

GHQ/SCAP Records (RG 331, National Archives and Records Service)

Description of contents

- (1) Box no. **384C**
- (2) Folder title/number: **(7)**
Background, Various Theaters

(3) Date: **Apr. 1946 - ?**

(4) Subject:

Classification	Type of record
213	d, e, n

(5) Item description and comment:

(6) Reproduction:

Yes

No

(7) Film no.

Sheet no.

(Compiled by *National Diet Library*)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526 SECTION 1.4
REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

MEMORANDUM FOR: Col HOWELL

SUBJECT : Report on Japanese from and in North Korea, Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands.

1. The Soviet authorities have refused to discuss repatriation of Japanese nationals from any of the Russian-held areas except North Korea. Discussions concerning North Korea have been unproductive of results. As a result, the only people that have been repatriated from Russian held areas are those who were able to escape to U.S. or Chinese held areas.

2. a. The Soviets have refused to furnish any information, including statistics, concerning Japanese nationals in the Russian zone. The only exception has been the statement in the 19 June SCAP-Soviet Conference by Mr. Anurov, the Soviet representative, of a round figure of 100,000 as the number of Japanese civilians in North Korea.

b. The best available sources of information indicate there were 232,000 Japanese in Northern Korea, 43,345 in the Kuriles, and 449,000 in Sakhalin. 111,455 Japanese have been repatriated from North Korea via South Korea. No Japanese have been repatriated from the Kuriles and Sakhalin, although some are known to have returned to Japan by devious means. ✓

3. Due to the lack of official information concerning the plight of the Japanese in the Soviet occupied areas, this study is based upon information secured from censored Japanese letters and from interviews with Japanese who have returned from those areas. North Korea, Kurile Islands, and Sakhalin will be taken up separately.

4. North Korea.

After North Korea was over-run by the Soviet troops in August 1945, there was a period when there was no civil or military authority to preserve order. Looting, robbery and rape were done by both Russian soldiers and Koreans¹

Tab
A

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958 SECTION 1.4
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Many Japanese were stripped of wrist-watches, cameras, currency and other valuables.² The degree and duration of these acts appear to vary with each locale.

Upon the restoration of a semblance of order, Japanese nationals were concentrated at KANKYO, GENZAN, KONAN, HEIJO, KENJIHO and KAISHU.³

At KANKYO and KONAN both Russians and Koreans were especially violent. Japanese women were violated before their own families, while Russian and Koreans threatened on-lookers with pistols.⁴ Looting and rapings by Russian soldiers continued until early spring.⁵ The women had to cut their hair and disguise themselves as men.⁶ When Japanese went on the streets, for their own safety, they had to wear Korean clothes and speak Korean.⁷

In the Genzan area, the attitude of the Soviets toward the Japanese was better than that in the north.⁴ In the heavily populated areas, such as Heijo, the Soviets did not persecute the Japanese.⁸ In some instances, Japanese reported they were treated better than the Koreans.⁹ The treatment of the Japanese by the Koreans varied from oppression and beatings to mere haughtiness.¹⁰

Order was gradually restored throughout most of Korea, and the Russian treatment of the Japanese improved. In some areas, public peace was restored and the Japanese nationals were safe, except for robbery of items such as Kimonos.^{12.}

Living conditions varied, depending upon the locale and the status of the individual repatriates. Some lived in warehouses without adequate clothes, food or heating facilities.¹³ Others, such as physicians, engineers and technical experts fared much better, and were "strongly requested" to remain by the Soviets.¹⁴

Although many Japanese were able to earn enough money to buy food,¹⁵ it appears that the majority of the Japanese were forced to sell their personal belongings to buy food.¹⁶ This was necessitated by the non-existence or break down of rationing systems to provide food for the Japanese.¹⁷ In many instances

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food was easily purchased, but due to the inflated prices, many Japanese
did not have enough personal belongings to sell to adequately feed themselves. 18

As a result of malnutrition, inadequate living conditions, and lack of medical
supplies and facilities, Epidemics of eruptive typhus and typhoid killed many of the
Japanese. 19 The Soviets admitted some sick Japanese in their hospitals, 20
but these instances appear to be rare. It was reported that out of 50,000
internees, at KANKYO, 20,000 died during the 6 months period from fall of 1945
to spring 1946. 21 Of this number 80% were children. 22

During the early part of the Russian occupation, the Soviet authorities
overlooked Japanese escaping into Southern Korea. Many Japanese were given travel
certificates under the tacit permission of the Soviets. 23 However, in February
1946, controls were tightened and by April, the only way the Japanese could get
across the border was with the aid of Japanese communists along the border. 24
It cost each escapee from ¥600 to ¥1000 for provisions, lodgings, guide fees,
etc.

Many Japanese have been taken to Russian territory, both forcibly and through
recruiting campaigns. 25 For many Japanese, the only way to avoid starvation was
to go to Siberia or to Karafuto to work in crab-canning ships. 26 The number
of Japanese so removed is not known, but it is believed to be considerable, since
4,000 left from one community. 26

The fate of the Japanese army in Korea is obscure. Some deserted prior to being
taken prisoner. 27 Others were demobilized and then drafted for service in the Soviet
Army. 28 It is believed most were taken to Russian territory. 29

5. Kurile Islands

There is little information concerning Japanese in the Kurile Islands.
One individual, who escaped back to Japan, stated most of the Japanese troops were
sent to Vladivostok. Those remaining are working for Russian occupation troops. 30

6. Sakhalin.

Conditions in Sakhalin, insofar as living conditions of the Japanese are concerned, seem to be better than in Korea. When the Soviet troops first arrived, there were many cases of looting, robbery, rape, etc.,³¹ but by February 1946, the civil peace had been restored.³²

During the first months of the Russian occupation, the food situation was good. However, due to damage, spoilage, and poor rationing controls, the food situation was critical by March 1946.³² Prices inflated and black market activities increased. Accounts were frozen so that the people had to sell their clothing, usually to Soviet soldiers, in order to get money for food. As a result, there is a clothing shortage in Sakhalin.³³

