DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

NOT FOR PUBLICATION LP/054/42743

Confidential

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
KONDO Naoichi c/o 3rd Technical Company, Japanese Army Kamunchin, Taiping, Perak State, Malay	YOSHIDA Shigeru Prime Minister's Official Residence Tokyo-to, (Japan)	Postcard Postmark: 25 Oct 46

JAPANESE PROTEST DELAY IN REPATRIATION

" As you know well, it is not because repatriation ships, are unavailable, but rather the request of the British authorities, that we one hundred thousand members of the Service-Units in the South Seas areas remain here unrepatriated. The British authorities here declare that this is only natural as compensation for the great sacrifices to which they had been subjected in the Thai-Burma Railway construction work for the Japanese Forces. But, why should we alone bear this burden, which ought to be equally shared by all the Japanese? Now, what are you going to do for us? Are you going to forsake us merely as 'the unfortunate'? Here we are forced to drudge nearly naked for ten hours a day, supplied with only a single bowl of rice-gruel at each meal, and sneered at by native children with such an insulting word as 'Bakayaro' (Ex: d-fool). Is there any part in the Potsdam Declaration, which provides that we should remain here so long under such miserable conditions? The other day you reported, 'The treatment accorded to the Japanese people in Singapore district is rather satisfactory', but it is far from being true. I hope that you will realize what a miserable life we are leading here, and make every effort in order to expedite our repatriation. "

Thirty-seven (37) postcards voicing similar comments, 24 of which were addressed to YOSHIDA; 7 to Members of the DIET; 4 to Newspaper Publishers; 2 to Prefectural Governors; 1 to a Town Office are not being disseminated.

(Comment by: FM 1 J-4580)

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Tki

JF/TOK/43782

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
SEE COMMENT		SEE COMMENT	

DISTRIBUTION:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
CIS/OP/CH STA LOCAL: DS ATIS WDI	Various	Passed	100-202-2-11
	Type of Commun: Letters	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None relevant
	Prep. date: 6 Feb 47	Comment by: Various	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: SEVERAL P.O.W. CAMPS LOCATED IN RUSSIA

Postmark: Jan 47

FROM:
HOME DEPOT BUSINESS BUREAU
Pending Business Dept.
for Korea and Manchuria,
Konakadai-machi, Chiba-shi,
(Chiba-ken, Japan)

TO:
OKADA Yoshiko
902, 2-chome, Haratogoshi,
Ebara-ku, Tokyo-to
(Japan)

Writer sends a mimeographed circular giving information on Japanese Prisoners of War in Russia as follows:

1. From 20,000 to 30,000 are interned in about 30 places along the Siberian Railway such as Chita, Suchan, Vladivostok and Blagoveschensk. In each camp there are about 500 to 1,000 internees. Officers are interned in Vladivostok, Khabarovsk and Pirakan and general officer in Khabarovsk and Pirakan.

2. Camps in cities are managed by People's Committees, while those in interior areas are under the Soviet Army supervision. Although the treatment varies depending on camp chiefs, those in cities are better treated.

3. The first repatriates are from Khabarovsk, Iman, Aruchom, Suchan and Vladivostok sectors and their selection was made taking the following points into consideration: (1) Those who made comparatively good showing in work; (2) Those who are in not too good health condition, (3) Those who the Soviet authorities regarded as favoring the Soviet ideology.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

- 1 - (Continued)

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4. With "No work, no eat" motto each worker is allotted a certain amount of work on 8 hours-a-day basis. They are trying to increase work efficiency by adjusting the food supply to each individual in proportion to the amount of work achieved. So, even the prisoners are said to be receiving more food than non-working Russians. It is said that there is no discriminatory treatment between Russians and P.O.W.s as far as the food is concerned.

5. They are very attentive in health and sanitation, attaching one Japanese surgeon and one Soviet Army physician to each battalion. Good treatment is given to sick persons, giving fresh and special dish, and hospitalizing more serious cases.

Inclosures: 1
1 list of location of P.O.W. camps

(Comment by: P O J-2132)

P.O.W. CAMP AT IRKUTTK

30% DIE OF MALNUTRITION

Postmark: 18 Jan 47
FROM:
TAMURA Yuji
c/o ARITA Mitsukoshi
Aza Nabekura, Suigen-mura,
Kikuchi-gun, Kumamoto-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
TAMURA Kozo
Oaza Shimoisobe, Isobe-machi,
Usui-gun, Gunma-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"Receiving a calling out paper on August the thirteenth (13th), 1945, I entered the barracks on the fifteenth (15th) (the day of the cessation of hostilities), but to my regret, was sent to Siberia on September the twelfth (12th). I arrived at Irkuttk on September the tenth (10th) where I stayed for nine (9) months. I was sent to Komosan, Korea, on July the twenty-sixth (26th), 1945, departed there on November the thirtieth (30th), and reached Konan on December the fifth (5th) where we embarked the TAISHUI MARU, bound for Saseho, Japan.

"During our detention in Siberia, we were engaged in labor at the various factories, and other works such as road-construction, water-supply works, and railroad-construction.

"At any rate, owing to an acute shortage of food and materials in the Soviet Union, there were no clothing and the food supplied to us was barely enough to keep us alive. As a consequence our bodies became so weakened that about thirty (30) per cent died of malnutrition.

"I was included in the twenty thousand (20,000) patients designated for repatriation, due to an inflammation of the lymphatic gland.

"In Siberia, there are still about five hundred thousand (500,000) soldiers to be repatriated."

(Comment by: P 3? J-4168)

P.O.W. CAMPS AT SURUJANKA AND IRUKUTSUK

JAPANESE SOLDIERS ILL-TREATED

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Confidential JP/TOK/43782

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Postmark: 28 Jan 47
FROM:
OMATA Shigenori
#135, 2-chome, Suginami,
Suginami-ku, Tokyo-to,
(Japan)

TO:
YATSU Gentaro
#573, Nijima, Ota-machi,
Gunma-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"I met Mr. Yasutaro in 'Surujanka' Camp near Lake Baikal for the first time. One thousand (1,000) Japanese soldiers (about two (2) battalions) had been there since April, 1946.

"His former camp was in the mountains near 'Irukutsuk' where they worked chiefly at felling trees. The treatment they received there seemed to be as hard as ours in our former camp. Daily meals consisted of about three (3) go of wasky gruel without a side-dish, or some pieces of sour Russian bread. All their clothing which they carried from Manchuria was taken away and in a temperature of fifty (50) degrees below zero (0) they worked in scanty apparel."

(Comment by: P 2 J-3502)

5TH P.O.W. CAMP IN MULI

TREATMENT OF JAPANESE SOLDIERS

Postmark: 26 Jan 47
FROM:
NUNOME Jungi
c/o Nunome-daigakudo Pharmacy
20, Nishi 3-ban-cho, Toyama-shi,
(Toyama-ken, Japan)

TO:
CENTRAL HOSPITAL OF JAPAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
1, Miyashiro-cho Shibuya-ku,
Tokyo-to, (Japan)

Writer states:

"I learned the following story from a soldier who was recently demobilized from a unit to which my son Tsuneo once belonged:

"On 1 Sep 45 my son was sent on a Soviet ship to the 5th Camp in Muli, Siberia, from Kunashiri, Kurile Islands, arriving there on 19 Sep. He is still there, working as a surgeon in an unit consisting of four hundred soldiers. These soldiers are all working as wood-cutters and lumber-men. Their rations consist of only black bread, beans, red beans, and barley no soup is served excent salt broth. As there are no vegetables, they eat wild grass found edible by the surgeons. There are some undernourished soldiers."

(Comment by: P 55 J-3896)

P.O.W. CAMP AT PORTVANY

HARD LABOR MALNUTRITION REPORTED

Postmark: 24 Jan 47
FROM:
TUNAKATA Toshimune
12, Naka-machi, Fukushima-shi,
Fukushima-ken, (Japan)

TO:
TAKEI Yoshindo
Murofushi, Suwa-machi,
Higashi-yamanashi-gun,
(Yamanashi-ken, Japan)

Confidential

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Writer states:

"At Portvany P.O.W. Camps in Siberia, we were suffering from malnutrition, because of the heavy labor of railway construction, the cold spells, and the poor ration of food. Those who were injured during work easily succumbed to their wounds. Many hospitalized patients died because they were not well treated."

(Comment by: P 1 J-2052)

P.O.W. CAMP AT TYGDA PROVINCE

PRISONERS ENGAGED IN LUMBERING

Postmark: 28 Jan 47
FROM:
UENO Koichiro
Tomosaki-hama, Otsu-mura,
Kitakanbara-gun, Niigata-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
MOCHIZUKI Kikue
c/o AKIYAMA Kamekichi
Minato-machi, Numazu-shi,
Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"On 26 Oct 45, we arrived at a remote station in Tygda Province, and were interned in a small village called Bkudja, consisting of about ten (10) houses. In the begining of our life as prisoners of war, we were provided with rice, but after two (2) months, this was replaced by koaliang, bengal grass and black bread. From time to time we were supplied with meat. Owing to the insufficiency of food and the heavy labor imposed on us, we continually suffered from extreme hunger. However, the Soviet authorities did not treat us cruelly. The eight (8) hour-day system was accurately observed."

"While I was engaged in felling trees in the forest of Tygda Province, I was accidentally injured in my leg on 31 May 46. Because of my inability to work, I was ordered to Korea via Posyet in the begining of June and was interned at Komosan, North Hamgyong. Finally on 3 Dec 46, I was given an order to leave Hungnan for home. I landed at Sasebo on 2 Jan 47.

(Comment by: P 18 J-3442)

Examiner's Note: One (1) similar comment not included.

P.O.W. CAMP IN BLAGOVESCHENSK

VARIED TREATMENT OF P.O.W. DESCRIBED

Postmark: 26 Jan 47
FROM:
OYA Tadashi
3089, Kurihara, Sagamihara-machi,
Koza-gun, Kanagawa-ken, (Japan)

TO:
YANO Yosaku
Gonden, Kurata-mura,
Gunma-gun, Gunma-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"On August 18th, 1945, we left Sunwu rampart (Ex: in North Manchuria) and were sent into the concentration camp there as prisoners of war by the Russian Forces.

"We, a thousand Japanese, formed ourselves into the 2nd Construction Battalion. We left Sunwu on September 3rd, and reached Blagoveschensk City in the Soviet Union on the 13th.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Writer states:

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(Comment by: P 1 J-2052)

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PRISONERS ENGAGED IN LUMBERING

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Momosaki-hama, Otsu-mura,
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Writer states:

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(Comment by: P 18 J-3442)

Examiner's Note: One (1) similar comment not included.

P.O.W. CAMP IN BLAGOVESCHENSK

VARIED TREATMENT OF P.O.W. DESCRIBED

Postmark: 26 Jan 47
FROM:
OYA Tadashi
3089, Kurihara, Sagamihara-machi,
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TO:
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Then, along the Siberian Railroad, we were sent to Semonouka City, where we, camping in tents, were employed in loading a train or potato-digging at a neighboring farm every day till October 23rd, supplied with plenty of irish potatoes and cabbage as staple food.

"Afterward, we moved to a concentration camp in Siberia on the 25th. It was a comfortable barrack, but treatment was also bad, and we were not given even irish potatoes. Moreover, we were subjected to heavy labor at a lumber-mill, flour-mill, and grain factory so that we all became undernourished. Seventy (70) or eighty (80) died of severe cold and many were sent to the hospital one after another day by day.

"Then, the invalids and younger of us were organized into the Nurse Battalion and were transferred to Blagoveschensk City, where our treatment, was better. We were engaged in light labor till May 23rd, 1946, and then we left there for Korea."

(Comment by: P 16 J-2354)

P.O.W. CAMP IN BLAGOVESHCHENSK

JAPANESE SOLDIERS FORCED TO PARTICIPATE
IN CHINESE CIVIL WAR

Postmark: 22 Jan 47

FROM:
OKI Kosuke
659 of ro, Asahi-machi, Kaijo-gun,
Chiba-ken, (Japan)

TO:
NISHIMURA Aiko
c/o TONAMI Kimiko
80 of 6, Zaimoku-cho,
Kanazawa-shi, Ishikawa-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"I am really surprised to hear that your husband has not yet been repatriated, for he left Blagoveshchensk, the city in which we were interned, on the seventh of February, last year.

"He was a member of a party slated to return to Japan via Manchuria.

"An article which appeared in a Japanese paper circulated in Soviet territory last Autumn, reported that some of the Japanese soldiers scheduled to be repatriated were detained and forced to engage in combat with the Central Army (Ex: Kuomingtan army).

"However, I was not concerned about your husband, for he had already departed at that time. In view of the circumstances mentioned above, an interesting fact to note is that Mr. SATAKE who left the city in the same party with your husband also has not yet returned."

(Comment by: P 6 J-3423)

P.O.W. CAMP IN LEMHINA

BAD CONDITIONS

Postmark: 26 Jan 47

FROM:
YUKIDERA Yoshitsugu
63, Komon-cho, Hachioji-shi,
Tokyo-to, (Japan)

TO:
TATSUMI Heikichi
Oaza Nashimoto, Heguri-mura,
Ikoma-mura, Nara-ken, (Japan)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

DECLASSIFIED E.O.,11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Writer states:

"In November 1945, we were sent from Mukden to Blagoveshchensk in Siberia, and from there nothward to a prisoners' camp at Lembina. Thereafter, the bitterness of our daily life was beyond description. We all suffered from food shortage and cold so hard that one hundred seventy (170) or one hundred eighty (180) comrades out of one thousand (1,000) died there of malnutrition."

(Comment by: P 32 J-3353)

P.O.W. CAMP IN CHITA

FAVORABLE CONDITIONS

Postmark: 18 Jan 47

FROM:
OISHI Saburo
Mori-machi, Suchi-gun,
Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)

TO:
KONNO Waki
3-11, Nakakamata 4-chome,
Kamata-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan)

Writer states:

"In October 1945 all members of our unit, consisting of eight hundred (800) men, were taken to Chita City on the Siberian Railway from Kirin in Manchuria. We had worked in a locomotives repair factory there for about nine (9) months and returned home via Korea.

"Our camp in Chita was one of the best in Siberia. It was fairly roomy and the heating arrangement was so perfect that we could spend the mid-winter without any clothes. Though it was an unusual thing in Russia, sanitary equipment there was also sufficient. Therefore, our death-rate was nearly zero; we lost only twenty (20) men out of eight hundred (800)."

(Comment by: P 32 J-3353)

P.O.W. CAMP IN RAICHIHA

FOOD INSUFFICIENT

Postmark: 20 Jan 47

FROM:
TANAKA Shuichi
Soga, Onaga-mura, Shida-gun,
Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)

TO:
MITSUTOMI Kyoko
c/o SAKURAI
162, Seijo-machi, Setagaya-ku,
Tokyo, (Japan)

Writer states:

"After one and a half years' internment in Raichiha, a convict town in Siberia, I was demobilized on December 15. About eight thousand (8,000) Japanese soldiers and twenty (20) nurses were interned in Raichiha Prison, most of them engaging in mining, others in construction, farming, and special operations. The food supply there was very poor and insufficient. Many fell ill because of malnutrition. Bread for lunch weighed about two hundred and fifty (250) or three hundred (300) grams and was the size of three match boxes."

(Comment by: P 8 J-2083)

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19TH P.O.W. CAMP IN RAICHIHA

REPORT ON JAPANESE INTERNEES

Postmark: 26 Jan 47
FROM:
SUZUKI Takeji
Aza Shinmeiden, Oaza Sawai,
Sawada-mura, Ishikawa-gun,
Fukushima-ken, (Japan)

TO:
ISODA Kenshiro and Sumiko
68, Ishibashi-cho, Matsue-shi,
Shimane-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"On 17 Oct. 1945 about eight thousand (8,000) Japanese soldiers were put in the nineteenth (19th) Prisoners' Camp in Raichiha, Siberia. Those who fell sick from cold and scanty food supply were taken in the nurse unit in the camp to recover their health. I was in poor health, and on Jun 28 I was sent in a group of five hundred (500) sick persons to Poshet, near Vladivostok, after a week's tour from the Prisoners' Camp by train. Some six thousand (6,000) patients from the Kurile Islands, Sakhalin and North Korea have already been detained there. Camp life continued for a month, during which many suffered from the rainy weather and died. On July 28 we sailed from Poshet and one August 1 we arrived at Konan in Korea, where we stayed till December 15 to strengthen our health. Then on December 20 we landed at Sasebo.

"While we were in the camp at Reichiha, we were engaged in the coal-digging from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. As to the food supply, we had rice with soy-beans for breakfast, three hundred and seventy-five (375) grams (Ex: 1 gram= 0.03527 oz) of black bread with soup for lunch, and rice with soy-beans and soup for supper. Cigarettes and sugar were also given."

(Comment by: P 37 J-1266)

P.O.W. CAMP NEAR KUIHUSHEVKA

FAVORABLE CONDITIONS OF CAMP LIFE IN RUSSIA

Postmark: 1 Feb 47
FROM:
NAKAJIMA Yasusuke
Honjo-machi, saitama-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
SHIMIZU Kiyoaki
Nishiyama, Miyazaki-mura,
Nukada-gun, Aichi-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"After the surrender of Japan about one thousand (1,000) soldiers were deported to Soviet Russia. On 20 Sep 45 we arrived at a certain national farm which is situated about twenty-five (25) kilo meters (Ex: 1 kilo meter= 0.6213 miles) south of Kuibyshevka. Since then we had been working there together with many Russians. This farm covers an area of about three thousand (3,000) cho (Ex: 1 cho=2.45 acres) and stock-farming (one thousand eight hundred (1800) heads of pigs and sheep, cows and horses), is prosperous and besides, various vegetables are produced.

"Japanese soldiers worked there according to their special abilities. We were allowed to bathe once a week, and our ration was quite favorable compared with other prisoner of war camps."

(Comment by: P 14 J-3386)

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION
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P.O.W. CAMP IN TYRMA

BAD TREATMENT OF JAPANESE

Postmark: 21 Jan 47
FROM:
AMADA Takejiro
c/o AMADA Teisuke
Mikage, Minami Oi-mura,
Kitasaku-gun, Nagano-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
ISHIDA Kino
Ryoroku, Tomisato-mura,
Inba-gun, Chiba-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"I was in Harbin at the war's end. After disarmement, we were taken to Siberia from there and put in a barrack once occupied by Russian criminals.

"Everyday we cut trees in the mountain with poor supply of two go (Ex: 1 go=0.3812 pints) of beans or husked koaliang, watched by armed Russian soldiers. Suffering from hunger, we came back at night to the camp enclosed with wire entanglements, and lay down without changing clothes. At first my face, arms and legs became swollen up because of too much salt and vegetable shortage. As I was getting thin, I was sent to a Russian hospital at Tyrma because of malnutrition, but the food condition was so terrible that I left the hospital, pretending to be well, and then worked in the training camp. Then the soldiers weak in body and over thirty-five of age were taken to warmer North Korea."

(Comment by: P 27 J-3385)

Examiner's Note: One (1) similar comment not included.

P.O.W. CAMP IN KHABAROVSK

EX-OFFICERS FROM KURILES RECEIVE COMMUNIST EDUCATION

Postmark: 28 Jan 47
FROM:
NIKAIDO Chiyo
62, Suginami-machi, Hakodate-shi,
Hokkaido, (Japan)

TO:
NIKAIDO Yoshihiko
c/o YAMAMOTO Fumi
14, Fujimi-cho 1-chome,
Tachikawa-shi,
(Tokyo-to, Japan)

Writer states:

"According to a soldier who came home, demobilized, from Khabarovsk, the officers in the Kuriles have been carried to Khabarovsk, and are now receiving a Communist eduction; they form a battalion located in the center of the city."

(Comment by: P 40 J-1394)

P.O.W. CAMP IN KHABAROVSK

JAPANESE OFFICERS RECEIVING GOOD TREATMENT

Postmark: 22 Jan 47
FROM:
OHIRA Masako
208, 2-chome, Higashida-machi,
Suginami-ku, Tokyo, (Japan)

TO:
MASUNAGA Kozo
96, 6-chome, Kishi-machi,
Urawa-shi, Saitama-ken, (Japan)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Writer states:

"According to a veteran of the army who has recently repatriated from the Soviet territory, former Japanese officers, are separated from other fighting men and are receiving good treatment. They do not engage in comoulsory labor but their repatriation will be the last, my husband, in charge of both interpreters and Japanese fighting men in Khabarovsk, was in high spirits."

(Comment by: P 54 J-1364)

P.O.W. CA'P 100 'ILES FRO' SEMENOVKA

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Postmark: 24 Jan 47
FRO'I:
GO'I Toyotoshi
Minamiuchida, Kataoka-mura,
Higashichikuma-gun, Nagano-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
NEJIKI Tomiko
Shishikura, Shishiko-mura,
Niibari-gun, Ibaragi-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"On August 23, 1945 we were disarmed by Russian Forces at Joshin, Northern Korea. Then we were sent to Semenovks Station about halfway between Vladivostock and Khabarovsk by freight-train and arrived at the appointed camp in the heart of a mountain about forty (40) ri (Ex: 1 ri=2.440 miles) away from Semenovka on October 24. Our camp w.s a big building which seemed to have been used by woodcutters before. As there were protections against the cold in each room, the cold was not unbearable.

"We engaged in felling trees and transportation even in the snow. On dark and cold mornings we had to wa'k for an hour or two to get to the working place and the work ended at five (5) o'clock everyday. Various kinds of cereals were distributed to us soldiers, but the quantity was small. Therefore, we were always hungry, while officers had sufficient food. As we were supplied with winter clothes which had been brought from Korea and Manchuria, we had not frost-bites if only we took care of ourselves, though the temperature was forty (40) or fifty (50) degrees below zero."

(Comment by: P 31 J-3772)

Examiner's Note: Two (2) similar comments not included.

P.O.W. CA'P IN VLADIVOSTOCK

JAPANESE WELL TREATED;

Postmark: 27 Jan 47
FROM:
KUSHIDA Tatsuo
c/o EBARA DAISAN RYO
1848, 3-chome, Haneda-cho,
Kamata-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan)

TO:
KUSHIDA Takemi
Iritono-mura, Iwaki-gun,
Fukushima-ken, (Japan)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Writer states:

"According to an employee of the Army Home Duty Bureau who has recently returned from Vladivostock where he was interned, there are at present more than three thousand six hundred (3,600) Japanese prisoners of war in Siberia. They are engaged in coal-mining, lumbering etc. in accordance with their pre-war occupations. They are supplied by the Russians with good food and winter clothing. The treatment they receive is not as bad as we feared. They are leading quite a pleasant life there.

