walk, Class 2 must be taken by motor, and Class 3 carried. We're all to go to Yokohama in a few days and will board our own ships there. A typhoon is blamed for the occupation having been postponed 48 hours. Hope it isn't put off too long. Everyone is happy tonight. Each man has a pack of American cigarettes, a chocolate bar, some gum and soap. The little kid with the broken arms, who sleeps next to Astarita, crawled from his bunk to our door this evening. He wanted to see us. "Mr. Henshaw, sir - some of the fellas are swappin' their cigarettes for chocolate bars. I don't smoke, sir. Do you suppose I could swap mine?" Astarita and I went through the barracks and got him as much chocolate as we could get - without bargaining. The healthy fellows were glad to donate. Poor little devil. He was happy, promised he wouldn't get sick on it. By God - he'll have anything we can beg, borrow or steal for him.

Aug. 26 - Early Mass - our first in two years. And Holy Communion. Father Braun from the Philippines celebrated. No planes visited us today as it is overcast. The Swiss were here again. Commander Maher has taken over complete command of the camp from the Japs. Major Cox has been ordered to replace Major Cousens as Barracks Commander. Maher feared that to keep Cousens in command of an American group might give rise to resentment. Cox has already let the barracks get completely out of hand. He is too weak. Provoce is guarded every minute of the day and night and is behaving quietly. Streeter remains on the upper bunkrack and doesn't venture out of the hut where anyone might get at him. He's plenty scared. Provoce seems completely out of his mind.

Aug. 27 - Bombed with food all day. The Yorktown newspaper was delivered. The Japs tried to interfere with the gathering of the items dropped. They wanted to pass on everything before we took possession, but so much stuff was dropped that they finally gave up. About seven out of ten parachutes have broken away from their parcels and case after case of food has been going through the barracks' roofs. The Japanese office is completely ruined and splattered with peach jam from one end to the other. Canned peaches exploded all over the Japanese compound in the front of the camp. Broken glass and splintered

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *973082*

woodwork are strewn everywhere. Maher is trying to keep everyone in the bomb shelters when the planes pass over, but of course we're so excited we can't stay there. Lt. Morigishi took about 50 of us for a swim this afternoon. The bay is filthy, but refreshing after four years! His thumb is better. He's the only good Jap around these parts. Major Cox is getting hell from the entire barracks. Everyone kids him, argues, refuses to obey his orders. He just can't command. Wisener is doing an awful southern act. We don't know why. McNaughton and I are out to stop him and it's been a lot of fun. We're full of good food. Can't wait for MacArthur. Every day seems like years. The suspense is awful. I don't know whether some of these men can hold out or not. We kicked part of the fence down this afternoon. The Japs said nothing. Now we'll swim when we damned please.

Aug. 28 - A seabag full of canned goods came straight for us during lunch. We saw it from the window, ducked, and it came right through the roof over our mess table. Dust and debris flew all over the place. We were saved by a four-by-five rafter. The air has been swarming with planes all day, and from the barracks' rooftops we can see American ships in the bay - just a few miles off. We've tried to signal them, but only the planes reply. The damage in camp from the food bombings is incredible. I was out across the shoulder by flying glass, but it isn't anything serious. The B-29s have dropped us more food than we can ever eat, more clothing than we'll ever wear. Everyone's full of ghou, anxious to get home. Some are talking of trying to swim out to the ships, or of starting to walk to Yokohama. Commander Maher has placed prisoner MPs on 24-hour guard duty to prevent any such action.

Aug. 28 - We were bombed with food all day and the camp is almost totally wrecked. Good! The Japs' office was hit again. They said they were going to stop the food bombing, and were told to shut up and get back to their own quarters. The men have made a target just outside the main gate in an open area. It is a large white parachute with a red dot in the middle. We have signalmen on the beaches and arrows painted on the rooftops directing the planes to drop their relief supplies outside the prisoners' compound. The shipboard planes are accurate, but the B-29s are dropping stuff all over the place. The latter let loose such enormous quantities at a time that the whole business has become dangerous. A whole commissary department flying through the air at you is no laughing matter. The Japanese are completely agast at the amount of food pouring out of "starving America." And it's all for lowly "horios" (criminal war prisoners) too! AT THREE O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON WE SIGHTED THREE LANDING BARGES COMING STRAIGHT FOR OUR PRISON ISLAND! AND THE LANDING CRAFT FLEW A GIANT STARS AND STRIPES! The camp went wild with excitement. Word spread through the barracks like wildfire. They were coming after us - our own beloved people. We stood on the rooftops and waved, screamed, cried until our hearts felt as if they would burst with happiness. Some of the men swam out to meet them. Most of us, afraid to make that strenuous effort, stood on the beaches and waited. Some of the men in the barracks, too ill and weak to walk, crawled from their bunks and clung to the windows in a desperate effort to see what was going on. Commodore Simpson and a group of naval officers came ashore amid hundreds of cheering, screaming, crying prisoners. You could see they were terribly shocked at what they saw, but they smiled and shook hands with each and every one of us - returned our salutes, every one.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *AMP*
92-3192

The Commodore spoke to us on the parade ground. We would all be aboard our own ships by tonight. The sick were the first moved. Many went on stretchers. But some, who haven't walked in months, got up, dressed, packed their few possessions and crawled from the barracks in order that they might line up on the parade ground with the rest. Some mustered all the strength that remained in their frail bodies in order to stand for a moment and salute the Commodore as he passed by. And to everyone he smiled, saluted and said: "God bless you, my boy, it's a pleasure." As the first load was taken out to the hospital ship DAHEVOLUNTER, we stood on the beaches and watched as they faded into the distance across the bay, feeling such happiness and gratitude as we've never known before in our lives; and thanking God for guiding us through almost four years of hell - - - to see this glorious day.

THE END