Most of the Japanese seem to be desirous of repatriation.³⁴ Since there is no organized repatriation, many are trying to escape in small boats. However, navigation of ferry boats and other ships was prohibited on 23 August.³³

~~However,~~ Attempts to escape were extensive enough that the Soviets began searching for fugitives, using planes and dropping flares. Any ships sighted were machine-gunned by the planes. It was reported that only 10-20% of the ships that tried to escape the blockade made it.³⁵

There were about 20,000 soldiers in Sakhalin.³³ Most of them have been transported to Northern Sakhalin and Siberia.³⁴

7. Conclusions:

a. The number of Japanese, both civilian and military, in Russian areas is not known. Similarly, the number of Japanese transported to Russian territory is not known, but appears to be considerable.

b. In general, most Japanese in northern Korea and Sakhalin desire repatriation. Most of them are suffering many hardships. *Probably similar conditions exist in the Kuriles*

c. There is no repatriation in the foreseeable future.

DRAFTFOOT NOTES*

1. JP/NAG/3881; JP/OSA/18731; JP/TOK/23110
2. JP/OSA/18731; JP/TOK/21635
3. JP/FUK/8289; JP/OSA/22177
4. JP/OSA/22177
5. JP/OSA/12667; JP/OSA/15844; JP/OSA/20214; JP/OSA/22177
6. JP/TOK/23238
7. JP/TOK/23829
8. JP/OSA/16842
9. JP/OSA/19324; JP/OSA/20178
10. JP/OSA/16842; JP/TOK/21402; JP/OSA/18596; JP/FUK/7188
11. JP/FUK/7270
12. JP/FUK/7038
13. JP/OSA/15545
14. JP/OSA/18592; JP/TOK/PPB/4085
15. JP/FUK/7038; JP/TOK/PPB/4085
16. JP/FUK/7038; JP/OSA/20214; JP/TOK/21402; JP/OSA/15466; JP/TOK/23238;
interview with Mr. Katsuda.
17. JP/FUK/7038; JP/OSA/PPB/3431; JP/OSA/20178; JP/TOK/21402; JP/OSA/
22177; interview with Mr. Katsuda.
18. JP/FUK/7038; JP/OSA/20214
19. JP/FUK/7038; JP/TOK/21812; JP/TOK/PPB/4085; JP/OSA/18731; JP/TOK/
23110; JP/NAG/4021; JP/OSA/20178; JP/TOK/23238; interview with Mr. Katsuda.
20. JP/OSA/20178
21. JP/OSA/20268; JP/FUK/PPB/1108
22. JP/OSA/16938
23. JP/FUK/7188; JP/FUK/7038
24. JP/FUK/7188; JP/OSA/22412
25. JP/FUK/7187; JP/OSA/18676; JP/FUK/7038

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26. JP/NAG/3881; JP/FUK/7038
27. JP/OSA/25407
28. JP/TOK/21402
29. Impression from reading numerous Japanese letters, and failure of Soviets to discuss repatriation of Jap military from N. Korea.
30. JP/TOK/18498
31. JP/TOK/15677; report by Messrs. Orito and Saruwatari.
32. Report by Messrs. Orito and Saruwatari; JP/TOK/24578
33. Report by Messrs. Orito and Saruwatari.
34. JP/OSA/18599; JP/TOK/23239; Orito-Saruwatari report.
35. JP/TOK/22121
36. JP/OSA/18599; Orito-Saruwatari report; JP/FUK/5064

* JP/OSA/____ numbers are file numbers of Jap letters published by censorship detachments.

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

G-3 Repatriation

BB
Keenan

5 August 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL HOWELL:

SUBJECT: Report on Japanese Repatriation from SACSEA.

Cessation of hostilities on September 2, 1945, found the Japanese forces scattered throughout Korea, Manchuria, many of the islands of the Pacific, parts of China and over most of Southeast Asia. Their disarmament, demobilization, and repatriation was to be one of the major tasks of the occupation.

Long before the Japanese military machine was crushed the Allied Powers realized that some provisions would have to be made to handle this problem of repatriation of Prisoners of War. Using the Geneva Convention of 1929 as a basis on which to work the Allies emerged with the Potsdam Declaration which was issued on July 26, 1945. In it was stated, "The Japanese military forces, after being completely disarmed, shall be permitted to return to their homes with the opportunity to lead peaceful and productive lives".

Lessening the scope of repatriation to SACSEA alone, we find that in mid-September of 1945, 656,000 Jap military and 66,000 civilians were stranded in Southeast Asia.* Concentration of these people in the Riouw Islands, near Singapore, and other suitable areas for subsequent shipment to Japan was begun, and carried on during the fall of 1945.

The task of disarming the military, screening them for possible war criminals, and preparing them for their shipment home is being accomplished by British Commonwealth, Dutch and French Forces under the direction of SCAP. In most cases, where it is practicable, Japanese officers and non-

* Ourad CAX 52632, 2 Oct 46, to SACSEA, and SACSEA rad 452, 17 Oct 46.

Tab
B

expedite the return of these people to their homes.

On 4 April 1946, 78,000 Japanese military and civilians were concentrated in Saigon, French Indo-China to await their repatriation. They were placed in a Prisoner of War Camp to await the ships that would take them back to Japan.

As to the conditions of the persons within the camp; they might best be described by the words of a repatriate who was at Saigon. Quoted from a letter, intercepted by the Civil Censorship Detachment of General Headquarters on 25 April 1946, written by a Japanese soldier to his mother in Japan, is the following excerpt, "We have been leading a happy life since the end of the war. Perhaps we are supplied much better with food than those at home. We make soup with the fresh vegetables which we have cultivated. We hold parties of various entertainments, and so we never feel weary. We are playing radio exercise every morning and permitted to take a nap and read books. You need not be anxious about us." Six letters coming into Japan containing similar information were intercepted from various senders awaiting repatriation at Saigon.