"He also said that a physical examination was made once a month."

(Comment by: P 10 J-2150)

Examiner's Note: One (1) similar comment not included.

P.O.W. CAMP IN VLADIVOSTOCK

HEALTHY SOLDIERS DETAINED

Postmark: 23 Jan 47

FROM:
SAITO Masako
555-4, Futaba-cho, Ebara-ku,
(Tokyo-to, Japan)

TO:
UMEZAWA Kura
Aza Hanazaki, Okuwa-mura,
Kitasaitama-gun, Saitama-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"A demobilized soldier from Siberia told me that those who are returning now are civilians and patients only. Healthy soldiers are still working in northern Siberia or in Vladivostock. They are not so badly treated. They have sufficiert food and even movies once a week, the only hardship being heavy work, those who are not coming now seem to be unable to return in a year."

(Comment by: P 26 J-3637)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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JP/OSA/42813

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
SANO Keiko 14/96 Minatogawa-cho 9-chome, Hyogo-ku, Kobe-shi, (Japan)	IWATA Dennosuke Unami, Febe-mura, Nogi-gun, Shimane-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
DS CIS/OP/CH ATIS WDI	26 Jan 47	Passed	100-20242-11
	Type of Commun: Letter	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None relevant
	Prep. date: 5 Feb 47	Comment by: F 37 J-4769	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: POOR HOSPITAL FACILITIES AND MASSACRE BY 8th ROUTE ARMY IN MANCHURIA REPORTED

Writer states:

"After the surrender, we who had no experience in nursing work, were forced to serve as nurses in a hospital in the neighborhood of Tunghwa. The isolation hospital was poorly equipped, as it was a former school building. We could not apply medical treatment to the invalids who were taken ill in the Soviet territory and were transferred to the hospital. Many of the nurses died of such diseases as typhus and consumption. Alas! Almost all of the Japanese officers with whom we had cooperated at Tunghwa were shot dead by the Eighth Route Army."

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JP/CSA/42820

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
CHIBA Yuzo c/o Honkoji Temple 109, Sakae, Iwanai-machi, Hokkaido, (Japan)		NAKIMOTO Seimei c/o HAYASHI Tokio, 2314, Monzen-cho, Ikoma-machi, Nara-ken, (Japan)	

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/NEA CIS/OP DS GC ATIS 8th A MG WDI		17 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-11
		Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
		Letter	Japanese	None relevant
		Prep. date:	Comment by:	
		5 Feb 47	P-23 J2538	

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: REPATRIATION AND CONDITIONS OF JAPANESE CIVILIANS IN SOUTH SAKHALIN REPORTED

Writer, apparently a repatriate from South Sakhalin, states:

"On August 20, 1945, the Russian Forces landed at our town Maoka (Ex: on the west coast of South Sakhalin) and then all of us were detained in a warehouse for ten days. After we were released, all the townspeople even women and children were requisitioned and were forced to be engaged in transportation of munitions and food of the Japanese armed forces and also machines installed in large factories to Russia Proper.

"Since January, 1946, many people escaped from there to Japan. At first the Soviet authorities overlooked these stowaways, but they have gradually come to watch them closely and recently they are watching these stowaways using airplanes. When they find anyone escaping, they arrest and sentence him to ten year's imprisonment.

"As for fishing in Sakhalin, owing to the food shortage in Russia Proper, the Russian authorities are endeavoring to have more catches of fish. But as there are few skilled fishermen among the Japanese there, and furthermore, most Japanese are becoming desperate thinking of nothing but repatriation only 50 percent of the expected amount is attained.

--------(Continued)

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"In October, 1946, the preparatory investigation for our repatriation was made. It seemed that the townspeople of the following four towns were scheduled to be the first repatriates from Sakhalin:
Maoka-machi, Honto-cho, Toyohara-shi and Odomari-machi. And those of the following five towns, the second one:
Noda-machi, Ochiai-machi, Tomarii and Shiritori machi.

"As regards the repatriation order, priority is given to the people of leading classes.

"Upon our repatriation all the Russian currency we had possessed was taken over at the custom-house, and we were allowed to bring back with us only Japanese bank notes amounting to ¥1,000 and 100 kg. (Ex: kg. - 2,205 lbs.) of clothes. Thus the inspection at the custom-house was very strict."

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JP/OSA/ 42808

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
KODERA Fumiko c/o YOKOTA Hospital, Takoyakushi, Yanagibaba, Nakakyo-ku, Kyoto-shi, (Japan)	KODERA Yoshikichi Kitashimizu, Toyomuku-mura, Echi-gun, Shiga-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/OB GB/NEA CIS/OP DS ATIS WDI GC	Postmark: 21 Jan 47	Passed	101-202-2-12
	Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
	Letter	Japanese	None relevant
	Prep. date:	Comment by:	
	5 Feb 47	P17 J 1763	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: TREATMENT OF JAPANESE POWs IN U.S.S.R.

An inclosed mimeographed letter reads:

"The following information was obtained from some of the Japanese POWs recently repatriated from the U.S.S.R.

"1) Location of camps and number of POWs:

All along the Siberia Railway Line, east of Chita and around the large towns such an Suchan, Vladivostock, Iman, Chabarovsk and Blagoe, about 30 POW camp areas have been set up and 20,000 to 30,000 POWs are being interned in each area. Each area has a number of camps, and in each camp, 500 to 1,000 POWs are being interned. At every railway station, south of Chabarovsk, Japanese POWs could be seen engaged in labor. Most of the former generals and officers are being interned in camps in Vladivostock, Chabarovsk and Birakan.

"2) General state of camps:

Camps in large towns are under the supervision of the People's Commissariat, while those in the interior are under the supervision of the Red Troops. The treatment of POWs depends chiefly on the personality of the camp chief. However, generally speaking, the POWs in the interior are receiving worse treatment than those in the urban camps.

----- (Continued)

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"3) Selection of repatriates:

It appears that the first repatriates have been selected on the following basis:

a) Those whose working efficiency was comparatively good.

b) Those who were tolerably healthy.

c) Those whose attitude toward the U.S.S.R. was considered co-operative.

"4) Organization of POWs :

The POWs were organized into fatigue DAITAI (battalions), each of which consisted of a lieutenant, second lieutenants, medical and intendance officers and 1,000 privates including non-commissioned officers. The rest of the officers were organized into a special battalion. The generals are reported to have been interned in camps mentioned in (1). Owing to the frequent changes that have taken place since their arrival in the U.S.S.R. the present battalions are reported to be different from those of the former days.

"5) Kind of work:

The POWs are chiefly engaged in coal-mining, felling and sawing of lumber, construction of houses, railways and roads, engineering works and farming. After physical examination, they have been divided into four classes: the first and the second are being put to heavy labor, the third and part of the second to farming and light labor; and the fourth consists of sick men.

"6) General state of living:

As to clothes, the POWs have nothing but what were on their backs at the time of the surrender. They are now allowed to use pechka (a Russian fireplace) in the camps, so they can somehow manage to have a sleep with only a sheet of blanket on. As to wages, they are given 20 to 60 rubles (1 Ruble = ¥1) a day according to the results of the day's work. The meals were poor at first, but they have been gradually improved. Much attention is being paid to the state of their health. Russian medical officers as well as Japanese ones are giving medical treatment to the sick, and if found serious, the patients are taken into hospital.

"7) Other information:

There is no knowing why the U.S.S.R. is still detaining our POWs , but at least it is clear that she is utilizing man-power to the utmost to pave the way for rehabilitation and industrial development. Under the present state of food shortage throughout the U.S.S.R. due to the poor crops in Ukraine and the great flood in the Maritime Province of Siberia, the Russian Government no more distributes bread to those who are not working. However, it is treating working Japanese POWs and Russian people without any discrimination regarding food.

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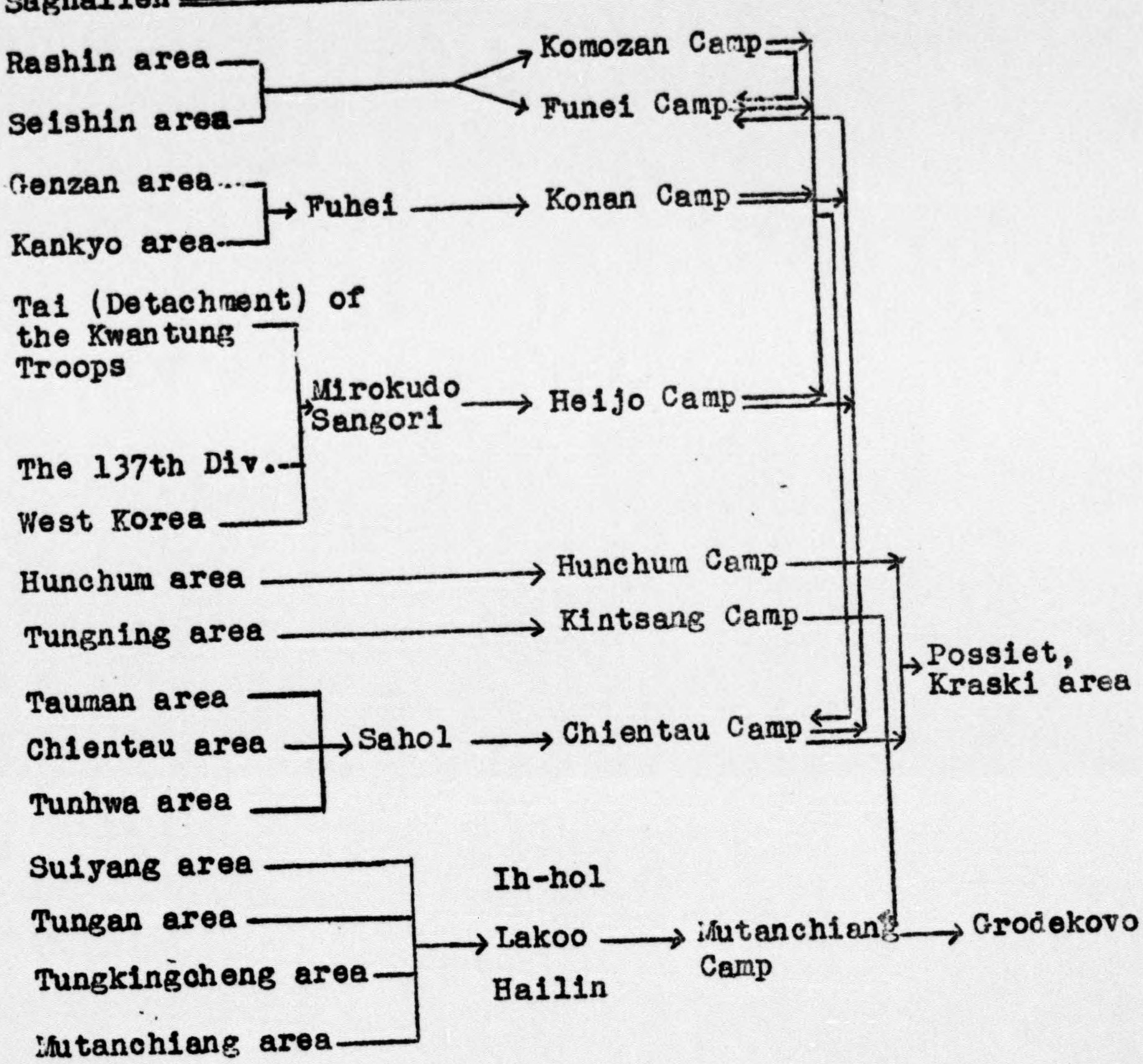
"8) The following diagram shows the present whereabouts of the Japanese units formerly stationed in Korea and Manchuria, and the routes by which they were taken to their respective internment camps.



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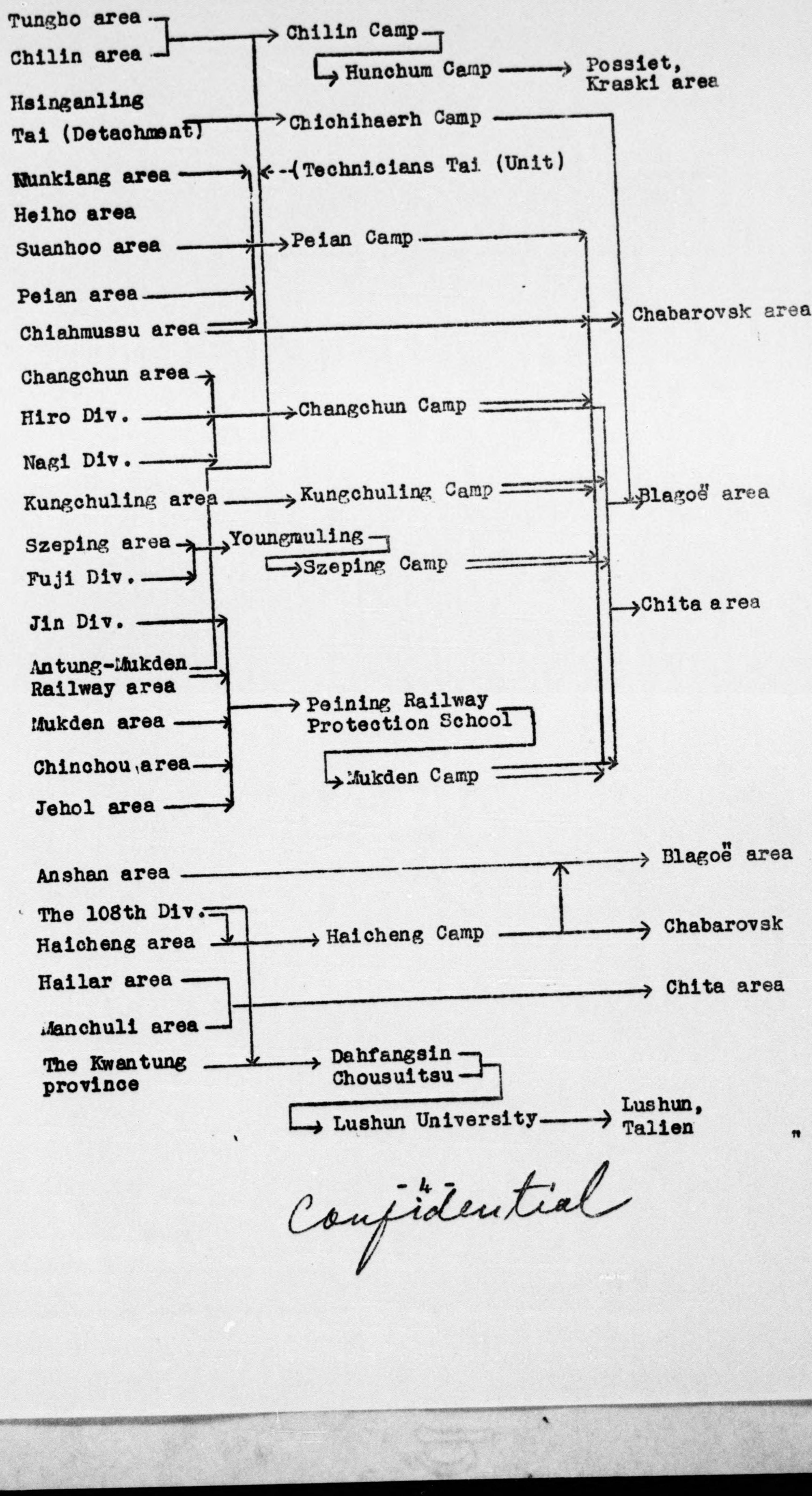

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JP/OSA/42768

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT

CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP

APO 500 NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
MAEURA Hiroshi c/o MAEURA Ryohei Okawa-cho, Nohara, Uchi-gun, Nara-ken, (Japan)	OHKI Eiichi c/o SHOHEI KIKAN SOKUSHIN RENMEI HOMBU (Federation of Families for the Speedy Return of Japanese Soldiers in the Soviet Territory) Horai, Fushimi-mura, Ikoma-gun, Nara-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
CIS/OP/CH DS ATIS WDI	Postmark: 12 Jan 47	Passed	100-202-2-11
	Type of Commun: Letter	**Language:** Japanese	**Prev. Records:** None relevant
	Prep. date: 4 Feb 47	**Comment by:** P32 J-4610	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR TREATED CRUELLY IN SIBERIA

Writer states:

"Our battalion was on duty for the defence of the Soviet-Manchurian frontier on the 14th of August, 1945. Upon receiving the order of suspension of war, we were disarmed and crowded into groups of 500 each in a freight car of the Mantetsu (Ex: Southern Manchurian Railroad Co., Ltd.) under the surveillance of Soviet sentries. With 500 jammed in a car, we had to lie upon one another regardless where our heads or feet were. We were treated like dogs and cats and experienced great hardships and every possible cruelty. We were overjoyed when a sentry said, 'You are on the way to Tokyo'. But, alas, the train started to run toward an entirely opposite direction. At this moment, our great joy was suddenly overcome with indignation and sorrow. The train ran days and nights for a month through the endless frozen-plain of Siberia covered with white snow, and we received the most cruel treatment with very little food during this travel. We were taken into an internment camp at the distance of 5 Ri (Ex: 1 Ri - 2.44 miles) from the station and locked up with cold iron-chains. There was not a bit of fire to warm us in the half-decayed barrack. Soon after our arrival, we were dragged into the basement one by one and had our equipment and bodies examined. We were deprived of everything except the clothes we then had on. Then for about a week we were supplied with only a thin slice of bread of 100 grams, for one meal, but sometimes we were not given even this scanty victual.

------ (Continued)

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After a week we were forced to engage in hard-labor in a coal mine and were taken into a huge factory, situated at the distance of 3 Ri (Ex: 1 Ri - 2.44 Miles) from the camp, which looked just like a cinema-hall in Japan. The front gate was gayly decorated with the national flags of U.S.S.R. and other various international flags, and a big photograph of Marshal STALIN and a portrait of Foreign Minister MOLOTOV were hanging at the side. In this factory we saw German officers and soldiers, captured at the surrender in the Soviet-German War, working under Soviet personnel. These soldiers were complaining 'We shall have to lead this prisoners' life for the coming ten years.'

"As to the conditions of the mine, under the watch of 5 sentries, about 800 members in one pit loaded coal on 30 freight-cars, carried them from the private track to the main railroad track and again transported them somewhere. Generally speaking, Russians did not work by hours but were exacting about the amount of work to be completed. Accordingly, we, about 800 members, taking charge of 30 car-loads — 15 in the morning and 15 in the afternoon, were engaged in the hard work of blowing up coal with dynamite, and then levelling down and loading it till 10 p.m.. We left our camp at 4.30 a.m. and returned at 10 p.m.; both times in the starlight. We went to bed munching a slice of bread given for supper. The room was not heated at all, so we were annoyed with severe cold at midnight. In addition, the floor was poorly laid and the chilly wind came in through its chinks, so we were benumbed with cold. As you know, there occured many accidents in the mine such as asphyxiation by gas, rock-slides, dynamite explosions, etc. We cannot repress our tears of indignation for the many souls killed by such accidents. When we finished our operations, we returned to the camp again under the watch of Soviet sentries. There was no discrimination between the invalids and the healthy and sometimes even patients, moaning with high fever of more than 40 degrees, were forced to work hard. When they were unable to work, many of them were beaten on their heads with the breech of a gun, or shot to death. I, too, received cruel treatment. When I was on the way to the dining-room to get the bread-supplies, I was beaten with the breech of a gun and kicked by a sentry who had hidden himself in the shade. Such miserable life continued for a year and then I was taken into Sangori (Ex: Heian Nando) Internment Camp, Heijo, Northern Korea, on account of my illness. When we were informed by the highest commander of the internment camp of the Soviet Army, late last December, that he would soon send us to our native country, in compliance with the American-Soviet pact just concluded, we jumped up with joy. We boarded the ship at 4 p.m. and sailed at 5 p.m. on the 31st of December. When the native land of Northern Kyushu loomed in the mist after a couple of days, all of us embraced one another crying in the excess of our joy."

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JF/TOK/PFB/ 7650

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
HOKKAIDO SHIMBUN (Hokkaido Newspaper) Hakodate, Japan	

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/NEA CIS/OP DS CIE ATIS 8th A MG GC WDI	10 December 46	Post Censored Approved	202-2-11
	Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
	News Item	Japanese	
	Prep. date:	Comment by:	
	5 February 47	H. Hamiah	

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: PROFESSOR OGAWA TELLS ABOUT CULTURAL LIFE OF JAPANESE UNDER SOVIETS IN SAGHALIEN

"Professor OGAWA of the Saghalien Medical College, who returned by the 1st repatriation ship, commented as follows on conditions in Saghalien:

"Soviet Russia shows a more liberal attitude toward education than we expected. She never prohibited education, nor enforced Communism. School teachers are treated and paid fairly well.

"Russians and Koreans have separate primary schools. The half-time school system has been adopted, because the schools are too small to accomodate all the children at one time.

"More middle schools have been established, and more students admitted. At first Russian was taught, but it was later replaced by English.

"The teaching of geography and history has been discontinued, while lessons in civics are given in their place. As a result of the establishment of more schools, there is an increased demand for teachers. So far, no teachers have been permitted to return to Japan.

"The only drawback to the educational system is that there are no higher grade schools for those who have got through middle school. Those who have finished middle school are obliged to work as laborers.

"Students of the Saghalien Medical College are given a 100 roubles

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a month allowance for school expenses. Japanese professors are paid well, coming next to the Russians. I (Prof. OGAWA) was paid 1,500 roubles monthly.

"In the cultural sphere, Shinto shrines and temples have been preserved. Shinto priests receive several months' salary in advance. Teachers, doctors and clergymen are exempted from labor service.

"After the surrender, orchestras were formed throughout Saghalien. The Russian Army held a concert at the Officers' Club to which Japanese civilians were invited.

"There are 3 theatres showing Russian, old Japanese and U.S. films every night. They are always full.

"Among sports baseball is the most popular.

"All publications, mimeographed or typewritten, are placed under strict control. 'SHINSEIKEI' was the only newspaper that brought us news of Japan. We could read privately-owned books, because they were not confiscated by the Soviet Army."