Transporting repatriates from Saigon to Japan during April, May, and June of 1946 were four Japanese manned American Liberty Ships and fifteen Japanese vessels which made a combined total of 10,000 shipping spaces, operating between Saigon and Kure or Kagoshima. By June 28, only 3,949 of the original 78,000 persons remained and they were being retained as War Criminals and Labor Forces.

On the island of Java, Batavia is the principal port where repatriates are started on their journey home. Conditions there are not quite as pleasant as those in Saigon according to one Japanese civilian who sent the following

message to a friend in Osaka, Japan, on May 14, 1946. "Since we returned from Parakan Sarak to Batavia, more than three months have already elapsed, during which time we were first called out by the Allied Forces to labor as stevedores at the Tandjoeng Priok Harbor, and then as sewage cleaners in Batavia under the direction of Dutch Forces. It was an intolerable work for us both physically and mentally. Though we are civilians, some of us were kicked down and others were beaten and whipped. I cannot help wondering why we civilians should be treated so cruelly."

Yet, just fifteen days after the above letter was written, another was intercepted which was written by a soldier in Batavia to his brother in Chiba Prefecture, Japan. His comments were entirely contradictory to those of his civilian countryman.

They are, "With good and abundant food given, we are living in peace and harmony with the English and Indoneses in Java. When we think of the present food situation of our motherland, we have to be thankful for our good living conditions here. Under these circumstances and due to the generosity of the Allied Occupation Forces, we feel like bowing to them in spite of ourselves, and indeed we should reflect on our past misconduct."

Similar letters were written from almost all the islands over the Southwest Pacific stating nearly identical information. True, many of them did complain of mis-treatment and lack of food, but the majority gave information which leads one to believe that in most cases life was not unbearable and the repatriates were glad to undergo a few hardships while awaiting return to their homeland.

The long boat trip home seems to be the one phase of repatriation that creates most dissatisfaction among the repatriates.

Before boarding the ship all passengers are given a thorough physical inspection for detection of louse infestation, and of cases and suspects of quarantinable diseases (cholera, plague, smallpox, louse-borne typhus, yellow fever, leprosy, and anthrax) or of communicable disease which might prejudice the health of subsequent contacts. Persons known or suspected to be infected are immediately hospitalized and segregated from the others. * In this respect, persons from SACSEA have been most fortunate in that no disease has ever been allowed to reach epidemic proportions; whereas repatriation from China, Manchuria, and Korea has, at times, been sharply curtailed because of numerous cases of cholera.

The average sailing time from most ports in SACSEA to ports in Japan is ten to fourteen days. Overcrowded conditions and lack of sufficient food on board ship are the cause of many complaints. Numerous repatriates, in letters to friends at home, say that although the ships are well provisioned, members of the crew often find it profitable to cut down on the food served and later collect large sums of money in a "Black Market" manner. Although this has never been proven, it is not unlikely that such things have happened.

SCAP has ordered that all ships, both American and Japanese, be restricted from carrying more than 75% of their capacity. This has been in effect since 15 June 1946, and should alleviate the problem of crowded conditions on board ship.

Medical care while enroute is provided by one Japanese doctor and two Japanese medical orderlies except in cases where hospital ships are used. Hospital ships carry a large enough complement of medical personnel to adequately service the patients.

* SCAPIN 822 revised 3 May 1946.

Upon arriving in a Japanese port the repatriates are immediately given another physical inspection and their immunization records are brought up to date. They are then placed in a reception center where they await rail transportation to their home prefecture.

Because of baggage restriction most repatriates arrive home with little more than the clothing they are wearing. Repatriate Relief Bureaus have been organized to help the homecoming soldier and civilian as much as possible. On 16 April 1946, the Repatriate Relief Bureau at Karatsu, in Kyoto Prefecture distributed 112,500 pair of socks and 9,378 pair of winter leggings. Similar work is being done by relief organizations all over Japan.

When the repatriate reaches home he usually finds that his troubles have just begun. Well paying jobs are few, the costs of living are high and food is scarce at any price. Aid from the Japanese government cannot be counted on, so most repatriates have begun to form self-assistance organizations of their own.

Former members of the South Seas Development Corporation have organized themselves under the name of League of Repatriates of the South Sea Development Corporation and the following information has been taken from a pamphlet published by them.*

"We have no desire of relying upon the defeated fatherland for special treatment or assistance. We believe, however, that we may justly complain against the attitude of the state treasury authorities to us repatriates who, at their command, went out to the front line to experience indescribable privations. What reason is there for us to be satisfied with cold treatment, while the repatriates of other governmental offices and companies are being treated much better? The only way left for us is to form a group of people who have common interests in order to make claims or submit petitions to

* TRT JP/tok/21945 Civil Censorship Detachment GHQ

the authorities through joint efforts."

At present there are approximately 140,000 persons not yet repatriated from SACSEA. Some are being retained as Labor Forces and War Criminals but SCAP has set 31 December 1946, as the "target date" by which all repatriation will be completed. Those who are the last to be repatriated will have to continue to cultivate their own gardens, take naps, read books, or clean sewers, and labor as stevedores whichever their plight may be; but they will have the satisfaction of knowing that before another year begins they will be back in their beloved homeland with the "opportunity to lead peaceful and productive lives."

J.D.K.

Paper should be rounded out with evaluated conclusions

References should be tabulated at end or fast noted. Included in the body detracts from the continuity. In general believe a summary rather than a quote is more effective.

Mrs - B

Tab
C

Major White

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
G-3 REPATRIATION SECTION

22 July 1946

Office Memorandum:

Subject: Report on Japanese from Overseas Stations.

1. Reports on the status of Japanese abroad will be prepared for theaters as indicated below:

- Russia held areas Lt Col ~~Strauss~~ *Stewart*
(N Korea, Sakhalin, Kuriles)
- China theater Major White
(Excl Manchuria)
- Manchuria Capt ~~Cornelius~~ *Holland*
- AMF Capt Foust
- SACSEA. Lt Keenan

2. Purpose of study and report is to assemble and evaluate available information concerning Japanese military and civilians abroad to determine:

a. Of those repatriated, living conditions and treatment afforded them at the hands of Allied Nations representatives prior to repatriation, while being assembled, processed and prepared for evacuation to their homelands, and during the actual repatriation up to the time they arrived in their home communities.

b. Of those not repatriated, the approximate number involved, the living conditions and treatment afforded them, their prospects for repatriation and other information indicating their probable fate.

3. SCOPE. It is desired the report be a comprehensive study. It should portray an accurate picture of the history of those Japanese who found themselves out of Japan at the end of the war and the degree to which the Allied Nations met their obligations under the Geneva Convention and the Potsdam Declaration. It should include, properly evaluated, the reactions of those who experienced the operation of these idealistic principles. The report should be limited to 2000 or 3000 words and be properly documented to show source of material, verification and credence that is warranted.

4. Drafts will be completed and submitted for review not later than 6 August 1946.

J. F. H.

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Report on Japanese from Overseas Stations - China

The area covered by this report includes Chinese proper, Formosa, North French Indo-China, and Hong Kong. ~~A large area.~~

The purpose of this report is to evaluate available information concerning Japanese living in China proper, Formosa, North French Indo-China, and Hong Kong at the cessation of hostilities to indicate treatment by Allied Nations representatives before, during, and after repatriation up to arrival in home communities, or, for those not repatriated, living conditions, treatment, and prospects for repatriation.

International agreements that have been reached pertaining to treatment of Military forces upon cessation of hostilities are as follows:

a. POTSDAM DECLARATION, Paragraph 9.

"The Japanese military forces, after being completely disarmed, shall be permitted to return to their homes with the opportunity to lead peaceful and productive lives."

b. GENEVA CONVENTION of July 27, 1929 relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. Article 34. Chapter 5. Wages.

"The pay remaining to the credit of the prisoner shall be delivered to him at the end of his captivity. In case of death, it shall be forwarded through the diplomatic channel to the heirs of the deceased."

Title IV. Termination of Captivity, Section II.

Article 75. "When belligerents conclude a convention of armistice, they must, in principle, have appear therein stipulations regarding the repatriation of prisoners of war. If it has not been possible to insert stipulations in this regard in such a convention, belligerents shall nevertheless come to an agreement in this regard as soon as possible. In any case, repatriation of prisoners shall be effected with the least possible delay after the conclusion of peace."

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C. HAGUE CONVENTION, 1907, Article 6.

"The wages of the prisoners shall go towards improving their position, and the balance shall be paid them on their release, after deducting the cost of their maintenance."

Article 20

"After the conclusion of peace, the repatriation of prisoners of war shall be carried out as quickly as possible."

Upon cessation of hostilities and assumption of control by the Chinese Government of North French Indo-China, and Formosa and by the British of Hong Kong, the following figures were given as to Japanese remaining in these areas.

China proper	1,520,036
Formosa	491,220
N. French Indo-China	30,938
Hong Kong	<u>19,334</u>
Total in China areas.	2,061,528

References: C@ China radio CFBX 21849, 1 Feb 46.

CINC Hong Kong radio 060204 2-Dec.

Repatriation from China began in October 1945 and the above figures were progressively revised as China information was corrected until at the present time figures indicate that originally in these areas, the Japanese strengths were:

China proper	1,501,025
Formosa	477,881
N. French Indo-China	31,583
Hong Kong-	<u>19,334</u>
Total in China	2,029,823

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G-3 Repatriation records as of 28 July 1946 indicate the following Japanese (Approximate) remain to be repatriated.

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China proper	8,737
Formosa	23,121
N French Indo-China	0
Hong Kong	<u>1,281</u>
Total remaining	33,139

Of the total above shipping has been dispatched to lift, or has lifted the following:

China proper -	approx. 2,000
Hong Kong	approx 1,040

This leaves a total of approximately 30,100 Japanese in China, Hong Kong and Formosa to be repatriated.

Japanese technicians and their dependents and some war criminals are being retained by the Chinese as follows:

Formosa	23,121
China	6,737

References: China radio CFB 04332, 29 June 1946.
Formosa radio CFXC 1637, 17 April 1946.
Formosa radio CFXC 1452, 4 April 1946.
China radio CFBX 27319, 2 April 1946.

Those remaining in Formosa are to be repatriated in Chinese shipping by 1 January 1947. (There is no date set for the return of Japanese technicians and their dependents from China proper. ?)

At a conference at Shanghai, 25-27 October 1945 a detailed plan for repatriation of Japanese military and civilians from China areas was formulated. This plan charged the Chinese Government with the responsibility of this repatriation and ^{at up} ~~is~~ two phases. ^{for} The processing and movement of repatriates to Chinese ports of embarkation was ^{established} ~~to be~~ the responsibility of the Supreme Chinese Headquarters under the command of General Ho Ying Chin, and the movement by water to Japan a responsibility of the United States Seventh Fleet and Shipping Control Authority of the Japanese Merchant Marine. /

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(Joint Conference on Repatriation from China Theater, 25 October - 27 October 1945.)

The Chinese Government established reception centers at the ports of embarkation in China. At these reception centers Japanese medical personnel and administrative personnel processed the repatriates under Chinese direction assisted by U. S.

Repatriation Teams allocated by the Commanding General of the China Theater. To these reception stations the repatriates were moved by rail, river boats, and on foot. Much of the movement was voluntary and without pressure from the Chinese. Food and medical care was provided in the reception centers and some type of shelter. Prior to embarkation repatriates were inoculated for smallpox, typhus and cholera. When vaccines could not be supplied by the Chinese they were furnished by U.S. Military authorities from U.S. or Japanese sources. At the ports, repatriates were loaded aboard Japanese shipping or Japanese-manned LSTs or Liberties. These ships were provided with food, water, medical supplies and medical attendants sufficient for the needs of the passengers.