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

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FROM: LIST: SAGA PREFECTURAL OFFICE Saga-shi, Saga-ken, (Japan)	**TO:** LIST: KYUSHU SHUSEN RENRAKU KYOKU (Kyushu Post-War Liaison Office) Fukuoka-shi, Fukucka-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL: GC — SAGA MG; CIS/OP — 24 G-2; DS; CIE; 8th A MG	**Date of Commun:** 4 Feb 47	**Dispos of Commun:** Post Censored Approved	**Eval-Alloc:** 202-2-11
	Type of Commun: Internal Telegram	**Language:** Japanese	**Prev. Records:** JP/FUK/TL/4260
	Prep. date: 6 Feb 47	**Comment by:** J-4281	

COMMENT

REPAIRIATION: NUMBER OF REPATRIATES AT SAGA AS OF 1ST OF FEBRUARY

"NUMBER OF REPATRIATES AS OF THE 1ST OF FEBRUARY:

ARMY	28,092
NAVY	7,769
CIVILIANS ATTACHED TO ARMY OR NAVY	1,772
CIVILIANS	95,980 ."

Examiner's Note: JP/FUK/TL/4260, dated 21 Jan 47, from same sender to same addressee gives the figures on demobilized service men and repatriates in Saga-ken as of 15 Jan 47 as follows:

Army	27,621
Navy	7,780
Ordinary Civilians	95,008
Army & Navy Civilian Employees	1,740

Note discrepancy in figures on demobilized Navy personnel.

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JP/FUK/TL/4513

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
FUKUOKA CHIHO SAIBANSHO KENJI KYOKU (Fukuoka Local Court, Public Procurators' Office) Fukuoka-shi, Fukuoka-ken (Japan)	MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (Judicial Ministry, Detective Bureau, Chief) Tokyo-to, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
DS GC CIS/OP 8th A MG	24 G-2 24 S-2 FUKU MG	3 Feb 47	Post Censored Approved	202-2-11
		Type of Commun: Interual Telegram	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None relevant
		Prep. date: 5 Feb 47	Comment by: J-3274	

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: REPATRIATION OF IMPRISONED CRIMINALS FROM FUKUOKA DISTRICT

"IN COMPLIANCE WITH YOUR INSTRUCTION DATED 23 JAN 47, WE HAVE ARRANGED TO REPATRIATE THE FOLLOWING CRIMINALS. (Ex: Destination not stated).

1.	FROM KITAGATA PRISON	TWO	(2)	PERSONS
2.	FROM KOKURA PRISON	THIRTY-SIX	(36)	"
3.	FROM WAKAMATSU FACTORY OF KOKURA PRISON	THIRTY	(30)	"

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CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
SEE COMMENT		SEE COMMENT	

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GC CIS/CP DS 8th A MG	NAGA MG KAGO MG	3 Feb 47	Post Censored Approved	202-2-11
		Type of Commun: Internal Telegram	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None relevant
		Prep. date: 5 Feb 47	Comment by: J-4272	

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: REPORTS FROM SASEBO AND KAGOSHIMA

1,178,569 REPATRIATES PASSED THROUGH SASEBO
UP TO 31 JANUARY 1947

From:
SASEBO CUSTOM HOUSE
Chief Superintendent
Sasebo-shi, Nagasaki-ken,
(Japan)

To:
MOJI ZEIKAN-CHO
(Moji Custom House, Chief
Superintendent)
Moji-shi, Fukuoka-ken,
(Japan)

"TOTAL NUMBER OF REPATRIATES THAT LANDED AT SASEBO UP TO 31 JANUARY 1947, WAS ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE (1,178,569). THE NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES WE ISSUED FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF THE REPATRIATES WAS FIFTY FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX (55,526)"

(Continued)

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JP/FUK/TL/4505

362,026 REPATRIATES PASSED THROUGH KAGOSHIMA

From:
KAGOSHIMA CUSTOM HOUSE,
Chief Superintendent
Kagoshima-shi, Kagoshima-ken,
(Japan)

To:
MOJI ZEIKAN-CHO
(Moji Custom House, Chief
Superintendent)
Moji-shi, Fukuoka-ken,
(Japan)

"REFERRING TO YOUR INQUIRY OF 29 JANUARY, WE INFORM YOU AS FOLLOWS:

1. TOTAL REPATRIATES 362,026
2. NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES WE ISSUED FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF THE REPATRIATES WAS 75,526"

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CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
SEE COMMENT		SEE COMMENT	

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
CIS/OP/CH DS WDI		Various	Passed	100-202-2-11
		Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
		Letters	Japanese	
		Prep. date:	Comment by:	
		5 Feb 47	Various	

RECEIVED FEB 13 1947

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: CONDITIONS, TREATMENT & ATTITUDES

NORTH CHINA: YOUNG JAPANESE WOMEN ORDERED TO BECOME NURSES FOR CHINESE RED ARMY

20 January 1947

FROM:
KOMATSUDANI Minoru
4 of 10, Shoku,
Miyazawa, Uchisato-
machi, Ishishiro-gun,
Fukushima-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
TAGATA Shogo
c/o SEDA Takanao
805, Nishi Ogikubo,
Musashino-machi,
Shimo Kita Tama-gun,
Tokyo-to, (Japan)

Writer states:

"Wounded soldiers were continually being transported by cars and litters to the Eighth (8th) Route Army Hospital or the Coal Mine Hospital inside the walled city of Sian (Ex: Capital of Chiahsi shien, North China)

"The Eighth (8th) Route Army ordered each of the MINDAN (Japanese Civilian Groups) to dispatch young unmarried women as nurses. As we had to comply with this order, we drew lots to decide the victim. Thus they went weeping to fall prey to those inhuman soldiers."

(Comment by: P38 J-4168)

(Continued on page 2)

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MANCHURIA: SITUATION IN DAIREN REPORTED

20 January 1947

FROM:
HAMA Motohei
1, Tanakadori,
Okaya-shi,
Nagano-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
SAITO Ryoji
c/o KANTOKYOKU ZAMMU SEIRI JIMUSHO
(Winding up of Kanto Bureau Pending Business' Office)
c/o GAIMUSHO
(Foreign Affairs Department)
2, 1-chome, Tamura-cho,
Shiba-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan)

Writer states:

"I got the following information from Mr. YAMAOKA's relative who repatriated on the 18th as a member of the third repatriates group from Dairen.

1. Railway:

The railway between Wafargtien and Monyiiechêng was destroyed, and the sleepers were used for fire-wood by the natives.

1. Chinese Government Forces:

They have occupied Shihkia and are facing the Chinese Communist Forces and Soviet Forces. The people in that district are in great fear as there may be a fight between them.

1. Soviet Forces:

They are keeping contact with their own country by aeroplanes, using Choushuitze as their airport.

1. Public Peace:

In general, peace is not maintained. The natives look with indifference toward the Japanese as they do in Anshan.

1. Prices:

Item	Price	Weight	Item	Price	Weight
Rice	¥200.- ¥250.-	1 kin	Radish	¥150.-	1 kan
Sorghun	¥150.- ¥200.-	1 kin	Charcoal	¥ 40.-	1 kin
Soy-bean's refuse	¥ 70.- ¥100.-	1 kin	Over-coat for winter	¥15,000.- ¥20,000.-	1 suit

(Continued on page 3)

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Potetoes	¥500.-	1 kan	Soy	¥ 40.-	1 sho
Stoneleeks	¥ 10.-	1 piece	Miso (Ex: Soy-bean Paste)	¥300.-	1 kan
Peanuts	¥2,000.-	1 kan			

1. The General Living Condition of the Japanese:

They live on a mixture of German millet and refuse of soy-bean. The prices are risirg higher and higher due to the increase of Soviet Force's notes."

(Comment by: P4 J-234)

JAPANESE EMPLOYEES OF NATIONAL ARMY
IN MANCHURIA WELL TREATED

21 January 1947
FROM:
ISHIDA Keiji
Moto-machi, Masuda-machi, Hiraka-gun, Akita-ken, (Japan)

TO:
NAKAGIMA Shizue
Akiwa, Shiojiri-mura, Chiisagata-gun, Nagano-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"The Silk-yarn laboratory at Wulungpei in Antung Province was taken over by the Eighth Route Army as soon as they entered the city. Every factory was operated by the Manchurians and all the Japanese engineers were protected and treated kindly by them.

"On October 23 of last year, the National Forces replaced the Eighth Route Army.

"The Military administration of the Government Forces was superior to and more thorough-going than that of the Eighth Route Army. The Eighth Army paid the Japanese four or five thousand yen a month, but the National Army paid them ten thousand yen, instead. The Japanese are leading quite comfortable lives under the National Army

(Comment by: P4 J-234)

JAPANESE IN MANCHURIA WELL TREATED
BY EIGHTH ROUTE ARMY

22 January 1947
FROM:
MORIYAMA Takashi
c/o OBAYASHI Construction Office
Kengun-machi, Kumamoto-shi,
(Kumamoto-ken, Japan)

TO:
SUZUKI Saku
64, Yorozu-cho,
Hachioji-shi,
Tokyo-to, (Japan)

(Continued on page 4)

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Writer states:

"I came back from Manchuria recently but from what I gather, the Eighth Route Army will send the Japanese people under them home in March or April this year. This is apparently true because the Japanese working in the hospitals are being gradually replaced with Chinese.

"The Eighth Route Army are feeding the Japanese corn instead of rice but the Japanese can eat all they want. Again sufficient clothes are distributed to protect one from the cold. In this way the Eighth Route Army is taking very good care of the Japanese so there is nothing to worry about."

(Comment by: P8 J-2083)

NORTH KOREA: JAPANESE RECEIVED GOOD TREATMENT BY RUSSIAN TROOPS

20 January 1947

FROM:
NAKAMURA Takashi
Hinata, Ome-mura,
Kita-tsuru-gun,
Yamanashi-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
ARAI Masuko
2843, Aoyama, Kushikawa-mura, Tsukui-gun,
Kanagawa-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"We were accommodated in the company's house of the NIPPON CHISSO (Nippon Nitrogen Co.) in Hsingnan, Korea, and were employed as longshoremen there from the middle of November to the end of December 1945. The Soviet soldiers were very careful about our health, and whenever someone was in poor health even slightly, they sent him to a hospital at once."

(Comment by: P26 J-3779)

SAKHALIN: CONDITION UNDER WHICH JAPANESE LIVED IN SAKHALIN

15 January 1947

FROM:
KAWARADA Noriyuki
1 of 70, Osaki-machi, Sendai-shi,
(Miyagi-ken, Japan)

TO:
MIYATA Tsutomu
1562, Amatsu, Amatsu-machi, Awa-gun,
Chiba-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"At that time (August 1945) I was in high spirits expecting to fight bravely as a member of the Special Garrison (in reality it was a kind of students special suicide attack corps) in Toyohara district, but the garrison was disbanded with the end of the war.

(Continued on page 5)

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"On August 22, 1945, Toyohara district was raided by Soviet planes. Though we hoisted white flags from the morning and did not fire a shot in resistance, they attacked us in broad daylight. The damages there were very serious.

"On the 25th, the Red troops came into Toyohara city and established a Military Government. Since then, innumerable plunders and violences were committed during a month and even in the outskirts of the city every house was attacked by them.

"Thereafter when order was somewhat restored, compulsory labor was ordered. Their principle was 'Those who don't work have no right to eat.' So all the unemployed men were quite at a loss.

"About that time they began to take over factories, governmental offices, companies and houses.

"We, students, were determined to continue our study by working, and sought for a position suited for us after our graduation in March, but in vain. There was no choice but odd jobs, for, Russians said, they did not want any Japanese letter-writers for their companies and governmental offices.

"I thought I had better get a job beneficial to Japanese, and began to study the Russian language without any teacher or dictionary, overcoming every hardship. Consequently, in March I was appointed clerk and interpreter of the South Sakhalin Educational Research Institute, drawing a salary of six hundred (600) Roubles.

"Later I was employed at 'TOYOHARA CHIHO MINSEIKYOKU' (The Governmental Office of Toyohara District) as an interpreter with one thousand and two hundred (1,200) Roubles a month.

"To our surprise, a month after the end of war, they reopened schools. But the schools were held quite perfunctorily by both teachers and students, suffering from their living. It was only natural that they were doing nothing.

"Soon, the normal schools were banned from opening and the commercial schools were abolished and in succession all the technical, agricultural and vacational schools fell into the same category. State operated companies, farms and 'Toresto' were established one after another. Thus, they boast they have rooted out old South Sakhalin to start anew."

(Comment by: P61 J-3785)

(Continued on page 6)

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STATE OF THINGS WORSE THAN REPORTED IN SAKHALIN

15 January 1947

FROM:

HANAUMI Tokuo
c/o KUWAMORI
1, Nishikawa-cho,
4-chome, Hakodate-
shi, (Hokkaido, Japan)

TO:

TERAWA Shigejiro
1, Kaminarimon, 1-chome,
Asakusa-ku, Tokyo-to,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"According to some repatriates from Sakhalin the state of things, quite inconsistent with some of the newspaper reports, is considerably worse and most Japanese are going through severe difficulties.

"At Otomari and Maoka (ports of southern Sakhalin), those Japanese are said to have to grease the palm of Soviet soldiers with some thousand-yen bribe before they actually begin to embark the repatriation ship. But this will never do in Toyohara City, where the designation of each Japanese to return home is made on the bases of the application submitted by the Japanese ward chiefs."

(Comment by: P41 J-1427)

REPORT ON NUMBER AND TREATMENT OF INTERNEES IN KURILE ISLANDS

15 January 1947

FROM:

SHINTANI Masaji
c/o TAKIGAWA BYOIN
(Takigawa Hospital)
28, Hirokoji 8-chome,
Takigawa-machi,
Sorachi-gun, Hokkaido,
(Japan)

TO:

KAGAMI Toichi
Minamikaigan, Tsujido,
Fujisawa-shi, Kanagawa-
ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"After the surrender the main force of the Division in Etorofu Island were taken away to Siberia by the Russian Army. The rest of the Japanese organized a labor battalion under the Soviet control. They were not ill-treated. In last June when I went over to Sakhalin there were still one thousand (1,000) Japanese ex-soldiers in the island.

"Out of them only four (4) or five (5) officers of the former Division Headquarters and three (3) or four (4) patients of the Morita Corps were repatriated recently."

(Connemt by: P37 J-1266)

(Continued on page 7)

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PLIGHT OF JAPANESE IN SAKHALIN

14 January 1947

FROM:

TAMORI Matsutaro
Aza-Sokonai, Maeda-mura, Iwanai-gun, Hokkaido, (Japan)

TO:

WATANABE Saneichi
c/o THE DAIICHI SEIMEI HOKEN K.K.
(1st Life Insurance Co., Ltd.) Branch Office
Kojima-cho, Kojima-gun, Okayama-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"I returned home from Toyohara (Ex: in Sakhalin) a month ago. I will tell you what happened there. All our factories were nationalized by Soviet Russia, and their owners and workers were all obliged to labor being maraged by Russians. We citizens were drafted to work somewhere, and if we absented from our duty, we were cast into prison. Prisoners increased day by day. As for food, only the workers who were engaged in important industries were supplied with a little rice. Therefore, other citizens could have little rice since last august. The price of rice rose to six thousand yen (¥ 6,000) per hyo (Ex: 1 hyo of rice = 2.04 bushel). Indeed, we could not pass even a day without feeling uneasy."

(Comment by: P28 J-3763)

JAPANESE SCHOOL PERMITTED IN SAKHALIN

18 January 1947

FROM:

SUGIMOTO Tsuneko
c/o SUGIMOTO Shinsaku
218, Honda-machi, Numazu-shi, Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)

TO:

TONOMURA Misao
c/o Japan Women's College, Takada Toyokawa-cho, Koishikawa-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan)

Writer states:

"As the number of Russians increased in Sakhalin, the life of the Japanese became more difficult. Our school was closed for two (2) months and a half after the termination of war became the Russians took over the school building and it was dangerous for women to go out. However, school reopened in November.

"We had to follow the instructions of the Soviet Educational Department but we Japanese were permitted to manage the school as in pre-war days.

"Persons who did not work were not allowed to receive food rations. People were also mobilized to do work in lumbering, fishing and agriculture."

(Comment by: P11 J-2142)

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(Continued on page 8)

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SIBERIA: PRISONERS WELL TREATED

19 January 1947
FROM:
KUDO Sachiko
Aza Shimokonaka-mura,
Oyama-machi, Nishitagawa-
gun, Yamagata-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
KUDO Tamio
195, Shioiri-machi
3-chome, Tsurumi-ku,
Yokohama-shi,
(Kanagawa-ken, Japan)

Writer states:

"There are some men in our village who were repatriated from Russia. They told me about the living conditions of the internees who had been engaged in collective farming since the war's end.

"I cannot but be surprised at their narration, every particular of which is quite contrary to our expectation. Very nice meals seem to have been provided. Once every month the internees underwent a physical examination in the presence of the Russian doctors. The examinees were classified into 1st, 2nd and 3rd classes and those classified into 1st and 2nd categories attended to ordinary labor, while those classified into 3rd class, only slight labor (four hours per day). Once a week a holiday was given for recreation, when it was required for them to take a bath and wash as well as to disinfect their clothes.

"The Russians are little disposed for racial discrimination; on coming across the Japanese on the road, they would salute in advance and offer tobacco.

"The technical experts in lathe or machinery engineering work received special treatment and were in charge of young men's instruction in public organizations."

(Comment by: P41 J-1427)

7,000 POW'S REMAIN IN SOVIET TERRITORY UNDER GOOD CONDITIONS

20 January 1947
FROM:
HATANO Seiji
Miyotani, Tomihama-
mura, Kitatsuru-gun,
Yamanashi-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
FUJIKAWA Norio
Susugawa-cho, Aiko-gun,
Kanagawa-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"I was repatriated from Siberia to Maizuru Port (In Kyoto Pref.) aboard the ship Meiyu Maru on the 5th of January. Sergeant FUJIKAWA was working in high spirits everyday. Until my repatriation, I worked in a factory with him. Our P.O.W. Camp was at Laichingchn, 40 kilometers from the border. One thousand (1,000) of the eight thousand (8,000) POW's have been repatriated.

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"It was colder than in Nothern Manchuria, but we were provided with all kinds of winter-clothes. The food conditions were better than those of the middle class Russians. You need not be anxious about the sergeant."

(Comment by: P 3 J-3583)

RUSSIANS IMPROVE TREATMENT OF JAPANESE PRISONERS IN SIBERIA

Postmark:
20 January 1947

FROM:
NAKAJIMA Masaharu
Kitakoji, Zaikezuka-mura, Nakakoma-gun,
Yamanashi-ken,
(Japan)

TO:
ISHIKAWA Masao
1669, Kanayama,
Tatabayashi-machi,
Ora-gun, Gumma-ken,
(Japan)

Writer, a Japanese ex-soldier from Siberia, states:

"The treatment of all prisoners in Siberia has improved since last January; the quantity of food is equal to that which was issued by the Japanese army. I heard that Mr. ISHIKAWA, your brother, is in a prison at Irkutsk, and that the treatment there is rather good. The war prisoners there work at public factories, with Russian workers, eight (8) hours a day. Sunday and Russian festival days are holidays. When they show improvement in efficiency some wages are given to them and their food is increased. They are provided with padded work coats, fur overcoats, warm gloves and caps. So please be easy in mind about him."

(Comment by: P5 J-1392)

FAVORABLE CONDITIONS AT POW CAMP IN KHABAROVSK

19 January 1947

FROM:
SUZUKI Tsutomu
Horikoshi, Hichigo-mura, Tamura-gun,
(Fukushima-ken, Japan)

TO:
SAKUMA Misao
66, Yamashita-cho,
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"These days, prisoners of war camps at Khabarovs are furnished with various conveniences, including barbers, shoemakers, etc. One can freely consult a doctor, even when he takes a slight cold. As regards food rations, one receives them quite regularly, even though the quantity may not be sufficient. One is forced to work eight (8) hours daily, but in winter the working time is less. Our own news agency is issuing a Japanese paper, and it brings us the news about the affairs of Japan and knowledge in general about the Soviet Russia."

(Comment by: P1 J-2052)

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(Continued on page 10)

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TREATMENT OF JAPANESE OFFICERS IN KRASNOYARSK, SIBERIA REVEALED

25 Janurary 1947

FROM:
HOMMA Gonsaku
Senhama, Senhama-mura, Kogasa-gun, Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)

TO:
YOSHIDA Shizue
c/o KITANO Jukichi
No. 140, Kawanoke, Mikuri-mura, Tano-gun, Gumma-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"Our ration was called 'officers' diet', and we had a subsidiary. In the early period numerous soldiers died of malnutrition, but since March, 1946, the quantity of meal was increased and quality improved. Breakfast was millet-gruel, lunch 300 grams of black bread with soup, and supper 4 or 5 pieces of flour-dumplings. There was a week when half-cupful of sugar was served.

"Our work was cutting of water-course, brick-making, road-mending, stone-piling and house-building. The site was a vast wilderness. The city was called Krasnoyarsk, 2,500 kilometers distant from Moscow.

"The dispensary and bathroom were gradually completed.

"Just when the war ended, 15 working battalions were formulated at Chichikhar and they started for Siberia on September 13 and arrived at our destination on September 27 or 28. For about 15 days in the freight train, we could hardly manage to obtain food for ourselves.

"Your husband was in a different home from mine, and nearly all members of his battalion fell victims to various kinds of illness and couldn't work standing, so the officers were transferred to compulsory labor. For several months they were compelled to do all kinds of work, even cooking and washing, for themselves."

(Comment by: P20 J-2382)

CONDITION OF JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR IN SIBERIA

Date: Unknown

FROM:
DEMOBILIZATION BOARD,
2nd Repatriation Bureau,
General Affairs Div.,
Navigation Section
(Tokyo-to, Japan)

TO:
TOCHIGI LOCAL DEMOBILIZATION ASSISTANCE OFFICE,
Second Section, Sakura-dori, Utsunomiya-shigai,
(Tochigi-ken, Japan)

Writer, enclosing a report on the Japanese P.O.W.s in Soviet Russia, quotes MARUYAMA, former army lieutenant as follows:

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(Continued on page 11)

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On Shumushu Island, at the time of the surrender, there were approximately 22,000 army troops, including the units transferred from Horomushiro Island after Russia's war-declaration against Japan, and 1,400 of the navy units including 51st and 52nd garrison units and the northeast air unit.

These units were reorganized into 18 battalions and quartered in former Japanese barracks, where they lived with sufficient food and in good health until Nov 45 when they were sent to Nakhodoka, Siberia.

On arrival at Nakhodoka 800 army and 330 navy personnel were sent to a logging camp 300 kilometers (Ex: 1 kilometer = 0.621382 mile) northeast of Vladivostok, where they worked an average of 8 hours a day, felling trees. In Jul 46 they worked at the National Farm and from 14 Aug to 16 Nov they worked in Aruchon Coal Mine.

In spite of the fact that the standard ration consisted of 300-500 gr. of rice, 150 gr. of cereals, 15 gr. of sugar, 15 gr. of edible oil, 50 gr. of meat, and 800 gr. of vegetable (Ex: 1 gr. = 0.035273 Oz.), actual supply was so bad that one third of a certain battalion suffered seriouly from malnutrition. The situation was improved after Apr 46 when they began to be supplied with food in more or less standard quantity.

Good sanitary condition was maintained as a whole with no epidemic case reported, keeping mortality rate as low as 10 to 20 per cent.

There were practically no causalities reported among Japanese navy forces on Shumushu Island which fought Russian landing units. All of them are to be in Siberia. Officers other than army surgeons and a few officers who were assigned to fatigue battalions, composed officers' battalions stationed in Khabarovsk. Only a navy unit is staying in Sutiansk. Army and navy mixed units are stationed in various places in Maritime Province.

(Comment by: PO J-4178)

HARDSHIPS OF INTERNEES IN SIBERIA

18 January 1947

FROM:
SUZUKI Misa
190, Sakae-machi,
Hamamatsu-shi,
(Shizuoka-ken, Japan)

TO:
SUZUKI Chihiro
556, Narimune, 3-chome,
Suginami-ku, Tokyo-to,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"I went to the Hamamatsu First Middle School yesterday concerning the demobilization in Siberia District, and there, a man who left the shores of Lake Baikal in June, 1946, stayed in North Korea for six months, and came back home on the 27th of December, told me as follows:

(Continued on page 12)

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"Owing to the cold and shortage of provisions, twenty (20) per cent of Japanese in Siberia died throughout last year.

"They were engaged in coal-mine work or lumbering under sixty (60) degrees below zero.

"As for meals, they were supplied with a small bowl of rice-gruel for breakfast, two hundred and fifty (250) grams (Ex: 1 gram = 0.03527 oz.) of black bread for lunch, and a bowl of kaoliang for supper.

"As they were not provided with vegetables, they became night-blinded and malnutritions.

"But they were ordered to cut down three (3) trees a day by each couple of men.

"When they cut four (4) trees, they were given one more bowl for every meal than usual.

"In case of illness, they were treated very well.

"I heard that afterward they would be supplied the same quantity of food with the people in the district. Then it would be thrice as much as the food of people in Japan proper, but I do not know whether it was realized or not.

"In order to repatriate them as soon as possible, I was asked to send a postcard every ten days to His Excellency Atcheson, director of the Allied Council for Japan, at Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo-to, and also to the Russian Embassy. The headquarters of the movement for hastening the demobilization is in Tokyo.

"And Mr. UCHIYAMA in Komatsu is to go to the embassy and the U.S.A. Forces to appeal the matter.

"Unless I take quick steps, the last repatriates will be delayed for twenty (20) years."

(Comment by: P34 J-1394)

REPORT OF ADVERSE CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED BY JAPANESE IN SIBERIA

17 January 1947

FROM:
UZAWA Tae
Furu-machi, Shirakata-machi, Nagao-gun,
Chiba-ken, (Japan)

TO:
UZAWA Kiyoshi
1248, Kosuge-machi,
Katsushika-ku,
Tokyo-to, (Japan)

Writer states:

"The following is a report of life in Siberia which I submitted to the Japanese authorites when I landed in Maizuru Port.

On November 12, 1945 we soiled from Odomari Port

(Continued on page 13)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

in Sakhalin and reached Naotsuka in Siberia on the 16th of same month. During that five (5) days voyage, we were each given only a handful of biscuits three (3) times. Therefore, we were very weak when we landed.

As soon as we landed, we stood watch at nights to protect ourselves from being robbed by the people living there. Guards were attacked often.

Our camp was on the beach along the sea and we had to gather firewood from the hills to keep warm. When we went out to get the wood, each individual was searched and all the fountain pens, watches, purses, etc., in our possession were taken away. Again, there were persons who were shot to death when they stepped out of the perimeter of the sentries.

Our food and living conditions were very primitive. For food, they only gave us one hundred and eighty (180) grains of beans at a time. Some died of hunger. Some of the barracks were wooden houses but the greater part were tents called paratoka. Even when it was twenty (20) degrees below zero, we had to get along with one (1) blanket. It was so cold we could not sleep. Furthermore, instead of having roll calls at the regular hours, the officer of the day chose the coldest time of the nights to assemble us for two (2) hours at a time.

Majority of us suffered from scurvy. Consequently, the joints in our legs would not bend. The Soviet medical officer would not put us on the sick list. We were forced to continue work.

The amount of water given to us was very small. In the winter we ate snow and muddy well-water in summer.

Our platoon leaders and company commanders were put in the stockade just for the reason that our work was not efficient enough. When the work was not done properly, we had to work overtime. We had forced labor.

In summing all this up, what we suffered the most from were the cold, food and hard labor."

Examiner's Note: The above translation was taken from an inclosed letter written by SASAKI Katsumi, 14, Yorishiro, Ashibetsu-machi, Sorachi-gun, Hokkaido, (Japan) on 9 Jan 47 and addressed to UZAWA Kiyoshi, 3357, Furu-machi, Shirakata-machi, Nagano-gun, Chiba-ken, (Japan)

(Comment by: P2 J-3502)

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JP/TOK/40525

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
ITO Kiyoshi c/o Java 16th Headquarters, Soerabaja Construction Unit, KAWAZU Section	ITO Katsutaro Yamano-mura, Fukayasu-gun, Hiroshima-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
CIS/OP/CR DS WDI	11 Oct 46	Condemned	100-202-2-10
	Type of Commun:	**Language:**	**Prev. Records:**
	Postcard	Japanese	None
	Prep. date:	**Comment by:**	
	5 Feb 47	P53 J-2124	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: SEVERE TREATMENT IN JAVA

Writer states:

"....Quite contrary to the report from Japan that we Southern Troops should be repatriated by the end of this year, the British and Dutch Army authorities have the intention to send us to a distant, disagreeable district in order to make us toil longer and harder. In certain places, even now, they are indeed cruel, resorting to violence or lynching every day.

"Although thirteen (13) oz. our first food supply, was of course insufficient, it had been reduced to eight (8) and now to only three (3) oz. How can we continue our heavy work of ten (10) hours a day on such an extremely short supply? Over forty percent (40 %) of our friends so far have died in sickness or by accidents. Labor is becoming heavier and heavier, because of the daily decreasing members...."

Examiner's Note: Similar information is contained in other card from the same writer.

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
KANAGAWA SHIMBUN (Kanagawa Newspaper) Yokohama, Japan			

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/SOC GC CIS/OP DS 8th A MG WDI		22 January 47	Post Censored Approved	202-2-11
		Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
		News Item	Japanese	
		Prep. date:	Comment by:	
		5 February 47	M. Hettich	

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: EX-JAPANESE SOLDIERS SETTLING IN PHILIPPINES

"Repatriates tell of some 2,000 Japanese ex-soldiers who are still hiding in the mountains of the Philippine Islands. Many are married to native women, and though they know of the war's end, prefer to remain, and are settling down to a peaceful life among the Filipinos."

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JP/FAO/16232

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
WADA Toycho 和田豊秩 38, Seko, Hamashima-cho, Shima-gun, Mie-ken, (Japan)		KURATA Matsuko 倉田悦津子 c/o YAMAGUCHI Sadakichi 1433, Fuyuta, Tsudanuma-machi, Chiba-ken, (Japan)	( )Amd ( )Coun ( )Exec ( )Admn ( )Disc ( )La ( )A-Ln (X)Addy ( )Sbid ( ) ( ) ( )File

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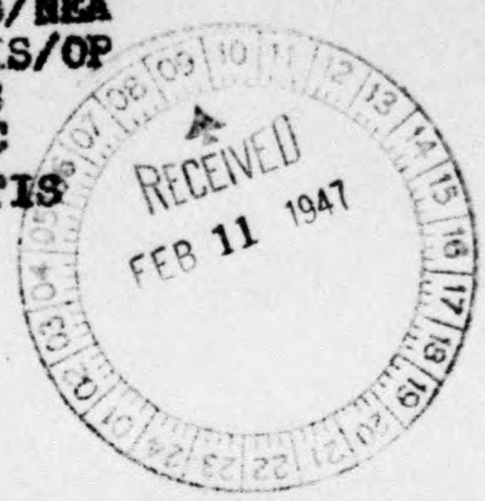

Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
20 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-7
Type of Commun:	**Language:**	**Prev. Records:**
Letter	Japanese	None
Prep. date:	**Comment by:**	
24 Jan 47	P-5 J-2680	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: REPATRIATE DESCRIBES WORKING CONDITIONS, TREATMENT OF INVALIDS IN SIBERIA

Writer, a demobilized soldier, repatriated from Siberia after one and half years' incarceration, states:

"Soon after the defeat we set out, as we were told that we were going back to Japan. We knew, however, that we had been cheated when we got to Kokka after 8 days' walk. At Blagoeschensk we had to dig potatoes on freezingly cold days. In October we were moved further into the interior, where we were forced to engage in cutting down trees in forests, in temperatures as low as 50 - 60 degree below zero. Even in such cold, food and clothing were so scanty that many of us fell victims on account of the hard labour. The invalids, including me, were sent to a hospital. But what a hospital! There was neither medicine nor medical treatment. On June 9, 1946 we invalids left there and towards the end of the month we arrived at Komozan in North Korea where 20,000 sick Japanese soldiers from various concentration camps were gathered. But I was again put to hard work at Seishin Port with about 300 comrades. On December 21 we are allowed to take a ship for home."

Inclosures: None

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

JP/TOS/452

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
KOMATSU Shichiro c/o Sasebo Hikiage Engokyoku Shuyosho Hachi-go (Sasebo Repatriate Relief Bureau Relocation Center) Sasebo-shi, Nagasaki-ken, (Japan)		ENDO AKIO 112 Kurasuna-machi, Chiba-shi, Chiba-ken (Japan)	

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/SOC CIS/OP DS	RECEIVED FEB 11 1947	12 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-7
		Type of Commun: Letter	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None relevant.
		Prep. date: 4 Feb 47	Comment by: TOS	

COMMENT

REPATRIATES: REPATRIATED COMMUNIST LEADER FROM MANCHURIA TO LEAVE FOR TOKYO TO CONTACT COMMUNIST PARTY HEADQUARTERS

Writer states:

"While in Harbin (Ex. City in Manchuria) I was engaged in various activities. I held the post of vice-chairman in the Harbin Nippon Jimmin-Kai (Japanese Nationals Association of Harbin) and held responsible positions in both the Zaika Nippon Kyosanshugisha Domei (League of Japanese Communists Residing in China) and the Nipponjin Minshu Remmei (Japanese Democratic Alliance) which are attached to Chukyo Minzoku Bu (Division of Chinese Communist Nationals).

"I plan to spend a few days in Tokyo to take up some matters with the government in the capacity of a vice-president of the above mentioned Japanese Nationals Association, and then report to the Communist Party Headquarters in the capacity of a Communist.

"Please contact me through the following address:

KOMATSU, Shichiro
c/o YOSHIZUMI, Kiyoshi, Communist Party Hq.
Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku,
(Tokyo-to, Japan)".

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JP/OSA/42702

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CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
INAGAKI Hajime 1st Machine-gun Company 128th Infantry Regiment 53rd Division, Cocain, Rangoon, (Burma)	MATSUDA Kanso Hotaiji, Tenma-cho, Shizuoka-shi, (Shizuoka-ken, Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
CIS/OP/CH DS WDI	Postmark: None	Passed	101-202-2-5
	Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
	Letter-card	Japanese	None relevant
	Prep. date:	Comment by:	
	31 Jan 47	FM6 J-3203	

RECEIVED FEB 10 1947

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COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: HOSTILITY TOWARDS BRITISH FORCES EXPRESSED

Writer, a P.O.W. in Cocain Camp, states:

"Since the end of the war, many important persons have been killed one after another and innocent people incriminated, simply because of our defeat in the war. This fact reminds me of an old proverb; 'Might is right.' Although the Englishmen profess themselves to be gentlemen, they actually intend to ruin Japan. Nevertheless, we hear that some Japanese women run mad after the British soldiers. How bitter I feel at the news! I am now confined in a concentration camp and driven to work just like a bull. We are required to do maximum work with minimum food given us. What we thought to be a conditional surrender has proved to be but an unconditional surrender. Such a trick is the powerful weapon of the Englishmen. At any rate, we trusted them too much, because we did not have sufficient social contact with foreigners."

Examiner's Note: One (1) similar comment is not included.

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CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
HOKKAIDO SHIMBUN Published in Hakodate			

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GC GB/NEA CIS/OP DS WDI		10 December 46	Post Censored Approved	202-2-6
		Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
		News Item	Japanese	
		Prep. date:	Comment by:	
		4 February 47	H. Ramiah	

RECEIVED FEB 10 1947

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: EX-PRIVATE OF JAPANESE ARMY DESCRIBES SOVIET OCCUPATION OF NORTH KURILE ISLANDS

"The following is a description of Shushumu-to (North Kuriles), by an ex-private of the Japanese army, who was there before and after the Soviet Occupation of the island, and has now returned to Japan with the first batch of repatriates.

"'Before the surrender, there were in Shushumu-to about 30,000 Japanese troops, commanded by Lieut. Gen. TSUTSUMI, and 1,000 fishermen.

"'When the Russians appeared on 3 August '45, our garrisons suffered heavy losses, with our tanks completely destroyed. Civilians did not take part in the battle. With the announcement of the surrender on 21 August we were disarmed.

"'After the Russian Forces had occupied the island, our corps was incorporated into labor squads and sent either to Siberia or Saghalien. We still do not know anything of the officers' whereabouts.

"'As laborers we worked 8 hours a day with a sufficient supply of food. We were engaged in building houses, and in engineering and rehabilitation work. There was no provision either for recreation or medical treatment on the island.'"

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APO 500

FROM: MATSUMURA Masanori 24, Horai-cho, Hakodate-shi, (Hokkaido, Japan) **LIST:**	**TO:** KOBANA Kanichi Hofukushima, Toyoda-mura, Shita-gun, Shizuoka-ken, (Japan) **LIST:**

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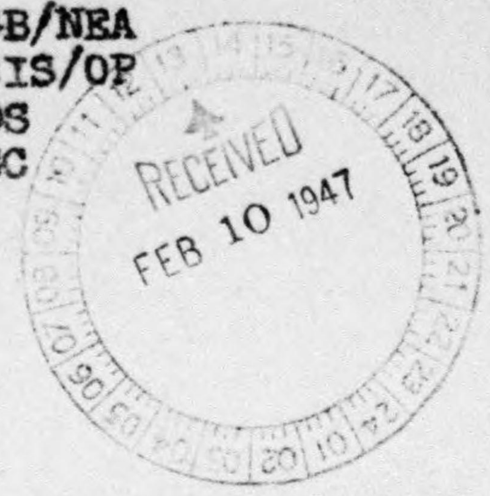

Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
16 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-5
Type of Commun: Letter	**Language:** Japanese	**Prev. Records:** None
Prep. date: 31 Jan 47	**Comment by:** P40 J-217	

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: JAPANESE FLEE FROM NORTH KOREA; 200 SAID DIED IN CAMP THERE

Writer states:

"Intending to go to Junghua, Manchuria, we took an evacuation train. But on the day after we got off the train at Backchun, North Pyonyang province, North Korea, to settle down there, the war came to an end. At that time, the Japanese evacuees gathering there numbered one thousand (1,000) people. Unable to forecast future prospects, we spent our time to no purpose, without any ideas of escaping to Manchuria or to South Korea; and as a result, we were confined in a camp for about a year and two months. Takako, my wife, died both of acute pneumonia and of malnutrition a month after we evacuated there.

"In Korea, we were supplied five (5) shaku (Ex: = 0.0085 bushel) of rice and one (1) go (Ex: = 0.38 pint) of corn—or kaoliany-soup a day per person. Without definite prospect of speedy repatriation, we have had a very hard time of it there. We erected about two hundred (200) tombstones for our victims.

(Continued)

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"We were the last to escape from Backchun. After drifting for twelve (12) days on a fishing-boat, we could barely reach Hankang, South Korea. Then, spending two (2) days, we walked as far as Seoul, where we stayed for ten (10) days under the protection of the Japanese Repatriates Relief Association, and on October 19, we landed at Sasebo."

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APO 500

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FROM: LIST: L-11	TO: LIST:
HYOGO CHIHO SEIABU DAI NI FUKUIN KACHO (Hyogo Local Assistance Bureau Chief of 2nd Demobilization Sect.) 兵庫地方世話部第二復員課 137 Goroudya-cho, (c/o Shofukuji) 五宝町 祥福寺 Hyogo-ku, Kobe-shi, (Hyogo-ken, 兵庫区 神戸市 Japan)	MURAKAMI Ishi 村上 イシ c/o MATSUMOTO Tokimichi Imada, Uonari-mura, Higashi-uwa-gun, Ehime-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/SOC GC CIS/OP DS WDI 8 CIC	12 Sept 46	Passed	202 - 2 - 5
	Type of Commun: Letter	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None relevant
	Prep. date: 30 Jan 47	Comment by: V/L 2437	

RECEIVED FEB 10 1947

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: MOVEMENT TO INSTIGATE AGITATION FOR REPATRIATION OF JAPANESE IN MALAYA STARTED

Writer states:

"By order of the British Navy, upon their arrival at CERETA Naval Base, the Japanese Naval Personnel with the Air Force and the 10th Area Fleet Headquarters were immediately moved to BATOPAHA, LEMBANG Island, located 80 miles inland on Malay Penninsula. Here we were engaged in agriculture for six months. 70 persons from the Air Corps and the same number of people from other units, totalling 600 men, arrived at CERETA Naval Base by order of the English Navy as the 8th Labor Unit during the latter part of March, 1946. There were 700 men in the Air Force, of which 150 were returned to Japan after the termination of the war. In all, 3,000 men were sent home from the naval unit. There were 30,000 men in the naval unit that was transferred to BATOBANA, including many from areas in Sumatra. 10,000 of the 30,000 are doing construction work under the supervision of the English Navy. There are various areas where construction is in progress, namely, as follows:

CERETA Naval Base
CERETA Naval Airfield
SEMBAWANG Airfield
CHANGI TENGA Airfield
JURONG and BULACAN MATE Airfields

------- (Continued)

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This figure represents the naval personnel only. Total personnel in South-east Asia totals 104,000 men. There are 2,500 naval personnel in the vicinity of CERETA Naval Base at present.

Provisions in the Potsdam Declaration mention nothing about construction work being considered a factor in delaying repatriation. Furthermore, we are doing work other than reconstruction work which the natives here can do. This is absolutely a violation of the Potsdam Declaration. Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. NUMATA of the Japanese Southern Army conferred with Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. BROWNING of the British Army on the matter of reconstruction work. The result of the conference was: that this work will be completed late this year (1946) or early next year. However, since a change of command took place with Maj. Gen. DENING in command, his decision on the matter of repatriation which was brought before him lowered our morale to a new low. Our return home was definitely set for 1948.

With the above-mentioned factors, this movement of expressing public opinion on this matter has been instigated as a final resort. By beginning a movement to speed repatriation of the 14,500 men here in the South-east Asia Area, we would like you to maintain contact with the Demobilization Bureau and General MacArthur's headquarters to facilitate the speedy return of all."

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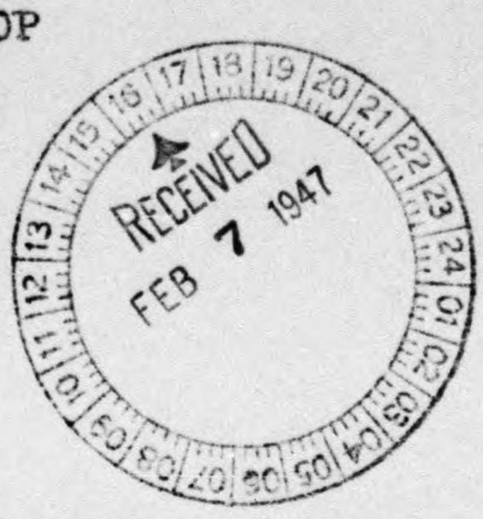

Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
See Comment	Passed	202-2-4
Type of Commun:	**Language:**	**Prev. Records:**
See Comment	Japanese	None relevant
Prep. date:	**Comment by:**	
29 Jan 47	See Comment	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: REPORTS ON CONDITIONS AND TREATMENT

Russia

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
KAGEYAMA Makita Sakaemachi, Miwa-cho, Shiki-gun, Nara-ken, (Japan)	KAGEYAMA Keiichi Kamifuku, Takiyama-mura, Kume-gun, Okayama-ken, (Japan)	Letter Postmark: 5 Jan 47

FAVORABLE REPORT ON TREATMENT OF JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR IN SIBERIA

Writer states:

"I have seen the demobilized soldier repatriated from Siberia twice since I first mentioned him at the end of last year, and I have learned from him of the situation during internment. Now I shall summarize what I heard as to clothing, food, dwelling, labor, and the like:

'Clothes were supplied from the stock confiscated at the former Japanese military clothing depot in Manchuria. Winter clothes, consisting of an overcoat with fur, gloves, a muffler and boots, of fairly good quality were supplied to everyone keeping him warm enough against the cold weather. Those who sold their old shirts and coats to black market dealers in summer were somewhat troubled during the winter, but they helped one another with the affection of comrades-in-arms which was stronger than the affection of kinship.

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'As for food, there was scarcely any rice, or wheat, soy-bean, koaliang and corn were rationed in the quantity of 2 Go (0.75 lb) a day per capita besides a piece of black-bread for one meal.

'Through their officers (Ex: Japanese officers) they protested that the quantity was not sufficient to satisfy their appetite and to permit them to withstand labor, so consequently an increase of food to the Japanese was discussed among the authorities. But, Soviet people objected on the ground that it was unjust that Japanese prisoners of war should be rationed a larger quantity of staple food than victorious Soviet citizens and demanded that the fact that all the people were withstanding poverty should be made known to the Japanese. Therefore, Japanese officers were shown fully the rations of the Soviets, and they found that the Japanese prisoners received an equal quantity of rations as did the Soviet people. Japanese prisoners were told of the impossibility of any increase, and they stopped voicing complaints, having perhaps become accustomed to the diet, for which they studied carefully the method of cooking. Malnutrition was not found, but scurvy, a disease peculiar to the Japanese was found. With scurvy, first of all lips turn purple, and several days later limbs became paralyzed. At first, the cause of the disease was not known and surgeons were greatly worried. After study they learned that a vitamin deficiency was the cause of the disease for Japanese people who were generally accustomed to eating a large quantity of vegetables. They found an effective remedy was to drink soup in which pine-needles and grape-leaves were boiled. They have learned to always boil something green whenever scurvy was found. The lack of vegetables was very serious in that country.