On landing in Japan repatriates were re-processed in reception centers and shipped by rail ^{at government expense} without cost to the locality in which they chose to make their home. Food, shelter, and medical care were furnished in the reception centers.

Hospital shipping was provided for litter and ambulatory patients. These ships were staffed with Japanese medical men and doctors.

(Tokyo Conference Agreements on Repatriation- 12 March 1946, as amended).

Treatment of the Japanese after surrender varied considerably as to locality. At first a natural reaction occurred in areas where Japanese military and civilian rule had been one of cruelty and injustice. The inevitable ravages of looting, ~~fire~~ ^{theft} and death broke out over most of occupied China.

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No violent reaction has been reported from North French Indo-China or Formosa. Quotations are given from CIS translations of censored mail to give a clearer picture of treatment received by the Japanese in China. These letters written by Japanese usually indicate by tense whether the knowledge is factual or hearsay. It must be understood that personal reactions strongly influence private correspondence. Desire for colorful description, mode of existence before surrender, and slight changes of meaning due to translating affect the credence value.

"I fled from the Mongolian border districts with only one rucksack. But even that was plundered when I left Tientsin, arriving homeland with nothing but my clothes".

(CIS translation, JP/OSA/16904, 29 April 46)

"After the surrender, we Japanese in China had a terrible time. They came to our houses to plunder".

(CIS translation JP/OSA/16754, 27 April 46)

"The group life we led in the camp (repatriate camp at Tsentsin) was notoriously inconvenient, unsanitary, and uncomfortable. . . ."

(CIS translation JP/OSA/16736, 27 April 46)

"On returning from China I was robbed of my bedding and other things by Chinese soldiers."

(CIS translation JP/TOK/15681, 2 April 46).

Many other such letters indicate mistreatment of repatriates by Chinese civilians and military. Cases of rape, parents killing their children because of difficulty of marches, women being forced into prostitution to obtain a living for families, deaths from malnutrition, and armed engagements between Japanese forces and Chinese troops are reported in these translations.

On the other side of the picture there are numerous letters indicating kind treatment of Japanese in Chinese areas after the surrender.

"The Chinese Government is demonstrating an admirable attitude" - Shanghai

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(CIS Translation JP/FUK/4075, 29 March 46)

" insofar as food is concerned there is nothing to worry about."

The Rui Corps (Japanese Army) is living in Chinese houses and the entire troops are making themselves useful to the Chinese people who are showing a friendly attitude" - North China.

(CIS Translation JP/TOK/22037, 15 May 46)

3901 letter from Hankow District stated that the Chinese are treating the Japanese with goodwill.

(CIS Translation JP/OSA/16579, 26 April 46)

" We are leading a comfortable life here without any trouble in food, clothes, and housing." Husan, one of 1742 similar letters from C. China.

(CIS Translation JP/OSA/16684, 27 April 46)

"The Chinese Army and the United States Army are very kind to us" - Shanghai.

(CIS Translation, JP/FUK/4487, 5 April 46)

" The treatment of the Japanese by the Chinese was rather warm." - Nanking.

(CIS Translation, JP/OSA/16168, 23 April 46)

"The Japanese were very well treated by the Chinese Army authorities in Canton."

(CIS Translation JP/TOK/18312, 17 April 46)

Reports from Formosa indicate that the long rather benevolent government Japan paid dividends in the treatment of Japanese after surrender.

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"The Japanese disarmed personnel in Formosa -are treated very kindly."

(CIS Translation, JP/OSA/14483, 19 April 46)

".public peace in Formosa is well kept up economic conditions are quite bad."

(CIS Translation, JP/TOK/17569, 12 April 46.)

"In Formosa, the Japanese are leading a peaceful life. They never suffer from lack of food, as rice, vegetables, and fruits are obtained sufficiently"

(CIS Translation, JP/OSA/16555, 15 May 46)

A dissenting voice occurred in one translation reviewed.

"The oppression of the Japanese people by the natives was utterly beyond expression."

(CIS Translation, JP/OSH/14864, 12 April 46)

Remarks on Japanese retainees in Formosa!

"It has been decided that the Japanese professors of the Formosan University, which was taken over by China, will be employed by the Chinese Government and allowed to remain in the island with their families."

(CIS/Translation, JP/OSA/16555, 15 May 46)

"About half of the technical experts in railway construction will work for China by compulsion." - Formosa.

(CIS Translation, JP/FUK/4649, 5 April 46)

Other sources have indicated retention of experts in the sugar industry. Apparently these Japanese will be well-treated. Some will be persuaded to remain permanently.

The technicians retained in China are generally in North China engaged

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in railway transport, cloth manufacture, ^{and} ~~and~~ ^{are} machinists. From conversations with repatriates it appears that these people are well-treated and well-paid. Some of them have even changed to Chinese names and probably will remain in China.

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REPATRIATION FROM MANCHURIA

Holland

Will written
paper - JG

I. GENERAL

During the years of the Japanese occupation of Manchuria, approximately one and one quarter million Japanese military personnel, government officials, and other civilians were established in Manchuria. Upon Russia's entry into the war against Japan, Soviet Troops immediately moved across the border into Manchuria, and by V-J Day had successfully extended their influence throughout the vast area.

Supplemental Agreement to the Sino-Russian Treaty of 14 August 1945 provided for Chinese sovereignty, occupation, and control of Manchuria. However, for several months, the Soviets were reluctant to withdraw their forces, while world-wide attention was drawn to this seemingly groundless violation of the treaty. After continued diplomatic pressure from the U. S. and other UNO members, the Russians had practically completed their withdrawal in May 1946.

During the early part of 1946, there were present in Manchuria Chinese Nationalists, Chinese Communists, Soviets, Japanese, and of course, the native Manchurians. Fighting between the Chinese elements, some of the Japanese being still armed and organized, and the presence of the Soviet troops combined to create an undesirable and thoroughly confused situation in Manchuria.