'As to houses, although roughly built, they were equipped for cold weather, and as the dwellers were accustomed to group living, they did not feel especially inconvenienced. Perhaps, the houses were more comfortable to live in than the barracks in which they were temporarily billeted in their homeland when they were enlisted men. There might have been some differences among the several hundred camps, although great differences did not seem to exist.

'As to labor, in most cases they served in repair works of road and railway, public works, and mining. They worked eight hours a day, and never a single minute longer. They were free after finishing the allotted work of a day, but were not allowed to rest freely before finishing. A day's quota of work was not at all unreasonable. They could finish it in two or three hours if they worked hard and in co-operation. They worked leisurely, killing time. If healthy ones were idle during working hours, steps were taken to send them to the labor camp for compulsory labor, but, the Soviets never resorted to beatings or other violence as the Japanese army would have done.

'The military rank of the Japanese was maintained, the highest ranking Japanese officers received orders from the Soviet authorities, and all Japanese officers were held responsible as supervisors and a non-commissioned officer headed a group of about twenty. Two Soviet soldiers armed with bayonets guarded them, and the head of each group was not required to work, his duty being to allot jobs and supervise the laborers. Although nutrition was insufficient, sickness was slight. Perhaps the cold weather was favorable for their health. As for patients, they were treated kindly and divided into four classes. The 1st class patients were assigned to light work, the 2nd class to cleaning of the inside and outside of the camp, the 3rd class were allowed to rest, and the 4th class were sent to hospitals for treatment. Medical treatment was performed carefully. Generally speaking, the Soviets are generous and slow to anger and never behave violently as the Japanese would. Japanese prisoners agreed among themselves that they were ashamed of the violence they had inflicted on prisoners during the victorious days of the Japanese army and

- 2 - (Continued)

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were amazed at the false propaganda that they would be severely punished and killed, if they were captured.

'The Soviets have a grudge against Japanese in the following two points:

'One is that during the German-Soviet War, at the critical period when Stalingrad was in danger, Japan stationed a large force on the border between Manchuria and Soviet Russia, and therefore the Soviets could not remove their army from that border to the Western Front, which fact caused heavy losses for them. The other is the Russo-Japanese War of forty years ago, regret which they have never forgotten. In spite of that, they have the magnanimity of a great nation in their treatment of prisoners of war.' "
(Comment by P34 J4869)

From:
NAKAGAWA Fusayoshi
c/o NAKAGAWA Fusaichi
Okuda, Tenma-mura,
Takaichi-gun, Nara-ken,
(Japan)

To:
TSUJITA Sakujiro
Mishima, Futashima-mura,
Kitagawachi-gun, Osaka-fu,
(Japan)

Type & Date of Comm:
Letter
Postmark:
20 Jan 47

JAPANESE INVALID CAPTIVES SUFFERED FROM SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES IN SOVIET TERRITORY

Writer states:

"On December 8th, 1945, we captives in Manchuria were sent to Siberia. Our work there was to fell trees in the mountains, but TSUJITA and I were seized with an illness from the severe cold and want of food. On June 22nd, 1946, about 50-60,000 invalid soldiers were sent to Kankyo via Seishin in north Korea. There TSUJITA's condition took a turn for the worse for want of physicians, medicine and food, and he died in September in spite of all my nursing."
(Comment by P37 J 4685)

From:
NAKAZAWA Tadayoshi
c/o SUGITA Sutejiro
3 Tsukuda-cho,
Shichijosenbon-ura,
Shimokyo-ku, Kyoto-shi,
(Japan)

To:
NAGAWAKI Shigeo
Sonokura,
Takaoka-mura, Isshi-gun,
Mie-ken, (Japan)

Type & Date of Comm:
Letter
Postmark:
11 Jan 47

LIFE OF JAPANESE POW'S AT CAMP AT NAHOTOKA

Writer, apparently an ex-officer of the Japanese Army who was in a P.O.W. Camp in the Soviet Union, states:

"We were the first who were confined in the Second P.O.W. Camp at Nahotoka where we had to build barracks by ourselves. We finished building in January, 1946 and lived there since. At night, we often awoke from the freezing cold, although we got gradually accustomed to it. In October last year, we repaired our barracks to that of Russian style, that is, we doubled the wall panel and packed sawdust into it. Thus we succeededin getting over the cold. The barracks were entangled with barbed wire, five folds, and sentries were keeping sharp watch upon us. However, our life there was not so miserable as you might imagine.

- 3 - (Continued)

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"We 2,000 prisoners were engaging in construction works such as mixing of concrete or piling of stones. Our working hours were from 7:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. and from 1:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. On Sunday we had a holiday. Our work was pretty hard, but we could go through it only with the pride of being Japanese.

"We were troubled by food. We were served with 300 grams (Ex: 100 grams= 0.22 lb.) of rice at breakfast and 350 grams of bread at supper. However, we could not complain about it, since we actually saw the miserable life of the Russian laborers.

"The most trying thing for us prisoners was lack of news. We got the news about Japan only through the Japanese Newspapers which were published by the Soviet Authorities for the purpose of propagandizing communism."
(Comment by P1O J2425)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
YAMAGUCHI Kazuyuki c/o AKAMATSU, Aioi Dormitory, 17, Aioi-cho 5-chome, Ikuta-ku, Kobe-shi, (Japan)	TERASHITA Hisao 33, Shishima-mura, Shima-gun, Mie-ken, (Japan)	Letter 17 Jan 47

JAPANESE CAPTIVES SENT TO BARNOUL FOR LABOR

Writer states:

"The war ended within a month after our removal from Tungan to Tungnwa for operations. After being disarmed, we were sent to Chilin and were taken prisoner. After 10 days the Russian Army transferred us to Siberia by way of Heiho, under the pretence of sending us back to Japan. On October 6, we were detrained at Barnoul (?), a prosperous industrial city situated 7,000 kilometres (Ex: 1 kilometre = 0.62 Mi) from Vladivostok and 1,500 kilometres from Moscow. We were engaged in compulsory heavy labor for three months of the severe winter. We were made to work at digging or carrying lumber. The daily food was scanty. We had to work all day on 100-grams (Ex: 1 Gram = 4.875 Oz) of black bread and a cup of soup containing only a few mottled kidney-beans, before we were given the evening meal at night. In June of last year, out of 2,000 Japanese Captives, 500 invalids were sent to Korea for recuperation and then they were sent back to Japan on December 30. The treatment of the captives in Barnoul (?) had been improved since April, 1946, and some rice was given."
(Comment by P38 J2499)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
KANDA Minoru Shimoabukawa, Iidagawa, Showa-cho, Minamiakita-gun, Akita-ken, (Japan)	HAZAMA Sadajiro Hon-machi, 4-chome, Takata-cho, Nara-ken, (Japan)	Letter 4 Jan 47

GOOD TREATMENT OF JAPANESE IN HOSPITAL NEAR VLADIVOSTOK

Writer, a repatriate from Siberia, states:

"Since the end of the war, your son has been working at the hospital for Japanese in Seu Cheng as pharmacist lieutenant, 300 kilometers (Ex: 1 kilometer = 0.62 Mi) North-east of Vladivostok. This hospital can receive about 500

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patients. The patients are receiving better treatment than those who are in other prisoners' camps. As they kept winter suits which they had during the war, they can endure the cold. They are distributed rice, millet, kaoliang, and rye as their staple food, and fish and soup containing vegetables as side-dishes. A fine private room with a bedstead and a heater is given to your son. The daily routine of the hospital is as follows:

Working hours: From 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.
Entertainment: At night they can amuse themselves by playing majong, go, (Japanese Chess) etc.
Bathing: One time a week.

(Comment by P41 J4546)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
HONMA Shinji Sawane-cho, Sado-gun, Niigata-ken, (Japan)	NAKAJIMA Kazuo Kusui, Nata-mura, Hidaka-gun, Wakayama-ken, (Japan)	Postcard Postmark: 6 Jan 47

TREATMENT RECEIVED BY JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR NEAR SUISOIEFFKA

Writer states:

"In the latter part of September, 1945, we were sent to a mountain, about 3 Ri (Ex: 1 Ri - 2.44 Mis.) from Suisoieffka in the Maritime Province, where we were engaged in felling trees. On account of my illness I was sent from there to Northern Korea last July." (Comment by P40 J1806)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
ISHIYAMA Katsu Ihara-machi, Shitsuki-gun Okayama-ken, (Japan)	SUMITANI Tadayoshi Tani, Maruoka-machi, Sakai-gun, Fukui-ken, (Japan)	Letter 11 Jan 47

FAIRLY GOOD TREATMENT OF JAPANESE PRISONERS NEAR APRINCHIKA

Writer, apparently a demobilized soldier who has recently been repatriated from Siberia, states:

"On December 18, 1945 we were transported by ship from Konan (Ex: North Korea) to Naotoka (Ex: Sic, Maritime Province, Siberia) and on January 1, 1946 we were accommodated in an internment camp at Kaminoshika (Ex: Sic, Siberia) which was some 50 ri (Ex: 1 ri - 2.44 mi.) north of Vladivostok, and after some 2 months' stay we were transferred to Aprinchika (Ex: Sic, Siberia). There it was so cold that it fell to 40 - 50 degrees below zero. We were supplied with flour gruel and some salted fish for breakfast, millet gruel for lunch, and a bowlful of boiled rice and soup for supper. Besides these, 400 to 500 grams (Ex: 1,000 grams = 2.2 lbs.) of brown bread (Ex: presumably per capita a day) were supplied. The kinds of work tasked upon us were woodcutting, repair and construction of roads. Working hours were 8 hours a day: that is, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and we were given a day off every week. Although clothes were not sufficiently supplied, they were just enough to bear the cold, so there was nothing to worry about except severe cold. Those who are still remaining there are rather in high spirits, and working in comfort, longing for their early repatriation." (Comment by P23 J2538)

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JP/OSA/42568

From:
OTOSHI Motozumi
1-1 Kunitama-dori 2-chome,
Nada-ku, Kobe-shi,
(Hyogo-ken, Japan)

To:
TSUKAMOTO Seiji
3606 Naka-uemachi 4-chome,
Warabi-machi, Kita-adachi-
gun, Saitama-ken, (Japan)

Type & Date of Comm:
Letter
Postmark:
15 Jan 47

JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR TREATED WELL
IN CAMP NEAR KHABAROVSK

Writer states:

"Our Manshu 853 BUTAI (Company) renamed Manshu 25264 Company later, left Chiamussu, North Manchuria on August 14, 1945, and arrived at Ilan on the 18th of the same month, where we were taken prisoner as a sequel to the Japanese surrender. After about half a month, we were sent back to Chiamussu, and then were taken to the vicinity of Khabarovsk.

"The following is the outline of our living conditions as prisoners in Siberia.

a) Clothing: We were dressed in the uniforms of our own army, and when worn out, they were exchanged for new ones. It was very cold but not so bad as imagined in Japan, as we were provided with enough to bear the severe cold.

b) Food: It couldn't be said to be sufficient abundant to eat our fill, but was just enough to keep our energy for usual labor.

c) Housing: Far from being cold, we felt rather hot in the room.

d) Labor: We worked eight hours a day. The work in which we were chiefly engaged was lumbering, charcoal-making, public and construction works, and unloading freight cars. The work itself was hard if one tried seriously, but we never worked diligently as we were prisoners and thought it foolish to work hard for a foreign country." (Comment by P38 J791)

Manchuria

From:
ADACHI Koichiro
9 Kitakazusa-cho,
Koyama, Kamikyo-ku,
Kyoto-shi, (Japan)

To:
KAMOSHIDA Yoshi
c/o HIGASHIOKA Akira
2-131 Amadera, Miwa-cho,
Arima-gun, Hyogo

Type & Date of Comm:
Letter
12 Jan 47

TREATMENT OF JAPANESE ENGINEERS IN DAIREN

In an enclosed letter, addressed to the sender from TERAZAWA Susumu, writer states:

"KAMOSHIDA is working in high spirits in Dairen Factory of MANTETSU (The South Manchurian Railway Company) as chief engineer. All of his family are quite well, too. The Japanese engineers are treated well by the Soviet Troops, and staple food is rationed to them by the factory at a cheap price, so you need not worry about them." (Comment by P43 J4616)

Inclosure: 1
1 letter

- 6 - (Continued)

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JP/OSA/42,68

From:
TORIYAMA Haruyo
c/o Enwaji Temple,
Teraue, Ono-cho, Ono-gun,
Fukui-ken, (Japan)

To:
TAKEUCHI Yokichi
c/o HIROSE GOMEI K.K.
(Hirose Partnership)
Kariya, Hekikai-gun,
Aichi-ken, (Japan)

Type & Date of Comm:
Letter
15 Jan 47

200 PERSONS DETAINED TO NURSE CHINESE

Writer states:

"According to the letter which was sent to me at the end of last year, after the Soviet Republic troops withdraw, all Japanese army patients were transferred to another place and officers and men of the Japanese army medical corps were detained and ordered to attend the wounded soldiers of the Chinese 8th Route Army. As my husband had been respected and esteemed by all Japanese people in the hospital, when they returned home, they wrote a petition with their blood asking to have him released with them, but their entreaty was not granted. On the contrary, petitioners were thrown into prison. Moreover, on 6th of January, I received my husband's letter which he entrusted to the wife of the pharmacist lieutenant who had been interned with him. According to that letter, dated the 25th of August, 1946, he was attending the wounded soldiers of the Chinese 8th Route Army at the former Military Hospital in Mutanchiang. About 200 persons had been moved there from Hailin on the 13th of October in 1945 and ordered to serve in that hospital from the end of November. He is looking forward to returning home in a few months." (Comment by P2 J4811)

From:
ONODERA Chiyoko
c/o NAKAMURA Jujiro
860 Misu-cho 4-chome,
Fushimi-ku, Kyoto-shi,
(Kyoto-fu, Japan)

To:
SAKIYAMA Toshima
3055 Taisho-machi, Ida,
Tagawa-shi, Fukuoka-ken,
(Japan)

Type & Date of Comm:
Letter
Postmark:
14 Jan 47

MANY JAPANESE GIRLS RETAINED BY RUSSIAN AND CHINESE COMMUNIST ARMIES

Writer, a repatriated girl, states:

"After Japan's surrender, Russian soldiers came to our town and many cases of plunder or rape were reported. I narrowly escaped falling a victim to their violence, and safely took refuge in Harbin on October 4, 1945. In September our turn for repatriation came, but the long-awaited joy of repatriation did not visit us 4 girls, when the 8th Route Army authorities ordered us to remain to serve them. Thus we were taken away against our will. But 70 girls, including me, were excluded due to poor health and sent back to Japan. There are 500 other girls still detained. The same fate befell the refugees from Chichihaerh, too, and those detained may amount to a fairly large number in all. When I was taken away, the 8th Route Army assured us that they would not commit any violence against the Japanese, although the Japanese killed many Chinese, and that the lives of those detained would be protected." (Comment by P38 J942)

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JP/OSA/42568

North Korea And Manchuria

From:
YAMADA Ken
c/o NAKATA
1153 Tarumi, Suita-shi,
Osaka-fu, (Japan)

To:
KADOMA Hideo
In front of Okubo Station,
Minami-akita-gun,
Akita-ken, (Japan)

Type & Date of Comm:
Letter
7 Jan 47

SUFFERING OF ARMED FORCES IN NORTHERN-KOREA AND MANCHURIA AFTER SURRENDER

Writer states:

"Although we made our way to Korea under the command of medical officer KUMABE, we were harassed at Kisen by the Korean Public Peace Preserving Corps, which robbed us of more than one hundred bales of rice. We left there at noon after seven days and proceeded to Heijo, from where we were taken by the Soviet Forces to the Sangori detention camp, seven Ri (Ex: 1 Ri - 2.44 Mi) away from Heijo. The commander as well as all the members of our battalion were tired out because we had been forced to walk to the camp, and on the way alleged Korean Public Peace Preserving Corps robbed us of all valuables. With the reorganization of our battalion next morning, the officers were accommodated in the open camp, separated from the non-commissioned officers and men. I caught sight of the medical officer outdoors, but the next moment he started for some place with other troops. He was supposedly transferred to some Soviet territory via the Yenchi Hospital (Ex: Manchuria). In the bitter cold, many of us succumbed. Our battalion captain and the warrant-officer transferred to some hospital - may be the Yenchi hospital - owing to illness. We left there for Konan, the cold wind blowing, on January 5, 1946, boarding ice-room-like waggons. Afterwards we were taken to the Yenchi Detention Camp at the beginning of March, and there we were delivered to the Eighth Route Army. As our prospect was dismal, we attempted an escape, but we were recaptured and made to walk to Antu-village. I led a peasants life there. We had to get up at three every morning and draw 15 buckets of water for manufacturing soy-sauce. Only 12 persons out of 50 escaped successfully from there, and the others died of diseases. Seven days after our escape we arrived at Tunghwa (Ex: Manchuria), where we met some Japanese to be repatriated, and joined the party. We left Antu on September 1, and we took two months to reach Sasebo. Eight out of 15 died on the way. They, having no money, died of malnutrition in Hsinking, Chilin, Mukden, etc.." (Comment by P37 J-4769)

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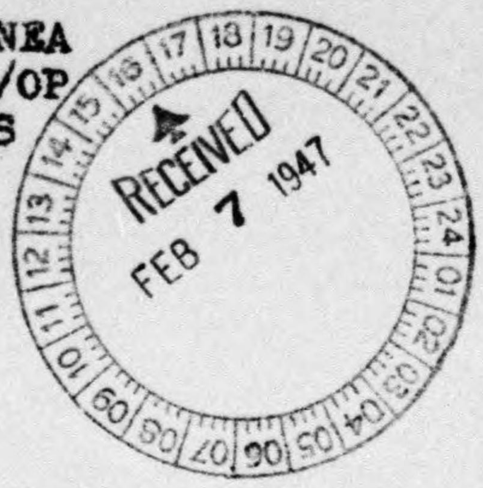

Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
See Comment	Passed	202-2-4

Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
See Comment	Japanese	See Comment

Prep. date:	Comment by:
31 Jan 47	See Comment

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: REPORTS ON CONDITIONS AND TREATMENT

RUSSIA

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
MIMA Eiko 2021 Miyake-mura, Naka-kawachi-gun, Osaka-fu, (Japan)	NISHIDA Tsukao c/o MOCHIZUKI Fumiharu 359 Seki-mura, Musashino-machi, Kita-tama-gun, Tokyo-to, (Japan)	Letter 19 Jan 47

INSUFFICIENT FOOD SUPPLIED TO PRISONERS ENGAGED IN COAL-MINING IN SIBERIA

Writer states:

"My husband came back safely on the morning of the 15th. I could not but shed tears when I saw his forlorn figure with his rucksack on his back and with long hair and mustache untrimmed. According to him, he had been working in a coal-mine in Siberia as I supposed, and I was also told that he had worked all day long with only a morsel of bread and one cup of soup. I shall never end if I tell you of this prison life, tortures, coal-mining and loading-work." (Comment by: P32 J-4758)

------ (Continued)

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JP/OSA/42652

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
SEISHI Takizo Inuoka, Narimatsu-cho, Higami-gun, Hyogo-ken, (Japan)	MIZUNO Eisaku Nishi-sabae, Funatsu-cho, Imadachi-gun, Fukui-ken, (Japan)	Letter 31 Dec 46

ACTIVITIES AND TREATMENT ACCORDED 49TH 'ASA' BUTAI IN ARUCHOM CAMP, SIBERIA

Writer, squad-commander, states:

"We, members of the 49th 'ASA'BUTAI (Detachment) stationed in HEIJO (Ex: in Korea) were gathered, by order of the Russian Forces, at SANGOTON, 5 Ri (Ex: 1 Ri - 2.44 Mi.) east of HEIJO on September 1,1945. On October 18, we were taken to the camp at KONAN, Kanshu-gun, Kankyo-nan-do. Clearing the port on December 18, we landed at Nahotoka (Ex: SIC) and arrived at the Aruchom (Ex: SIC) camp, about 150 Kilometers (Ex: 1 Kilometer - 0.62 Mi.) west of Nahotoka on January 1,1946. Leaving there at 10:00 the same evening, we reached the Kamenoshika (Ex: SIC) camp, 50 or 60 Kilometers north-east of Aruchom on the 2nd. Kamenoshika was in a forest zone, and every day we were engaged in clearing forests, and railway construction. As a result of reorganization executed in June, 1946 by order of the Russian Army, a new company was formed of about 300 men under the Command of Captain MATSUURA. Of 15 members of my squad, 8 technicians (specialized in precision instruments, electrical engineering, etc.) were transferred to this company. We heard they were sent to Vladivostok and were working in a factory receiving very good treatment. We, who were left behind, were taken back to Aruchom again, and engaged in coal-mining. Fortunately, I have recently been repatriated with about 400 others."

Writer further states:

"Treatment of internees in Soviet territory was not as bad as rumored in Japan, as the following outline will prove:

'(1) Protection against the cold:
Winter clothing, formerly used by the Japanese Army, were in use, and barracks were completely protected against the cold, so, we felt warmer there than in Japan proper.

'(2) Food and other supplies:
Staple food was composed of cereals. We were troubled by indigestion at first, for a month or two, but we soon got used to it. Recently in Aruchom, for example, we were given cereals for breakfast, cereal gruel and black bread for lunch, and boiled rice for supper. The quantity was increased recently and was by for more than the present ration in Japan. We were supplied daily with more than 3.5 Go (Ex: 1 Go - 0.35 Lb.) of cereal,

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and also the supply of vegetables, fish, butter, and sugar was much better there than in present-day Japan. Tobacco also was given to us, although in small quantity. Besides, full consideration was given to hair-cuts, bath, newspapers and entertainments."