The Chinese Nationalist Government, realizing their responsibility for repatriation of those Japanese from Manchuria under the terms of the Potsdam Agreement, began to formulate plans for such evacuation, and in April 1946 announced that repatriation of Japanese from Manchuria would commence immediately through port of Hulutao.

The obscure situation in Manchuria precluded the determination of number and location of Japanese to be repatriated therefrom. The first reliable

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estimate came from US forces in China late in May and indicated approximate numbers and locations as follows:

Mukden-Hulutao area	400,000
Dairen area	265,000
Between Dairen and Mukden	64,000
Antung area	80,000
Northern and Eastern Areas	<u>500,000</u>
Total	1,309,000

The Imperial Japanese Government had previously reported that there were approximately 700,000 Japanese military personnel and 1,260,000 Japanese civilians in Manchuria at the end of the war. The Japanese government stressed the probable inaccuracy of their figures since the Soviets had reportedly removed large numbers of Japanese into Siberia and other Russian controlled territory.

The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers had received numerous queries in the form of individual pleas and petitions concerning the location, welfare, and probability of repatriation of those Japanese in Manchuria. An example is a petition to General MacArthur from Liaison Association of Enterprisers and Industrialists in Manchuria (unofficial) residing in Tokyo, dated 15 February 1946. This petition, signed by 100 members of the association, is quoted in part:

"Your excellency General Douglas MacArthur:

Our countrymen abroad in the south and the China, are returning to the home land by virtue of your special care, while those who are in Manchuria and North Korea having no forecast of the possibilities re-

turning to their home land, are still kept in suspense concerning their present circumstances, as communication has been cut off from them. It is already in the depth of the intense cold winter with ice and snow covering the earth there, and we are told that a certain quarters of our countrymen are dying everyday due to lack of heat and storage of food.

The circumstances concerning these who remain there are so dreadful as we mentioned above. And our office are flooded with letters from their families and friends in Japan, inquiring of their news everyday. Hearing to these strained circumstances of our countrymen waiting for relief day and night and the griefs of their relatives, we cannot assume an attitude of lookers-on from the standpoint of humanity.

Your excellency General Douglas MacArthur, here we beg you for your decernment and sympathy on these deserted people in Manchuria and North Korea facing a crisis, and will you do us the pleasure of using your influence in regard to opening communications with them and coming to their home land, as soon as possible.

Yours truly"

On 16 April 1946 the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers was notified by United States forces in China that clearance had been granted to move repatriation team into Hulutao where Chinese repatriation organization was already in place. During the next three weeks the Hulutao Repatriation Team was moved into place, shipping arrangements were completed, medical processing was initiated, and for the first time since the end of the war the Japanese concentrated around Hulutao could forecast early return to their homeland.

On 7 May 1946, the long awaited program got under way. By 4 August 1946, 410,215 Japanese were repatriated from Hulutao to Japan.

Late in July the program was temporarily suspended because of presence of cholera in or near Hulutao, but special arrangements were made, both for screening repatriates for quarantinable diseases prior to embarkation and for thorough medical examination at reception centers in Japan, resulting in resumption of shipping at the rate of 10,000 spaces daily.

II. CONDITIONS AFFECTING JAPANESE IN MANCHURIA PRIOR TO REPATRIATION

(Emphasis is placed on the fact that no official documents, releases, or testimonies are available on which to base the information contained hereinafter. Such conditions as are portrayed were described in unofficial Japanese reports and in letters between individual Japanese who were in Manchuria or who had heard from other Japanese either in or returned from Manchuria.)

During the Russian invasion of Manchuria in 1945, the Soviet forces were prone to commit terrifying acts of violence upon the Japanese. Belongings were confiscated at gun-point, homes were invaded and destroyed, wives and daughters were violated, even in the presence of husbands and parents. If any should cry out an objection, he would be shot to death immediately.

Within a short time practically all of the Japanese civilians were suffering from the acute shortage of food, clothing, shelter and fuel. Children and the aged begin to succumb to malnutrition and severe cold. Barefooted children selling or begging on the streets in 30° below zero weather was a common sight. Dead bodies were denuded to clothe the living, children were sold to Manchurians that their lives might be spared. In some areas the casualty rate among children under 10 years was 85%, and the overall

casualty rate approximated 26%.

In September the Soviet soldiers, many of whom were ignorant peasants, continued to plunder and demand women. In one area 170 women volunteered as prostitutes in the hope that others would be spared. When husbands were called to service with Chinese Communists their wives would volunteer as prostitutes for the sake of their children. Soviet soldiers were seen with as many as 10 wrist watches on their arms and were happy although they were too ignorant to tell time. They often asked Japanese to ready their watches for them.

Refugees around Dairen were very distressed. Women who had no cloth used the leaves of Kaoliang around their waists, others with only floss silk around their breast and waist were going hither and thither on city streets.

Even after some semblance of order was restored among Soviet troops, the Manchurians and Chinese continued the persecution. Stones were cast at individuals and homes, outrages, looting, and violations were continued. Women were compelled to hide in attics and under floors. Eventually they learned to cut their hair and disguise themselves as men as a means of self-protection.

During the winter the pitiful plight of the Japanese was made worse since they had sold or lost all their property, furniture, and personal belongings to buy food. Diseases, malnutrition, and unwholesomeness were prevalent. Many more died from eruptive typhus and stomach ailments. The cold wintry wind exposed piles of dead bodies buried in anti-airraid caves.

Although no accurate information is available, it is rumored that practically all of the Japanese ex-servicemen were moved away by the Russians

They are reported to be in Siberia and along the railroads and seaports in Russia. A few reports indicate that the Soviets are treating the prisoners of war only slightly worse than their own soldiers. They are engaged in reconstruction of Russian industry and economy, farming, fishing, loading and unloading military supplies, and some are even rumored to be undergoing communistic training so that they can be used in the "war against America."

A few soldiers escaped from the Russians and are either awaiting repatriation or are hiding out in the mountains as mounted bandits.