Inclosures: 3
3 postage stamps

(Comment by: P36 J-2498)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
RUSU GYOMU KYOKU SENMAN ZAMMU SEIRUBU (Military Liquidation Office, Manchuria - Korea Dep't.) Konakadai-cho, Chiba-shi, (Japan)	OZAKI Kinjiro 156/225, Higashi 3-ban, Ono-cho, Ono-gun, Fukui-ken, (Japan)	Letter 20 Dec 46

FAIR TREATMENT ACCORDED JAPANESE PRISONERS IN VARIOUS CAMPS IN RUSSIA

A mimeographed report, signed by the chief of the Manchuria-Korea Dep't. of the Military Liquidation Office and apparently addressed to the families of Japanese servicemen who are not repatriated yet from Russian territory, reads as follows:

"According to the information we have obtained from those repatriated from Siberia by the first ship, the conditions of the Japanese Forces detained there are as follows:

'1. Location of the camps:
In each of about 30 districts encircling big cities such as Suchan, Vladivostok, Iman, Khabarovsk and Blagoveschensk which are situated along the Siberian railway line to the east of Chita, some 20,000 to 30,000 Japanese are detained, some 500 to 1,000 being accommodated in each camp. Most of the Japanese officers seem to have been sent to Vladivostok, Khabarovsk and 'Birakan' (Ex: SIC), but most of the generals to the latter two cities.

'2. General treatment in the camps:
The camps located in large cities are under the control of the Council of Commissars, and those located in remote places are surpervised by the Russian Army. Although the treatment in the camp depends upon the character of the camp chief, the treatment in the latter is generally worse than that in the former.

'3. Kinds of labor:
The Japanese internees are divided into four classes according to the condition of their health, and they are assigned to such labor as mining, wood-cutting, sewing and public works in connection with the construction of houses, railways and roads.

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Some are also engaged in agriculture. Moreover, former carpenters, plasterers, masons, tinsmiths, tailors, shoe-makers, and artisans in general are utilized to the full according to their strength and ability?

"The Russian Government is making one hundred percent use of the Japanese laborers in Russian territory for the post-war reconstruction and foundation works for industrial development in the future. The Japanese are forced to work on their own responsibility under the system of eight working hours a day and fixed quantity of labor, and the harder they work, the more food they are supplied with. Therefore, efficient Japanese get better rations than the Russians who are not engaged in labor.

'4. Supply:
As for clothing, they have nothing but one suit of winter clothes per person. We hear, however, that every camp is kept warm enough by the 'pechika' heater to enable them to sleep in only one blanket.
"They are paid for their labor from 20 or 30 rubles to 50 or 60 rubles (Ex: presumably a month). The supply of food, wHich was very poor at first, has gradually been improved, and as the quantity varies according to their efficiency, they work diligently for good. As to sanitation, they are looked after by a Russian army surgeon as well as a Japanese physician attached to each labor battalion, and the treatment towards patients is rather good, we hear."

Examiner's Note: Previous record JP/OSA/36098 dated 18 October 1946 from the same sender to NAKAJIMA Shigeru, c/o OKUBO Hiromichi, 12, Shimokatahara, Nakayabu, Hikone-shi, Shiga-ken, (Japan) discloses that the disarmed Japanese soldiers are mostly detained along the Siberian railway line in tolerably good conditions and that the date of their repatriation is uncertain.
(Comment by: P23 J-2597)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
FUKUI Koichi 877 Yaogi, Akegawa-mura, Nakakawachi-gun, Osaka-fu, (Japan)	MIMI Tsuneichiro 413 Ainoshima, Toyosu-mura, Kami Takai-gun, Nagano-ken, (Japan)	Letter 15 Jan 47

INFORMATION ON WORK PERFORMED BY JAPANESE PRISONERS IN SIBERIA

Writer states:

"After the war ended we left Mutanchiang, Manchuria at the beginning of September and went on foot to a small colliery town in Siberia, the name of which was unknown to us.

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There we were made to work in the mines mending roads, constructing railways and building etc. We worked every day from dawn until dusk, but the food was not good. Our daily diet was kaoliang-gruel boiled with salted herrings, and 300 Monme (Ex: 1 Monme - 0.13 Oz.) of brown bread and a little sugar. We, therefore, suffered from malnutrition, and were hospitalized at Nicholfsk, a town about 2 hours' ride by car from Mutunchiang. Although the quantity of the diet in the hospital was very small, we recovered a little, because we did no physical labor there." (Comment by: P37 J-3223)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
YOSHIDA Shigeru Shosen-ekimae, Ekimae-dori 2-chome, Takada-cho, Nara-ken, (Japan)	YASOKAWA Juichiro Kamae, Isei-mura, Ibo-gun, Hyogo-ken, (Japan)	Letter 19 Jan 47

GOOD TREATMENT ACCORDED JAPANESE PRISONERS IN CHOUPRO, SIBERIA

Writer, apparently an army dental surgeon repatriated from Siberia last December, states:

"In 'Choupro' (Ex: Siberia) I was working in a hospital for the Japanese, the director of which was Colonel MIYAKE and Mr.YASOKAWA his adjutant. There we were supplied with sufficient food prepared for officers, viz. a bowlful of polished rice and bean-paste soup for breakfast, 200 grams (Ex: 1,000 grams = 2.2 Lbs.) of brown bread and soup with fish like salmon, herring or trout for lunch, and polished rice and a piece of fish, fried fish or 'Shaomai' (Ex: a kind of Chinese food made of meat and flour) for supper. However, owing to the shortage of vegetables many soldiers suffered from scurvy, and I myself was also attacked by it. When I left the hospital, the soldiers were making efforts to grow vegetables for this winter, so the want of vegetables must have been mitigated to some extent by this time.

"The climate there is very cold and some winter-clothes are supplied, but those residing now in the hospital have little opportunity of going outdoors into the cold.

"Towards the end of last May we were concentrated in 'Berakan' (about 3 Ri (Ex: 1 Ri - 2.44 Miles)) away from 'Choupro' for the purpose of repatriation and left there on the 21st of June. We were transported via Port of Possiet, which is close to the Russia-Korea border, Port of Seishin (Ex: North Korea) and Kumushan (Ex: North Korea), where we left on the 1st of November for Konan (Ex: North Korea). On the 16th of December we left Konan for Saseho (Ex: Nagasaki-ken, Japan)

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"When I was in North Korea some 30,000 Japanese soldiers were concentrated there. I hear that in Siberia some 600,000 soldiers are still detained, however, only some 50,000 soldiers are scheduled to be sent back monthly, and the transportation is suspended until this March owing to the fact that the port of Nahotokha is ice-bound." (Comment by: P23 J-4821)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
KISAKI Kazuko 547 Ko, Shirahama-ku, Himeji-shi, Hyogo-ken, (Japan)	OHKI Eiichi Fushimi-mura, Ikoma-gun, Nara-ken, (Japan)	Letter 17 Jan 47

REPORT ON WRETCHED CONDITIONS OF JAPANESE PRISONERS IN SOVIET TERRITORY

Writer states:

"My brother Hideo, who was a soldier in NISHIO Unit, 13,928 battalion of the Manchurian Expeditionary Force, Suddenly returned home yesterday. He was in Northern Manchuria just before the war ended, but simultaneously with the surrender, he was taken to Siberia to engage in forced labor. While he was working, he suffered from extreme under-nourishment and frost-bite and was taken in a certain hospital there. And then he was sent to Konan (Ex: Kankyo-nan-do), Northern Korea, in June of last year, where he recruited himself and regained his usual health. He said he landed at Saseho (Ex: Nagasaki Prefecture) safe and sound at the end of last December as one of the 2,000 repatriates from Konan Port.

"The miserable and wretched conditions in Siberia related by him were far beyond our imagination. It is my earnest hope that the speedy and successive repatriation for those still remaining there shall be realized very soon." (Comment by: P32 J-4610)

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
HIROMA Hideko 54,Sakuraguchi-cho 5-chome, Nada-ku Kobe-shi, (Japan)	WATANABE Reiko 1/136,Higashi- Hachiban-cho, Sendai-shi, Miyagi-ken, (Japan)	Letter 19 Jan 47

INSUFFICIENT FOOD SUPPLIED TO PRISONERS IN ROSTOV,SIBERIA AND KONAN, NORTH KOREA

Writer states:

"My nephew, a demobilized soldier who was sent back from Siberia on the 15th of this January, told me the following:

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"Immediately after the surrender, our BUTAI (detachment) stationed at Tungnin (Ex: North Manchuria) was disbanded, and we 2,000 soldiers out of 4,000 were confined and transported in cars to the west of Siberia, via Kilin, Hsinking, Harbin and Manchuli. After a 30 days' journey we were unloaded and found ourselves in a small town named Rostov which is situated to the south of Barnaul-city and Novorossüsk in Central Asia, although it is not indicated on a map. In this town we were engaged in various kinds of labor, and I spent a year working as a laborer every day. As for meals, we were supplied with nothing but 300 grams (Ex: 1,000 grams = 2.2 Lbs.) of Manchurian cereals a day without any side-dish and we managed to live by sipping rice-broth. Since July 1946, 600 grams of rice and cereals had been provided, however, when vegetables were supplied, the quantity of staple food was decreased instead. Consequently, many of us fell ill from malnutrition and died one after another. I myself also fell ill, and in October 1946 I was transferred to the Konan Internment camp in North Korea. At Konan 900 grams of staple food were supplied a day, and I was able to recover my health." (Comment by: P23 J-4892)

MANCHURIA AND KOREA

From:	To:	Type & Date of Comm:
KIMURA Masao 314 Betsusho-cho Kishiwada-shi, Osaka-fu, (Japan)	KIMURA Yoshizo & Masu 13 Ko-machi, Niigata-shi, Niigata-ken, (Japan)	Letter 19 Jan 47

LARGE PERCENTAGE OF PRISONERS DIE OF STARVATION IN CAMP NEAR HEIHO, MANCHURIA AND HEIJO, KOREA

Writer states:

"I was captured in September,1945 by the Soviet Army and sent to a camp near Heiho, Manchuria, where I was forced to labor. The ration was meager and bad, causing many deaths among us every day (about 30% in all).
In August of last year, I was sent to Heijo, Korea, where receiving moderate rations, clothes and adequate housing. I recovered my strength. However, ten thousand Japanese out of thirty thousand who had been sent to Korea from various districts died there.- About 25,000 soldiers including us, reached Saseho, Japan on the 4th of this month, but there are still about 600,000 Japanese soldiers held in custody in Siberia, and three or four hundred technical experts still remain in Korea."
(Comment by: P26 J-4871)

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FROM: HAMANO Kumajiro, Kihaku-cho, Fukaya-machi, Osato-gun, Saitama-ken, (Japan) **LIST:**	**TO:** SAKAKIBARA Yoshitake, Hinode-cho, 151, 1-chome, Aoto-machi, Katsushika-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan) **LIST:**

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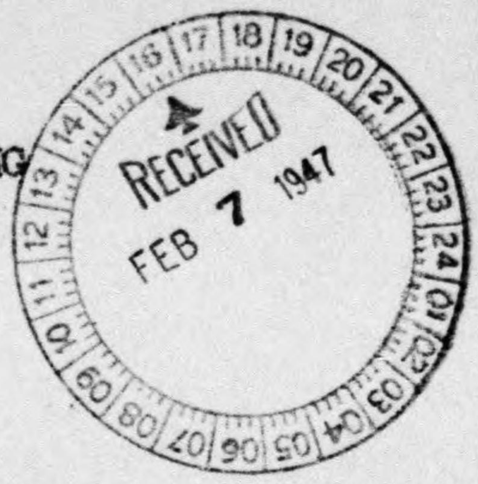

Date of Commun: Postmark: 21 Jan 47	**Dispos of Commun:** Passed	**Eval-Alloc:** 202-2-5
Type of Commun: Letter	**Language:** Japanese	**Prev. Records:** None
Prep. date: 31 Jan 47	**Comment by:** P8 J-2093	

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: MALNUTRITION BRINGS DEATH TO MANY JAPANESE IN P'YONGYAN HOSPITAL

Writer states:

"All the sick persons in our unit in Siberia were transferred to P'yongyan Hospital in North Korea about last May. Due to malnutrition and bad weather seventy (70) percent of the patients did not survive. There were about eighty (80) dead each day."

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
DOHI Tsutomu Minamigata-mura, Toyoda-gun, Hiroshima-ken(Japan)		DOHI Natsuji Miya, Shonai-cho, Toyono-gun, Osaka-fu, (Japan)	

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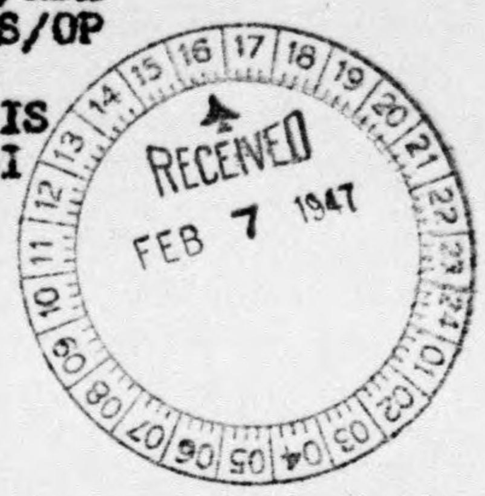

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Type of Commun:	**Language:**	**Prev. Records:**
Letter	Japanese	None relevant
Prep. date:	**Comment by:**	
28 Jan 47	P32 J2446	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: TREATMENT RECEIVED BY JAPANESE SOLDIERS IN RUSSIAN TERRITORY

Writer states:

"We organized the DOKURITSU SEIBITAI (Independent Engine-adjustment Corps) at Kagamigahara (Ex: in Gifu-ken, Japan)and afterward were transferred to the HEIJO KOKU-SHO(Heijo Aerial Depot) (Ex: in Korea) on the 1st July, 1945. Soon after the defeat, we were all disarmed and interned at the Heijo Sangori Camp on the 29th of August. There we were glad expecting to be able to go home. On the 23rd of October, we were transferred to the Konan Internment Camp and waited for the repatriation ship. We were ordered to start there on the 27th Dec. and went on board in high glee. However, the ship took a course to the north, contrary to our expectation of repatriation, and at last, arrived at Port Sofguwani, Siberia on the 14th, of Jan., 1946, where the mercury was almost every day. At the Russian soldiers' barracks, we had to get up at 7 o'clock in the morning. The morning-roll-call in the biting cold was the most painful thing for us. We had some Japanese -made clothing and foodstuffs with us, but they were not enough for our demands. For breakfast, we were supplied with only one bowl of pastelike porridge, not being seasoned with salt. We had to gather fuel and cut down timber, going to the place on foot about 2 Ri(Ex: 1 Ri=3.9 ken) from there. At noon, we had a small quantity of cereals without any side dish, and for supper, a sort of gruel. Those were not human foodstuffs at all. Often we experienced days when we had only breakfast and nothing else. To make the matter worse, some of us were shot to death by accident, because we couldn't understand the sentries' words. One day, we, five men, went to gather fuel and one of us was shot to death, the other three except me were wounded in their hands or feet because of the same reason.

- - - - - - - (Continued)

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It was so miserable to look at the victims. Every day such accidents like this occured. Moreover many people were severely frost bitten and some of them had to have their feet or hands amputated. Patients were increasing more and more, being attacked by malnutrition, pulmonary infiltration, lack of vitamins etc. . I also suffered from pulmonary infiltration at the beginning of March and suffered from malnutrition on account of such severe diarrhoea that I had to use commode 130 times a day and was reduced to a skeleton. On the 30th of June, thanks to the Russian surgeon's goodwill who advised that there would be no hope of recovery for the sufferers in Siberia, we were transferred by train to the Konan National Hospital in Korea. After being for 4 months in hospital, I could return home by a Japanese ship."

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Tfa

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT JP/TOK/43589
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
NADAKA Yoshiro 9, Suehiro-ku, Shimoda-machi, Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)	HASEGAWA Tadao c/o Unakami Apartment Nonaka, Yasashi-mura, Unakami-gun, Chiba-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
CIS/OP/CH DS WDI	21 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-5
	Type of Commun: Letter	**Language:** Japanese	**Prev. Records:** None
	Prep. date: 31 Jan 47	**Comment by:** P67 J-3787	

RECEIVED FEB 7 1947

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: TRYING CONDITIONS UNDERGONE BY JAPANESE REPATRIATES IN U.S.S.R.

Writer states:

"After the surrender, we were put into a concentration camp at Mutankiang. (Manchuria) At first, we were told we could go home, but it proved utterly false and we were sent to Rovtovska (Siberia) where we had to work in a factory making tractor spades. At the camp there, all of our private belongings such as clothes, fountain pens, etc were confiscated. We had to pass the cold nights with only a few clothes on wooden floors without a single blanket. The ration was so little that we could barely support our life. Not a cigarette was given us. Indeed, it was just like hell. After 3 months, all of us began to suffer from malnutrition, and from February 46, four (4) or five (5) men died every day. They buried three (3)or four (4) of them together, after having stripped them of their clothes. I narrowly saved my life through winter and when spring came, warm weather and a little improvement of ration recovered me to work little by little. In June, after seventeen (17) day's travel on a freight-car, we reached Bosset Bay, (Ex: Phonetic) near Vladivostok, where we spent a week in tents.

- 1 - (Continued)

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Then we sailed to Port Chongjin, Korea, where we slept three (3) days in open camps, in the rain and wind. Then, we got into open cars but every car was packed with one hundred (100) to one hundred and ten (110) men. We were then sent to Komozan, (Ex: In North Korea) and here again we had to sleep in the open in the rain and wind without a single blanket, for the camp was full. As it was intolerable outside, we slept in drain pipes for the first two (2) days, and then pitching tents over stone walls piled by ourselves, we slept under them. Some were killed or injured when the wall collapsed by heavy rain. It was indeed a dreadful time. Russia is a hateful and dirty country just like a country of beggars. During about half a year in Siberia three hundred fifty (350) out of one thousand (1,000) died in the concertration camps, and about a third of the rest in North Korea. I hear that it will take nineteen (19) months for all P.O.W.s in Siberia to repatriate, but if it is, I am afraid that few of them will repatriate in good health."

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ca

JP/OSA/42642

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
KAWAI Yuzuru c/o AOTO 32, Honmachi-dori 5-chome, Nakano-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan)	KAWAI Sue c/o HAYASHI Masatoshi Kankonosato, Nasahara, Abuno-mura, Mishima-gun, Osaka-fu, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GC SCAJAP CIS/OP DS 8th A HG	19 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-5
	Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
	Letter	Japanese	None relevant
	Prep. date:	Comment by:	
	30 Jan 47	P-23 J4392	

RECEIVED FEB 7 1947

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: REPORT ON BAD TREATMENT ABOARD SHIP USED FOR REPATRIATION OF JAPANESE FROM FORMOSA

Writer, a repatriate from Formosa, states:

"On December 18, 1946 we were concentrated in a repatriation center set up on the 3rd floor of a warehouse at Kelung (Ex: Formosa) and since then we were forced to live such a miserable life as to sleep on cold concrete floors or to use a dirty temporary latrine for ten days.

"On board the repatriation ship, we were thrown into a hatch just like baggage. We received such bad treatment for as long as six days that some of us passed away. I hear that on board a ship which left Kelung several days prior to our departure, over ten persons died from ill-treatment during the voyage."

Examiner's Note: This communication concerns SCAP directive AG370.05 (1 Mar 46) GC, (SCAPIN-781) dated 1 March 1946 by which the Japanese Government is ordered to insure that unsatisfactory conditions will not exist in the future aboard ships manned by Japanese and engaged in repatriation.

Inclosure: 1
1 letter

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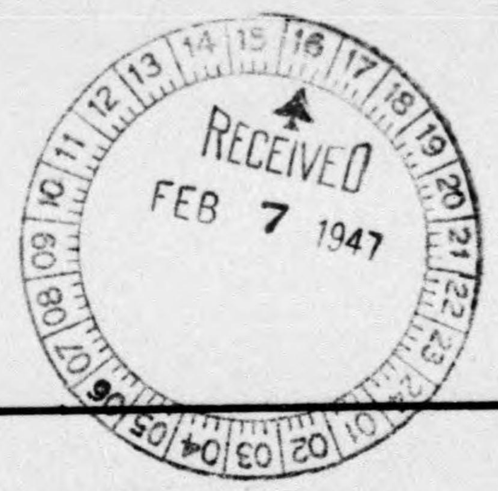
sk

JP/OSA/42582

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
KOSONE VILLAGE OFFICE Kosone-mura, Toyono-gun, Osaka-fu, (Japan)	CENSUS REGISTRATION SECTION, OSAKA SUB-DISTRICT COURT Wakamatsu-cho, Kita-ku, Osaka-shi, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:
STA LOCAL:
GB/NSA
CIS/OP
DS
WDI



Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
20 Jan 47	Passed	100-202-2-4
Type of Commun:	**Language:**	**Prev. Records:**
Letter	Japanese	None relevant
Prep. date:	**Comment by:**	
29 Jan 47	O&D J-273	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: **OFFICIAL REPORT OF DEATH OF JAPANESE RESULTING FROM MAL-TREATMENT BY CHINESE COMMUNISTS IN MANCHURIA**

Together with a Letter of Inquiry #28, addressed by HATAI Torata, assistant Village Head, ACTING VILLAGE HEAD, Kosone-mura to PRESIDING JUDGE, OSHIMA Kyoichiro, Osaka District Court, there are four official documents, among which there is a Death Notice with a written statement attached to it in place of a doctor's death certificate. In this statement the following case is disclosed:

"1. Victim: HIGUCHI Shinji, age 44 ex-official of Manchukuo.

Original Residence: Kosone-mura, Toyono-gun, Osaka-fu.

Present Address: Hano-cho, Ryusen-ku, Tunghwa, Manchuria.

Date of Death: 6 p.m. 11 February 1946.

Place of Death: Same as his present address.

Cause of Death: Chronic dyspepsia, frost-bite, undernourishment, and exhaustion.

------ (Continued)

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"2. Writer of the statement and eye-witness of the case:

Original Residence: NAKAZONO Kazuyoshi
Yamaguchi-mura, Shimoke-gun, Oita-ken.

Present Address : Same; his address at the time of the case was the same as the victim's."