III. ENROUTE HOME

When Hulutao was opened for repatriation approximately 60,000 Japanese were concentrated nearby. There they suffered from lack of food and commodities, high prices, and the ever-present danger of being robbed and violated by Chinese soldiers. By this time the people had ^{only} the very clothes and rags on their backs, no money or other valuables with which to provide food and necessities. Sanitary measures were practically non-existent, and there were only two doctors present--one Manchurian and one Japanese.

Even after embarkation at Hulutao, repatriates continued to suffer from hunger. One or two meals per day, each consisting of a bowl of rice gruel, hardtack, or small portion of rice and soya bean paste, were provided. Days aboard ship were spent bitterly trying to barter with the crew for more hardtack or cigarettes. One blanket would bring 40 cigarettes and a pair of trousers went for 30. One shipload of repatriates were forced to "donate" ¥ 10 each as a present to the ship's captain.

IV. AFTER RETURN TO JAPAN

Repatriates returning to Japan have found conditions worse than they had expected. Some feel that the Demobilization Ministry & Repatriation Relief

Board are of grand scale in appearance but they are not so kind and helpful as they appear on the surface. Keen surprise and disappointment is felt over the cold heartedness and indifference of those people who remained at home during the war.

One of the most often voiced complaints is about the lack of clothing possessed by returned repatriates. They are inadequately clad and unable to change their meager clothes. One family claims to have been issued nothing more than one blanket since returning. Usually there are no jobs to be had, no money with which to buy commodities, and insufficient rations of food. One Japanese described the arrival of a repatriation group from Manchuria as "a pitiable sight. All women had their hair short like men, and everyone showed signs of great suffering." Returnees from Manchuria seem to have fewer pieces of baggage and possessions than others.

There seems to be a little better outlook for those returning to GIFU. The "Save Our Compatriots in Manchuria and Mongolia" society has started an active drive to raise funds for relief measures for returnees from Manchuria.

V. RELIEF OF THOSE NOT REPATRIATED

In the event that all repatriates are not speedily removed from Manchuria and are forced to survive the coming winter, it is feared that an appalling number of deaths will occur because: (1) the coming winter is expected to be more severe than last; (2) belongings are all gone and they no longer have clothes and bedding; (3) no means to earn a living; (4) all fuel has been exhausted; and (5) their physical condition is rapidly deteriorating from malnutrition and diseases.

The Japanese hope to secure a substantial loan for the Japanese Residents' Association in Manchuria, in addition to the one hundred million yen reported to have been loaned by the Chinese. They also hope for shipment of blankets, clothing, medicines, and foods to relieve the suffering in Manchuria.

Those technicians retained by the Chinese seem to be faring well. Wages ranging up to Y 6,000 per month are paid and food and fuel is provided.

VI. CONCLUSION

Until such time as accurate figures and locations are available, and pending completion of negotiations with the Russians, it is impossible to predict the completion of the repatriation program as it pertains to those Japanese who were in Manchuria at the end of the war.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

6 August 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL HOWELL:

SUBJECT: Report on Japanese from AMF Theatre.

1. Attached herewith is draft of report, subject as above.
2. Information for this report was taken mainly from translations of letters from Japanese in the AMF theatre. These letters were intercepted by the G-2 CIS Section of GHQ AFPAC. Further information was taken from the G-3 Repatriation Section files.
3. The Australian Political Observer was contacted but was unable to furnish information concerning the treatment and conditions of repatriates in the AMF areas. To obtain reports on this it will be necessary to submit a request to the AMF through channels.

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REPORT ON JAPANESE FROM OVERSEAS STATIONS.
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCE THEATRE.

For purposes of this report the Australian Military Forces, hereinafter referred to as AMF theatre, is considered as the area south of the 10th parallel from the 159th to the 15th meridian including the islands of Timor, New Britain, New Ireland, that portion of the Solomon Islands west of the 159th meridian and that portion of New Guinea east of the 141st meridian.

SECTION I

International agreements concerning repatriation are quoted as follows:

1. POTSDAM DECLARATION, paragraph 9.

"The Japanese military forces, after being completely disarmed, shall be permitted to return to their homes with the opportunity to lead peaceful and productive lives."

2. GENEVA CONVENTION of July 27, 1929 Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. Chapter 5. Wages. Article 34.

"The pay remaining to the credit of the prisoner shall be delivered to him at the end of his captivity. In case of death, it shall be forwarded through the diplomatic channel to the heirs of the deceased."

Title IV. Termination of Captivity, Section II, Article 75.

"When belligerents conclude a convention of armistice, they must, in principle, have appear therein stipulations regarding the repatriation of prisoners of war. If it has not been possible to insert stipulations in this regard in such a convention, belligerents shall nevertheless come to an agreement in this regard as soon as possible. In any case, repatriation of prisoners shall be effected with the least possible delay after the conclusion of peace."

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3. HAGUE CONVENTION 1907, Article 6.

"The wages of the prisoners shall go towards improving their position, and the balance shall be paid them on their release, after deducting the cost of their maintenance."

Article 20

"After the conclusion of peace, the repatriation of prisoners of war shall be carried out as quickly as possible."

SECTION II

Approximately 162,000 Japanese military and naval personnel were to be repatriated from AMF areas at the time of the capitulation of Japan. The majority of these forces were Japanese soldiers located in New Guinea. They had been in the AMF theatre since early 1943 and were suffering to a greater or lesser degree, depending upon availability of medical supplies, from tropical climate and diseases that accompany jungle living. This condition coupled with the severity and duration of the fighting in this area had depleted Japanese forces to a fraction of their expeditionary strength.

Reports which follow are from the officers of the Japanese fighting units. These reports describe conditions which are typical for Japanese forces as the AMF disarmed and prepared them for repatriation.

(See Note 5) About 600 men of the _____ AA Bn. were a part of the Wewak AA defense of the airfield. Air raids and the landing operations by American forces at Aitape reduced the battalion strength and forced the survivors to retreat and live in native villages about 80 kilometers from Wewak. Here they lived on native food supplied by the Kana tribes and endured great suffering from unbalanced diet, and shortage of medicines. Malaria and long hours of fierce jungle fighting reduced the battalion's strength to 40 men by June 1945. At the

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malaria which hampered the progress of preparing them for return to Japan.
(See Note 3).