"3. The details of the written statement dated 30 November 1946:

At Tunghwa 4 a.m., 3 February 1946, an armed revolt was raised against HACHIRO GUN (the Eighth Route Army) of the Chinese Communists then in charge of military administration in the Tunghwa area, by a band of rioters composed of the Japanese army officers and soldiers demobilized or marooned after the termination of war, a number of Japanese civilians who had been harboring complaints and indignation, and Chinese who were the members of the Kuomintang under the leadership of SON KOGYO, a staff member of the Military Intelligence Bureau of the Kuomintang and COLONEL FUJITA Sanehiko, MOTO ZAI TUNGHWA DAI 125 SHIDAN SAMBO-CHO (Ex: Chief of Staff of the 125th Division formerly stationed at Tunghwa). (This is known as the February 3 Incident). 'Because of this revolt all the male Japanese between 15 and 60 then in the area, no matter whether they had been involved in the incident or not, were arrested and held for investigation, by the military administration organs of the Chinese Communist Army.' 'The Victim, HIGUCHI Shinji, together with NAKAZONO Kazuyoshi, writer of the statement, arrested by the HACHIRO GUN (8th Route Army) and taken to the back yard of the house of detention, where they were stripped almost completely naked and then kept there exposed to the cold wind for two hours. As a result, HIGUCHI Shinji had his hands and feet frost-bitten. They were, then taken to a cell attached to the Judicial Section, Office of Administration Superintendence Office, Tunghwa District, Antung, where they were put into separate detention rooms.'
'The victim had to take special care in eating, as he always suffered from chronic dyspepsia. Owing to the sudden change in his diet his condition took a rapid turn for the worst, and twice he spit up blood. Moreover, on account of bad food and the irregular routine in the cell, he suffered from malnutrition and exhaustion. Despite medical treatment, his frost-bites were not cured.'
'Two or three days after we were arrested examination commenced, but it was proved that we had nothing to do with the incident, and we were released. By that time, however, the victim had grown so weak that he could not walk a step, so he was taken home in a 'Jinrikisha'. Reaching home, he was so weak that he lost consciousness. No doctor was available, for they had also been arrested, so a nurse was called in, and two injections of a heart stimulant were given which had but short effect. He breathed his last at 6 in the evening.' "

Enclosure: 1
1 file of official documents

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Tkk

JP/TOK/44604

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
AKASHI Tsuneasa Nishinaka, Niino-mura, Katsuda-gun, Okayama-ken, (Japan)	MATSUMURA Masaji 334, Bldg., No. 6, Imaise Apartment, Imai-cho, Chiba-shi, (Chiba-ken, Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:

GB/NEA
CIS/OP
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ATIS

RECEIVED FEB 7 1947

Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
19 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-4
Type of Commun:	**Language:**	**Prev. Records:**
Letter	Japanese	None
Prep. date:	**Comment by:**	
31 Jan 47	P5 J-2101	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: JAPANESE FIND LIFE DIFFICULT UNDER RUSSIANS IN SIBERIA

Writer, ex-P.O.W. in Siberia, states:

"In September, 1945, we were sent from Port Konan., Korea, to Siberia, where we worked at a laborious task. The village in which we were stationed was called Aruchomu, about seventy (70) miles' distance from Vladivostok. We worked chiefly in coal mines near by, and the weaker persons did miscellaneous work.

"We were put behind double iron bars like criminals. If any one of us neglected to work even during bad weather, he would not get his meal for the day. We worked eight (8) hours a day. We stood for the roll-call at 7 a.m., began work at 8 a.m., finished at 4 p.m., and came back to our camps about 5.30 p.m.

"Mr. MATSUMURA, one of my friends, died of bronchitis and a weak heart due to hard work in the dirty air. I think that the medical science of Soviet Russia is by far inferior to that of Japan, so maybe the poor medical treatment could not be helped. If there had been just a little more food and better accomodations, many lives could have been saved."

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JP/TOK/44597

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT

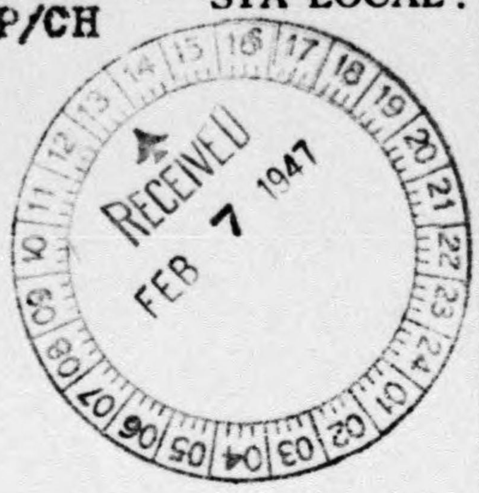
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP

APO 500

FROM: TAKABANE Sadami LIST: Hamada, Takamichi-mura, Tamana-gun, Kumamoto- ken, (Japan)	**TO:** TAKABANE Sadayoshi LIST: c/o TOKYO TEIDAI (Tokyo Imperial University), OTSUKI Dept., Doctors' Room Hongo-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:
CIS/OP/CH
DS
WDI

STA LOCAL:



Date of Commun: Postmark: 20 Jan 47	**Dispos of Commun:** Passed	**Eval-Alloc:** 100-202-2-4
Type of Commun: Letter	**Language:** Japanese	**Prev. Records:** None
Prep. date: 31 Jan 47	**Comment by:** P17 J-2154	

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( )Exec
( )Admn
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COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: CRUEL TREATMENT ACCORDED INCARCERATED IN HONGKONG

"With the end of the war, I became a prisoner of war. On 20 Oct 45, I was summoned by the British Army and was incarcerated at the Shiekchu Prison in Hongkong. All the members of the Hongkong Kempei Tai were imprisoned as war crime suspects and were treated with great cruelty. I felt the wretchedness of the defeat not only in a foreign country but also in our own fatherland when I returned home.

"The trial began in March; some were sentenced to a term of imprisonment, some condemned to death, some died, and thus each of us to his own fate.

"What is still worse, many of us suffered from tuberculosis and malnutrition on account of the cruel treatment. Such being the case, we wished sentence to be pronounced.

"We lived with condemned criminals in the same hall, so we knew their movements very clearly. They were truly worthy of being called Japanese soldiers and I felt the strength of the future reconstructed Japan in them. Seeing our sad faces, they asked us to laugh and die with smiling faces. Thinking of these people or those who died gloriously in the battlefield, we must be proud of being Japanese.

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JP/TOK/44602

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: HASHIDA Mikio **LIST:** c/o The Civil Persons' Group, Japanese Camp, Soerabaya, Java	**TO:** MORIOKA Shigenao **LIST:** c/o Okukamogawa Primary School Ushirogawa-mura, Hata-gun, Kochi-ken, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: **STA LOCAL:** CIS/OP/CH DS WDI	**Date of Commun:** None	**Dispos of Commun:** Passed	**Eval-Alloc:** 100-202-2-4
	Type of Commun: Postcard	**Language:** Japanese	**Prev. Records:** None
	Prep. date: 31 Jan 47	**Comment by:** P49 J-3696	

RECEIVED FEB 7 1947

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: HEALTH OF JAPANESE IN JAVA

Writer states:

"To make matters worse, our ration of staple food has been reduced from eight (8) ounces to three (3) since last week, so our already exhausted physique is now in the bottom of fatigue.

"Therefore, malignant epidemics are very prevalent and many of us die of them one after another."

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JT/NAG/16167

CONFIDENTIAL

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
FUJIMOTO Sumie 藤本すみ衣、 Udain, Higashi-muge-mura, Nugi-gun, Gifu-ken, (Japan)	FUJIMOTO Tazu 藤本たづ、 c/o YAMASAKI Umeno 57, 2-chome, Daikai-cho, Fukushima-ku, Osaka-shi, (Osaka-fu, Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:	STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/NEA CIS/OP DS WDI ATIS	5 AF A-2	18 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-4
		Type of Commun: letter	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None
		Prep. date: 23 Jan 47	Comment by: J-488	

RECEIVED FEB 7 1947

PRISONERS OF WAR:

COMMENT

TREATMENT OF JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR AT CHITA, SIBERIA

Writer states:

"According to Hideo, who returned home in good health on 17 Jan, the Japanese soldiers are winning the respect of all Soviet soldiers. For instance, if a Soviet soldier beats a Japanese soldier by mistake, he will be strictly punished. Hideo was interned at Chita in Siberia, where he was reduced to a skeleton on account of lack of food in Jan. 1946. In July 1946 he was sent to Korea, where sufficient food was supplied to him."

Inclosures: 2 letters

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CONFIDENTIAL

JP/MAC/16013

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
SHIBATA Shiro 柴田 [illegible] c/o No.110, City Abode, 6, Minamisotobori-cho, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi, (Aichi-ken, Japan)		OSHIRO Kango 大城貫吾 Uryuno, Shuzenji-machi, Takata-gun, Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)	

DISTRIBUTION:	STAFF:	LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/NEA CIS/OP/CR DS LS IPS WDI			19 Jan 47	Passed	202-1-31 ( )Amd ( )Coun (✓)Exec ( )Admn
			Type of Commun: Letter	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None ( )Dise ( )La ( )A-Ln (✓)Addy ( )Sbid ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )File
			Prep. date: 28 Jan 47	Comment by: P-3 J-2625	

RECEIVED FEB 5 1947

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: FORMER P.O.W. DESCRIBES TREATMENT IN AND LOCATION OF CAMPS IN RUSSIAN CONTROLLED TERRITORY

Writer, an ex-soldier repatriated from a Russian controlled area, states:

"After the termination of the war, we members of the detachment of ex-5,737 unit, went to Tungkingchan (东京城) (middle point between Mutanchiang (牡丹江) and Tumen) to be disarmed by the Russian Forces and then went to Mutanchiang on foot. Then we went to Pogranichinaga (Suifengho) - Nikolsk - Khabarousk by train and arrived at Komsomolisk on 27 or 28 September 1945. We were imprisoned in the 8th camp in the suburbs of the town, and there we engaged in farming and felling trees. 10 out of the 600 prisoners belonged to the former 5737 unit. Last June we left there and went to Seishin, North Korea by vessel via Poshet. The reason for our transfer seemed to be that they wanted to give treatment to sick and disabled men. There were 50,000 ex-soldiers who had been gathered from every part of Siberia. Our job there was to gather firewood for cooking. It was not heavy work. The Russian treatment of us improved. Finally after we left all the prisoners in Komoyama camp except some seriously ill patients were set free. I surpose your son keeps his health, so don't worry about him. I can tell that he already has been to another point (Konan, Genzan or Heijch, Chinnanpoh district). As Russian authorities announced Japanese internees have been released in November last year, I am sure that he will be returned to his home by May or June this year."

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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Tmh

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JF/TOK/43541

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM:	LIST:	TO:	LIST:
SEE COMMENT		SEE COMMENT	

DISTRIBUTION:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
STA LOCAL:	Various	Passed	202 - 2 - 3
GB/NEA GC CIS/OP/CH DS PH ATIS WDI	Type of Commun: Postcards	Language: Japanese	Prev. Records: None relevant
RECEIVED FEB 5 1947	Prep. date: 30 Jan 47	Comment by: Various	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: GENERAL LIVING CONDITIONS

CAMP 4, USSR MORE HUMANE AND GENTLEMANLY THAN EXPECTED

Postmark: 26 December 1946

FROM:
ONO Tsutomu
POB 4-3,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
ONO Shigeru
1109, Imaizumi-cho,
Isezaki-shi,
Gumma-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"The treatment accorded us by the Soviet Union is more humane and more gentlemanly than we had expected. We are daily attending to our duty with pleasure."

Comment by (P57 J-93 TOS)

WAR PRISONER FARMING IN U.S.S.R.

Postmark: 2 December 1946

FROM:
HAYASHI Jyuntaro
Post-box No.4/2,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
HAYASHI Fukuzo
258, Aza-imazu,
Imazu-machi, Shimoge-
gun, Oita-ken, (Japan)

- 1 - (Continued)

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Writer states:

".....Don't be anxious about me, because I have become a farmer here, cultivating cabbages, potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, etc, and, therefore, I am never short of food, housing, and clothing....."

Comment by (P53 J-2124)

ENTERTAINMENT FOR DEMOCRATIZATION

Date:Illegible
FROM:
KADOTA Terutake
Vladivostok,
P.O.Box 4/1,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
SAKAMOTO Chieko
Imaizumi, Shirakata-mura,
Iwase-gun, Fukushima-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"Everyday I lecture or write novels and dramas for the purpose of democratizing my comrades. Being treated warmly by Russsians,I feel very happy."

FROM:
SAWAI Sueo
Vladivostok,
P.O.Box 4/1,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
SAWAI Shoichi
259, Sugigase, Kanno-mura,
Shiso-gun, Hyogo-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"In our prison a performance section has been formed, and we have entertainments twice a month."

Comments by (P58 J-2086)

THANKS EXPRESSED FOR COMMUNIST FAVORS

Postmark: 20 Dec 1946
FROM:
KAMIYA Haruyoshi
U.S.S.R. Vladivostok City,
Post Office, Post Box
4/3

TO:
KAMIYA Matsue
Kushibu, Takahama,
Takahama-cho,
Hekikai-gun, Aichi-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"Please be easy as I am very well now. This is entirely due to the favors of communism. Should we happen to be ill, they take such good care of us that we can trust them implicitly."

Comment by (P53 J-2124)

WORK, ENTERTAINMENT AND FOOD

Postmark: ? December 1946
FROM:
TAKINO Shigeru
4/2 P.O.Box,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
TAKINO Shinjiro
2, Ehiekami 4-chome,
Fukushima-ku,
Osaka-shi, (Japan)

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"I am working with a sewing-rachine."

Postmark: ? December 1946
FROM:
SHIRASAWA Masao
4/2, P.O.Box,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
SHIRASAWA Matsuzo
Kamiuekihon-cho,
Isezaki-shi,
Gumma-ken, (Japan)

"On every holiday, we have an entertainment."

Postmark: ? December 1946
FROM:
SUGAWARA Saburo
4/2, P.O.Box,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
SUGAWARA Yae
Tokotan, Bekkai-mura,
Konotsuke-gun,
Nemuro, Hokkaido,
(Japan)

"Lately, I have become accustomed to a bread diet."

Postmark: 2 December 1946
FROM:
IKEDA Zenjiro
P.O.Box,
4-1, Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
IKEDA Saburo
6, 7-chome, Kishiku,
Urawa-shi, Saitama-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"My recent work is to write dramas to be played by soldiers."

Comment by (P61 J-3785)

WORK AND ENTERTAINMENT

Date:Illegible
FROM:
SUGI Setuji
4/2, P.O.B.,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
SUGI Senzo
Sukeda-machi,
Kaigan-dori 2-chome,
Nishi-ku, Ube-shi,
Yamaguchi-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"Now, I am engaged in mending shoes for soldiers. Sometimes we see Russian motion pictures, but I am not interested in them, because I don't understand the Russian language."

Examiner's Note: Similar information is contained in a postcard from WATANABE Takazo, of the same camp, to WATANABE Eishiro, 45, Kitameyadomae, Nedeshima-mura, Natori-gun, Miyagi-ken, (Japan)

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Confidential

OFFICE WORK ASSIGNED JAPANESE;
ONCE-A-MONTH COMMUNICATION

Postmark: Illegible
FROM:
MORITA Chikamitsu
4/5, P.O.Box,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
MORITA Kikuno
Akigake, Akinaka-mura,
Kuga-gun, Yamaguchi-
ken, Japan

"I am now in a town and working in an office."

Postmark: Illegible
FROM:
MORITA Tamotsu
4/5, P.O.Box,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
MORITA Masa
Higashi-kanada,
Kanada-machi, Takawa-gun,
Fukuoka-ken, Japan

"I was permitted to write home once a month."

POW'S RECEIVE NO NEWS OF JAPAN

Postmark: 26 December 1946
FROM:
MATSUMOTO Hiroshi
P.O.B. 4/3,
Post-office, Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
MATSUMOTO Koichi
Ko-2, Shichiken-cho,
Tsuruoka-shi,
Yamagata-ken, (Japan)

"We have no means to know the post-war conditions in Japan proper."

PLEASANT WORK

FROM:
YOSHIMURA Kaoru
P.O.B. 4/3,
Post-office,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
YOSHIMURA Tomoyoshi
37, Arakishindenototoi,
Nishinomiya-shi,
Hyogo-ken, (Japan)

"Lately I am engaged in transportation by horses. It is pleasant work."

Comments by (P57 J-93 TOS)

WORKING HOURS AND FOOD AT POW CAMP

Postmark: Illegible
FROM:
KOIZUMI Nobuei
P.O.Box 4/2,
Vladivostok,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
KOIZUMI Toshinobu
18, 2-chome, Kaname-cho,
Toshima-ku, Tokyo-to,
Japan

Writer states:

"I have been working from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and we are supplied with meals of cereals, soup, and a piece of

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bread three times a day."

MENDING CLOTHING IN RUSSIAN CAMP

27 October 1946
FROM:
KOTANI Tokutaro
P.O.X. 4/1,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
KOTANI Iwamatsu
1, 3-chome, Chogatai-machi, Hakodate-shi,
Hokkaido, (Japan)

Writer states:

"I am now engaged in mending clothing on the sewing-machine. As we have become accustomed to bread and soup which is supplied three times a day, we are now growing fat."

Comments by (P63 J-3787 TOS)

LABOR

ENGAGED IN RUSSIAN RECONSTRUCTION PLAN

Postmark: 31 December 1946
FROM:
KOYANAGI Kazuo
USSR, Vladivostok City
Post Office, P.O.Box
4/4

TO:
OYANOGI Toshio
485 Jojo, Kamo-machi,
Minamikambara-gun,
Niigata-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

".....I am working for the Russian Five-Year Reconstruction plan and my repatriation will naturally be two (2) or three (3) years later....."

Comment by (P53 J-2124 TOS)

TYPES OF WORK AT 4/2

Postmark: Illegible
FROM:
UENO Tetsuo
P.O.B. 4/2,
Vladivostok
Post-office,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
UENO Kumeko
Ko-2, Baba-cho,
Tsuruoka-shi,
Yamagata-ken,
(Japan)

"I am now working as a doctor."

Examiner's Note: Similar information is contained in a postcard from KOSUGI Kiyoshi, the same camp, to KOSUGI Heizaburo, 6, Nishi-machi, Isezaki-shi, Gumma-ken, Japan.

Postmark: 3 December 1946
FROM:
UENO Tamotsu
P.O.B. 4/2, Vladivostok
Post-office, U.S.S.R.

TO:
UENO Mitsunosuke
6, Kamiyokosaka, Aza Shimo,
Chii-mura, Kitakuweda-gun,
Kyoto-fu, Japan

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"We are now engaged in agriculture with Russians."

Postmark: 3 December 1946
FROM:
KOIKE Shimpei
P.O.B. 4/2, Vladivostok
Post-office, U.S.S.R.

TO:
KOIKE Kinnosuke
c/o SUZUKI Yoji
Aza Yachi, Kitaura-mura,
Toda-gun, Miyagi-ken,
Japan

"I am now working as a waiter in a certain restaurant."

Commentsby (P57 J-93)

WORKING AS CARPENTER IN SIBERIA

Postmark: Illegible
FROM:
HIROHATARI Takeo
U.S.S.R. Vladivostok
Post-office, Box. No.4/1

TO:
HIROHATARI Takichi
Fukuma-machi,
Munakata-gun,
Fukuoka-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

".....I have daily been working with hammer and plane as cheerfully as I used to with you all at home....."

INTERNEES WORK AS RAILROAD COOLIES IN SIBERIA; FOOD SUPPLY RATHER GOOD

Postmark: 2 December 1946
FROM:
OGAWA Tomekichi
U.S.S.R. Vladivostok City
Post-office, Postal
Box No.4/2, (U.S.S.R.)

TO:
OGAWA Yoshitaro
3630, Obanasawa-machi,
Kita-murayama-gun,
Yamagata-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"....."We had once engaged in farming, but have now been working as railroad coolies and each of us are supplied with a day's meal of six hundred and fifty (650) grams of bread and about two (2) go of Kaoliang....."

Examiner's Note: 1 go =0.317 pint

Comments by (P53 J-2124)

POW'S DOING PUBLIC WORKS.

Postmark: 26 December 1946
FROM:
TOMITA Shigeo
c/o P.O.Box 4-3, Vladivostok
Post Office, U.S.S.R.

TO:
TOMITA Shintaro
353, Asahi-cho,
Numazu-shi,
Shizuoka-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"I am engaged in public works the whole day everyday.

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The temperative here will soon drop to 40-50 below zero.

"Electricity is not available here so I am writing this letter to you by dim lamplight."

Comment by (P60 J-1 TOS)

HARD WORK IN SIBERIA

30 October 1946
FROM:
HASHIMOTO Akiyoshi
C.C.C.P.(U.S.S.R.)
Pop. City, Bragu-
boctok (Vladivostok),
Tiormanu (Pochtamp)
n/a (p/n) 4/8,
(U.S.S.R.)

TO:
JINUSHI Seizo
1, 569, Kannawa-Onsen,
Beppu-shi, Oita-ken,
Japan

Writer states:

"Our present work is harder than that of coolies, and besides, the severe cold here is almost unbearable."

Comment by (P53 J-2124) EDUCATION

STUDYING POLITICS IN CAMP LIFF

Postmark: 2 December 1946
FROM:
FUKUOKA Masajiro
U.S.S.R. Vladivostok,
P.O.Box 4/1

TO:
FUKUOKA Asano
3/1900 Yashiro-machi,
Hanishina-gun,
Nagano-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

".....Thanks to the courtesy of the Soviet Authorities, we have been specially allowed to read Japanese papers, whereby we know something about our homeland. I am now making a thorough study of politics in preparation of the time of our release."

STUDYING FARMERS' DEMOCRACY IN RUSSIA

Postmark: 31 December 1946
FROM:
SAITO Tadaon
U.S.S.R. Vladivostok City
Central Post-office,
P.O.Box 4/1

TO:
SAITO Chuemon
13, Yamanokami, Horita-
mura, Minami-murayama-gun,
Yamagata-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

".....Now I am spending joyous days with full hope for our repatriation. The Soviet authorities are kind enough to enlighten us upon the problem of how the farmers must realize their democracy."

Comments by (P53 J-2124)

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JP/TOK/43541

ATTITUDES TOWARDS RUSSIA

Date: Illegible
FROM:
YAMAMOTO Masaki
P.O Box 4/4,
Vladivostok Post office,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
YAMAMOTO Matazo
Kitatagata, Kawasaki-mura,
Yame-gun, Fukuoka-ken,
(Japan)

The Soviet Union is democratic and there are many things here which we cannot expect to see in Japan. We have much to learn from the Soviets. I shall return home after studying hard.

Comment by (P54 J-1364)

Postmark: 3 December 1946
FROM:
MITSUMOPI Kenzo
P.O.X. #4/1,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
GOTO Takeshi
c/o TSUJI
Okeya-cho, Honjyo-machi,
Akita-ken, (Japan)

"People of U.S.S.R. do not make light of us as people of a defeated country. People in this country do not have racial discrimination. I think this is the best characteristic in this country."

Comment by (P63 J-3787)

INTERNEE ADMIRES RUSSIAN STATE

25 December 1946
FROM:
SHIGEHIRO Motoichi
U.S.S.R. Vladivostok
City Post-office,
Post-Box 4/3

TO:
SHIGEHIRO Misao
c/o DOI
Kurosaki-machi,
Isahaya-shi, Nagasaki-
ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

".....Now, I am intently investigating the state of an advanced country in order to prepare the ground for my future task of building up a 'New Japan'. When I go back home, I will work hard to promote the welfare of all laborers. In these unusual times I believe, even women should thoroughly study how to live in the new world.... "

JAPANESE FIND RUSSIANS VERY KIND TO THEM

Postmark: 2 December 1946
FROM:
UCHIDA Shoichiro
U.S.S.R., Vladivostok
city, Pochtamt,
Pochitoroi, Yashichik,
4/2

TO:
UCHIDA Takejiro
Shimoya, Fudooka-machi,
Kitasaitama-gun, Saitama-
ken, Japan

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Writer states:

"I was surprised and delighted that the Russian people, disregarding racial differences, unlike the the narrow-minded Japanese, are very kind to us Japanese prisoners of war."

Examiner's Note; Two similar post cards were written from the same camp.

MORALE

MASSES MUST UNITE AND FIGHT FOR DEMOCRATIZATION OF JAPAN

26 December 1946

FROM:
KUROSAWA Kinya
Post Box No.4/5,
Vladivostok Post-office,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
OSATO Tonimasa
Kawaranoyu, Oyu-machi,
Kazuno-gun, Akita-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"I was dead and am born again. I only pray for the democratization and salvation of Japan. I hope that a people's government will be established and a people's parliament opened quickly.

"Workers in our homeland. fight to the last with a firm unity and iron will. I am now in the Soviet Union. My heart leaps up when I think of the present conditions of my fatherland. My fighting spirit burns like fire.

"Comrades, I am now trying to grasp the real substance of labor and am studying the true aspect of democracy. In the meanwhile, I shall go back to my fatherland, whose destiny to rise or fall now hangs in the balance, and shall devote myself to the building up of a democratic Japan. My prayer is profound and my pledge is firm. Success or failure of our task depends upon the depth and extent of unity of the masses. Glory be to our fatherland, Japan!"

Comments by (P53 J-2124)

REALIZATION OF CAUSE OF DOWNFALL WILL SPUR MASSES TO DEMOCRATIC ACTIVITIES

Postmark: 2 December 1946

FROM:
TANAKA Kiyoshi
P.O.Box 4/1,
Central Post Office,
Vladivostok, U.S.S.R.

TO:
TANAKA Shintaro
73, Nishi-9, Azuma-cho,
Mukojima-ku, Tokyo-to,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"These two years following the surrender of Japan have surely been a time of a pronounced and never-to-be-forgotten change in ideas of the Japanese people, especially of those in army life. The realization, that the past innumerable contradictions underlying the imperialistic policy of Japan, was the cause of this will stimulate you laborers and farmers to significant democratic activities."

Comments by (P53 J-2124)

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Postmark: 26 December 1946

FROM:
TASHIRO Shinichiro
U.S.S.R., Vladivostok
City Post-office,
Post-Box 4/3

TO:
TASHIRO Masataro
977, Jutte, Yasukawa-
mura, Asakura-gun,
Fukuoka-ken, (Japan)

"Although it may be my destiny, how wretched I am to have to live in a foreign land under circumstances most humiliating to a man."

Comment by (P53 J-2124)

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The

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JP/TOK/43509

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
EASTERN DEMOBILIZATION LIAISON BUREAU, Sendai Branch (Miyagi-ken, Japan)	FIRST DEMOBILIZATION BOARD. Ichigaya, Ushigome-ku, Tokyo-to, (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:

GB/NEA
CIS/OP/CH
DS
LS
IPS
WDI

RECEIVED FEB 5 1947

Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
11 Jan 47	Passed	2021-1-31
Type of Commun:	**Language:**	**Prev. Records:**
Letter	Japanese	None relevent
Prep. date:	**Comment by:**	
29 Jan 47	PO J-1520 TCS	

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: TREATMENT RECEIVED BY JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR IN RUSSIA

Writer submits a report on the treatment received by Japanese prisoners of war in Siberia, based on information obtained from three Japanese soldiers who were repatriated in Dec 46.

Units:

37574th Independent Mixed Unit:

About 20,000 men, including 2,000 of YASHIMA Volunteer Unit, commanded by Major-General TSUCHIYA, left Sanshimpu on 12 Sep 45 and was sent to Blogonesehohensk where it was reorganized into fatigue companies, which were sent to various districts to engage in sundry tasks.

25th Infantry Regiment:

The commander having been taken away, 2,000 men, including other small units, headed by Major HARAGUCHI, were sent from Sakhalin to Nakhodoka in the Maritime Province, where the regiment was divided into work units, each numbering 500-600, and sent to various districts. One unit was sent to a mountainous district about 150 kilometers (Ex: 1 kilometer = 0.6213 miles) from Riman, where it engaged in logging.

 (Continued)

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88th Transport Regiment ('KANAME' 22956 Unit):
About 2,000 men of the unit commanded by Major YAMAKUNI Haru, were disarmed at Ochiai and taken into a concentration camp, where they found several hundreds soldiers of other units. In the early part of Nov 45 the unit was sent to Nakhodoka, where it was organized into work units, each consisting of 100-150 men. 5,000-6,000 Japanese soldiers from Kurile Islands, Manchuria and Northn. Korea were also interned at Nakhodoka.

Labor:
Blagonesehchensk:
Each fatigue company consisted of about 20 including officers. Under the supervision of 20-30 Soviet soldiers commanded by one officer, they engaged in transportation of food stuffs and logs and also worked in saw-mills and at road construction. Technicians were better treated, being assigned to technical work at electric power generating plants or flow mills.

Riman area:
POWs were forced to work 8-12 hours under the surveillance of Russian soldiers. The work consisted of logging and rafting of logs, and at some localities they were assigned to coal mining , wood working and farming.

Nakhodoka:
All the work units worked in construction work-probably of a naval base. Though they worked 8 hours a day, at times they had to work at night.

Treatment:
Blagonesehchensk:
The menu itself was good, but the actual quality of the food was bad. Japanese were given three meals a day, but for breakfast and supper they were given tea and left-over rice. Lunch consisted of 150 momme (Ex: 1 momme = 0.1323 ozs) of staple food, which was either millet, maige or brown bread, and there were neither side-dishes nor vegetables to speak of. As for clothing, each Japanese was allowed to keep two blankets and one suit with no new issue or exchange. Russian soldiers never resorted to violence, and using force among Japanese was also strictly prohibited. Working hours were not uniform. Sometimes Japanese were exploited in labor from early morning till dark without additional food which caused death to several prisoners. One group never remained at one locality for a longtime, shifting once every 10-30 days. Personnel in a group were also shifted to other groups from time to time in order to prevent unity among prisoners in one group.

Riman area:
Treatment was generally good and there was no mal-treatment. Japanese officers were treated differently from enlisted men (food, task, inspection, etc). Officers were usually assigned to supervision of soldiers. Food was good in general. Breakfast and lunch were served with rice, wheat, millet, maige, etc.(Rice was seldom given).

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For supper brown bread was served. The ration per day totaled 800 grams. (Ex: 1 gram = 0.03527 ozs) No vegetables. Each person was allowed to keep one blanket and one uniform.

Nakhodoka:

Treatment generally satisfactory. No mal-treatment. Russian soldiers were kind in general. They warned Japanese not to resort to private punishment among themselves. Food, given three times a day, consisted of 350 grams of brown bread and 300 grams of rice (or rice being seldom given, millet, wheat or maize). No extra clothing was issued beside the uniforms worn by individuals, one blanket and some mattresses. However in the cold season the internees did not suffer from cold, as the heating system was satisfactory.

Propaganda and education:

As Russian guards were merely supervisors of the prisoners, it appeared that they did not give special education to Japanese. In Riman area a Japanese newspaper, edited by Japanese, was distributed, stressing on the strong points of communism and criticizing imperialism, capitalism and the Tenno System, to which no one paid much attention, as the Japanese had witnessed part of the actual condition of Russian soldiers; instead, they felt antipathy against it.

Inclosures: 2

1 report on conditions of Russian Army in Siberia
1 report on treatment of Japanese internees in Siberia

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Tkd

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JP/TOK/44579

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT

CIS-OMIS-GHQ SCAP
APO 500

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FROM: LIST:	TO: LIST:
YAMAGATA PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT, Chief of Police Department (Yamagata-ken, Japan)	HOME MINISTRY, Police Bureau, Chief of Public Peace 1st Section (Tokyo-to, Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:
STA LOCAL:

CIS/OP/CH
DS
WDI

RECEIVED FEB 6 1947

Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:	Prev. Records:
13 Jan 47	Passed	202-2-3	None relevant
Type of Commun:	**Language:**		
Letter	Japanese		
Prep. date:	**Comment by:**		
30 Jan 47	P O J-1318		

( )Amd
( )Coun
( )Exec
( ) dmn
( )Dise
( )Le
( )A-Ln
(X)Addy
( )Sbid

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: REPATRIATES FROM SOVIET TERRITORIES TELL TREATMENT

Writer, enclosing a report on the first repatriates to return from Soviet territories, who arrived in Yamagata Prefecture in Dec 46, quotes the following men on the treatment they received as follows:

KAMADA Motoe 37, former army surgeon captain
Itsuka-cho, Tsuruoka City

"The Soviet Army exempted officers from labor, and supplied them with rations different from ordinary soldiers'. The Soviets assumed a cautious attitude in their post war ideology policy and wisely refrained from forcing Communism on us. Soviet American relations were frequently reported by newspapers and radio and the American policy was often vigorously attacked with such headlines as:

'The Soviet Union will persist in fighting it out to secure international peace.'

'Garrisoning of the Allied (meaning American) Armed Forces in violation of the sovereignty of a non-enemy country.'"

OKIDA Junichi 26, former corporal
Akayu-cho, Higashi-oki-gun

2148

- 1 - (Continued)

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"Non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Soviet Army came frequently to our camp, and, as if we were being given an oral examination, asked all of us for our opinions on the Tenno System, political parties and farm-labor problems. Whenever they thought we lacked conviction on a certain question, they would keep on asking the same question, and always end by asking us to become Communists, saying,

'If you become Communists, we will send you to a school in Moscow. When you are graduated and return to Japan, You will be able to belong to the ruling class there'."

KATO Yasuji 26, former leading private
Kashima-cho, Tsuruoka City

"The Soviet authorities emphasized the 8 hour a day working system, but they rarely practised it. Sometimes, in the evenings, lecture and discussion meetings were held, presided by Captain ANTONOV and an interpreter. On one occasion, the Captain said:

'1. Why did the Soviets declare war against Japan?
As the collapse of Japan was imminent due to the long protracted war with America, the Soviets tried to hasten the end of hostilities by declaring war against Japan in order to save her from total destruction and liberate the people who had been oppressed by the militarists.'

'2. The United States does not recognize China as an independent country, and by stationing troops in China She is aggravating the civil war in China.

"When leaving for Japan, we were forced to write letters of thanks to the guard commander of the Maoka Internment Camp. Furthermore, the commander gave us the following instructions just before we embarked.

'Japan's democratization will never be realized under the administration of the YOSHIDA Cabinet, which protects capitalists, suppresses the legitimate demands of workers, and torments the public with vicious inflation. Only the Japan Communist Party can save the Japanese nation from its present crisis. In the end, we were obliged to shout three times 'Hail STALIN'."

SUZUKI Sadao 25, Kanai-mura, Minami-murayama-gun

"Twice a month during our internment, Soviet officers told us of conditions in Japan-proper. 'SHIN SEIMEI' (New Life), a Japanese language newspaper, carried the following article:

'Japan's Tenno is nothing but an ordinary citizen. General MACARTHUR's policy is not good, being based on too much Americanism, which represents the policy of protecting capitalists and landlords. Though he is trying to enforce land reform, he will never be able to carry it out successfully.'"

KIYONO Minoru 19, Izumi-cho, Tsuruoka-shi

"The war's end came when I was a middle school student. The school, which had been closed once, was reopened by order of the Soviet authorities; all subjects, except history and geography, were taught. Soviet officers occasionally came for inspection to this post-war school and spoke about the 'October Revolution' and made other special lectures, at the end of which they always made us shout 'Heil STALIN'.

"When I once asked a Soviet official to let us repatriate to Japan as soon as possible, he replied:

'The Soviet has made a series of protests to the United States, demanding the sending of repatriation ships.

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However, they are purposely delaying it, so that the Japanese will harbor ill feelings toward the Soviet Union.'"

Inclosures: 2
1 report on repatriates
1 report on a minor criminal affair

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Tck

JP/TOK/43540

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS — MIS — GHQ — SCAP
APO 500

FROM: SEE COMMENT	LIST:	TO: SEE COMMENT	LIST:

DISTRIBUTION: STA LOCAL:	Date of Commun:	Dispos of Commun:	Eval-Alloc:
GB/NEA GC CIS/OP/CH DS PH ATIS WDI	Various	Passed	202 - 2 - 2
	Type of Commun:	Language:	Prev. Records:
	Postcard	Japanese	None relevant
	Prep. date:	Comment by:	
	30 Jan 47	Various IOS	

RECEIVED FEB 6 1947

COMMENT

PRISONERS OF WAR: GENERAL LIVING CONDITIONS

CAMP 5, USSR

CONFLICTING REPORTS ON KIND OF TREATMENT RELAIVED AT SAME CAMP

FROM: HANADA Masaru
0.5/11, USSR

TO: HANADA Masaya
Wakimoto, Shigetomi-mura, Aira-gun,
Kagoshima-ken, Japan

Date of Com.
Postmark
3 Dec 46

Writer states:

"With all our belongings and clothes confiscated, we are made to work from early morning till late at night without enough food rationed."

FROM: OTSUKA Tekeo
0.5/11, USSR

TO: OTSUKA Torahachi
539, Kamo-mura,
Miyoshi-gun,
Tokushima-ken, (Japan)

Date of Com.
21 Dec 46

(Continued)

NOTICE: Distribution of the information contained in this document obtained from private communication will be confined solely to those officials military and /or civilian who are specifically authorized to receive such information.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Writer states:

"The Russians are kind and the ration of food and clothing is sufficient. The medical institution is well-equipped. I am working in high spirits eagerly waiting for the day of repatriation."

Examiner's Note: Similar information is on 3 other postcards from the same camp.

CONTRADICTORY COMMENTS ON CONDITIONS IN A CAMP

FROM:
SENOO Takeo
CCCP 05-7

TO:
SENOO Kisaburo
Fukurotappu,
Shinshinotsu-mura,
Ishikari-gun,
Hokkaido, (Japan)

Date and Type of Communication:
Postmark:
2 Dec 46
Postcard

Writer states:

"Please don't worry about me as I am sufficiently supplied with clothing and food."

FROM:
KITAHARA Kuniyoshi
CCCP 05-7

TO:
KITAHARA Tamiko
43, Yoka-machi,
Kofu-shi, Yama-
nashi-ken, (Japan)

Date and Type of Communication:
Postmark:
Illegible
Postcard

Writer states:

"I ask passers-by for a half-smoked cigarette or pick up food lying on the street. Beggars in Japan can eat more varieties of food than we receive."

FOOD SITUATION IMPROVED; SEASONAL WORK ASSIGNED JAPANESE

Postmark: Illegible

FROM:
AKIYAMA Shigeru
c/o Post Box 05-15,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
AKIYAMA Toku
Shimoimayama, Kitano-
machi, Mitsui-gun,
Fukuoka-ken, (Japan)

Writer states:

"In winter we were engaged in lumbering and in spring in planting potatoes, etc. Our food was improved and we are working in good health."

Examiner's Note: There are two similiar comments with the same return address

(Continued)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

CAMP WELL EQUIPPED WITH FACILITIES

7 Nov 46

FROM:
KIKUCHI Tsugio
c/o Post Box 05-15,
U.S.S.R.

TO:
KIKUCHI Hiroshi
Shigaichi, Mukawa-mura,
Yufutsu-gun, Iburi-kuni,
Hokkaido, (Japan)

Writer states:

"Though it is cold in Siberia, our room is equipped with a water supply system, steam-heaters, and electric lamps. Today is our pleasant Sunday. We took a bath, and are playing Mah Jongg and such games."

CONDITIONS GOOD AT PRESENT, GREAT IMPROVEMENT OBSERVED

Postmark: 4 Dec 46

FROM:
KANEKO Hisao
Post Box 05-11
U.S.S.R.

TO:
KANEKO Masaichi
Fukino, Kibe-mura,
Kaashi-gun, Shimane-ken,
Japan

Writer states:

"We moved from Manchuria to Kanko in North Korea in August last year. Hearing of the end of the war just then, we gathered at Fukyo. We left there on 7th of October by the order of the commander, and landed at Vladivostok. On the 16th we arrived at the above address.

"Our unit strength is five hundred (500) and we have been engaged in labor under miserable conditions with poor provisions.

"However, since last spring everything has been ameliorated and now we are supplied with rice, wheat, bread, etc."

CONDITIONS GOOD

1 Nov 46

FROM:
SUZUKI Tsuneharu
0.5/11 U.S.S.R.

TO:
SUZUKI Tsunetaro
980, Yahata-machi,
Ichihara-gun, Chiba-ken,
Japan

Writer states:

"We have nothing lacking in food, clothing and housing, and the climate here is not so cold as you may fear.

"The Russians are kind to us with no discrimination of races. In the mountainous region, most of us are engaged in lumbering, but I am now serving as an interpreter."

 (Continued)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Examiner's Note: Six more postcards are from the same camp with similar information.

COMFORTS IN CAMP O55/11

2 Nov 46

FROM:
FUJIMOTO Kazuyoshi
c/o Post Box O.5/11
U.S.S.R.

TO:
FUJIMOTO Masako
Mukaijimahigashi-mura,
Mitsuki-gun, Hiroshima-ken,
Japan

Writer states:

"I can see the Japanese conditions in the newspaper published in Russia. My work is to cut wood. Sunday is a holiday. Baths are provided for us. We can amuse ourselves by singing, reciting the 'Naniwa-bushi' and 'Manzai' (funny stories). We can go to the barbers too."

(Comments by: P59 J-3696)

WINTER CLOTHING SUPPLIED AT CAMP

Postmark: 26 Dec 46

FROM:
KUZUWATA Kinichi
P.O. Box. 5-905
U.S.S.R.

TO:
KUZUWATA Mika
Kamishu, Kamishutani-mura,
Koshi-gun, Niigata-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"Having been supplied with winter clothing, I am living very comfortably."

(Comment by: P62 J-3695)

WORK AND ENTERTAINMENT

FROM:
KUCHIDA Naokichi
No. 5-202, c/oVladivostok
Post Office, U.S.S.R.

TO:
KUCHIDA Yosokichi
Aitaki, Torigoe-mura,
Nomi-gun, Ishikawa-ken,
Japan

Date of Commun:
Postmark:
2 Dec 46

(Continued)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Writer states:

"I am working as an electric worker here."

FROM:
GOTO Noboru
No.5-101,c/o Vladivostok
Post Office, U.S.S.R.

TO:
GOTO Shimi
194, Aza Hashimoto,
Uramatsu, Aomoti-
shi, Aomori-ken,
(Japan)

Date of Commun:
Postmark:
Illegible

Writer states:

"I am leading a delightful life seeing motion pictures and hearing music."

(Comment by: P61 J-3785)

COMPETENT MEDICAL CARE GIVEN

30 Oct 46

FROM:
YAMADA Yoshiaki
0.5/11 U.S.S.R.

TO:
YAMADA Mitsue
Toribuchi, Shimokawaguchi-
mura, Hata-gun, Kochi-ken,
Japan

Writer states:

"I had been suffering from a fever for about two months since this February, but have recovered miraculously owing to the warm treatment of a Russian surgeon. The soldiers of this country are very kind and we are keeping company with them."

(Comment by: P59 J-3696)

LABOR

JAPANESE IN RUSSIA ENGAGE IN LUMBERING
AND LOADING CARS

Postmark: 2 Dec 46

FROM:
SAKODA Yoshiharu
0.5/11 U.S.S.R.

TO:
SAKODA Kiichiro
Shigetome, Hishihari-
machi, Isa-gun, Kagoshima-
ken, Japan

Writer states:

"I am now engaged in lumbering or loading trains and trucks at the stations for eight hours a day."

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

Examiner's Note: Seventeen postcards with similar comments were sent from the same camp.

(Comment by: P59 J-3696)

WORK-FELLING, LOADING TIMBER, SANITARY MEASURES TAKEN

Postmark: Dec 46

FROM:
KONNO Tokichi
c/o Post Box 0.5-11
U.S.S.R.

TO:
KONNO Yasu
Tatsukon-mura,
Kesen-gun, Iwate-ken,
(Japan)

Writer states:

"We live in the mountains of the Coast Province, where we have no wind, but snow, and lead a rather happy life. We, surrounded by mountains, are engaged in deforestation-for timber for construction, and firewood-, building barracks, loading timber on trucks and reloading them on to freight-cars. My work is to apportion the jobs to these workmen. We are allowed to take a bath two or three times a month, and then we can put on washed neat clothes. So, we can keep ourselves clean and free from lice. There is a barber among us and we are forced to cut our hair when it becomes a little long."

CARPENTRY FOR CAMP INMATES

FROM:
SATO Seiichi
Post Box No.5-308,
Vladivostok
Post Office, U.S.S.R.

TO:
SATO Toyosaku
c/o OTANI Hisagoro
Suwa-machi, Amase,
Izumozaki, Santo-gun,
Niigata-ken, (Japan)

Date of Commun:
Postmark:
26 Dec 46

Writer states:

"I am working as a carpenter, as I was one by trade."

Examiner's Note: Similar text found in postcard written by SUZUKI Torao in the same camp.

FROM:
TAKAHASHI Tadao
Post Box No. 5-308,
Vladivostok
Post Office, U.S.S.R.

TO:
TAKAHASHI Kinzo
Aza Ta-machi,
Oaza Kamikomatsu,
Komatsu-machi,
Higashiokitama-
gun, Yamagata-ken,
(Japan)

Date of Commun:
Postmark:
26 Dec 46

(Continued)