The Japanese most of whom had expected to be killed in a last suicide attack were afforded fair and just treatment but, for the reasons outlined above, necessarily the conditions did not compare favorably with other theatres which were more civilized and modern. The Japanese were informed that they would be returned to Japan and until evacuation could be arranged were given the necessary help to enable them to maintain satisfactory standards of health and sanitation. (See Note 4) 231 letters from persons awaiting repatriation at Rabaul inform that

"By the good help of the Australian Troops, we are all doing pretty well at Rabaul and planting sweet potatoes. ."

The local produce raised mainly by the Japanese themselves was the principal diet and only such small quantities of cereals and fats that the allied forces could supply augmented this food. While this was an improvement in the diet of the Japanese who had been hiding in the jungles or hills amid a native population unfriendly and resentful of prior Japanese brutal treatment, it was not the body building food needed then by these people. (See Notes 3 and 4).

Japanese yen was not available in sufficient quantities to pay Japanese prisoners of war and internees before being embarked for Japan. In order not to delay their repatriation by awaiting shipment of Japanese yen from Japan for this purpose, nominal rolls stating the credit balance of each Japanese repatriated were forwarded by air to Japan at the time of his departure from the AMF theatre. Also statements of account were issued to prisoners of war and internees establishing their status. Upon

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disembarkation in Japan the repatriated Japanese were paid in full.

Provided that the ship on which they were travelling had excess cargo space repatriates from the AMF theatre were not limited as to the quantity of accompanied baggage which they could bring back to Japan.

The allied demobilization forces in the AMF areas complied with both the letter and the spirit of international law and the surrender terms. They did their utmost to relieve the suffering of a defeated foe in keeping with humanitarian and democratic principles. In this regard Note 11 (postcard from a Japanese repatriate at Rabaul) is quoted:

"There were a great number of patients suffering from malaria, but some days ago we were given plenty of a specific medicine for malaria by the Australian Forces to take as a prophylactic. Now the patients have considerably decreased and there are few people suffering from that tormenting fever. We should be grateful to the Australian Forces from the bottom of our heart."

Japanese interned near Wellington, New Zealand in letter to friend in Japan states:

"I go to Wellington to attend every funeral of Japanese soldiers as the representative of the Japanese internees_____. Women and children live in Pukekoe and all of them are healthy." (See Note 19.)

In a postcard to a friend a Japanese at Rabaul states:

"With the approach of repatriation, we are supplied with good meals every day. Biscuit is served for breakfast and rice for lunch and supper. As a result I have gained 3 kilograms (6.4 lbs) and also have better complexion. Besides, we are not given any labor, so we are leading a do-nothing life with even a feeling of ennui." (See Note 20).

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A letter from a Japanese at Rabaul is quoted:

" As to food, they are self-supporting now. Besides sweet potatoes, grown by themselves for staple food, a small quantity of rice is rationed daily by the Australian Army. In return, some of the internees follow in the fatigue duty for the Australian Army every day." (See Note 21).

8 incoming postcards were intercepted from Rabaul with information similar to the following:

"Our daily work is farming. We are growing rice, sweet potatoes, tapioca and other vegetables. During leisure time we play baseball and enjoy open air performances at night A newspaper and a monthly magazine are published at the headquarters of the
← Corps. Anyway we are enjoying our camp life in this way, don't worry about us." (See Note 22).

4 incoming letters containing information similar to the following were intercepted by senders awaiting repatriation at Rabaul:

"We are now leading a group life as orderly as before under the supervision of the Australian Forces. I suppose we are enjoying a more peaceful life than people in the homeland. . . ." (See Note 23).

Letter with typewritten report from Japanese awaiting repatriation, subject: "Japanese well treated by Australian Army." Writer states:

"February 26

. information given unofficially by Ministry of Demobilization No. 2 reveals that the repatriation is expected to be completed in the next one year due to the charter of the Allied ships, while it was said at first that it will take two or three years."

His report runs substantially as follows:

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1. Detention Place.

The Japanese residents . . . are detained at a place on a grassy plain. . .

2. Daily Work.

They are living a regular group life on a daily work system and are separately employed in agriculture, construction, well-sinking, distribution and services under the Australian Army.

3. Food.

One person takes 325 grams of the Japanese Army's rice a day. They are given hard-tack by the Australian Army too.

Distribution by the Australian Army, their own vegetables and fruit by purchase from the natives and their side-dishes.

4. Health.

The health condition is generally good and all persons are in good spirits. Medicines are insufficient.

5. Entertainments.

They are entertained with a variety show opened sometimes and newspapers published by the Australian Army. There is no radio service.

"The Australian Army occupied the territory on 17 September."

"Their feeling toward Japan is friendly and that of the natives is generally good." (See Note 24).

Other letters from Japanese at Rabaul inform that also ~~was~~ good ^{was} food/supplied. (See Note 12).

In spite of the integrity of the allies in the execution of the surrender terms small bands of Japanese continued to resist and carried on a guerrilla warfare. However this resistance was on a small scale and of a nuisance value only. It did not seriously impede the allies in disarming and repatriating the Japanese from these areas.

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Reports indicate that the Japanese realize that they were treated fairly and well in the AMF theatre. Severe hardships were unavoidable in some parts of Northern Australia and Western New Guinea due to the poor condition of the Japanese at the time of surrender and local temporary food shortages. However these areas were given a high priority for early evacuation. The theater was given an allocation of water transportation for repatriation purposes which somewhat offset the theatre's great distance from Japan and the poor conditions existent there. (See Note 13) "Japanese Army Report."

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SECTION IV

The first repatriation ship with Japanese repatriates aboard from the AMF Theater arrived in Japan the first week of December 1945. The evacuation of the entire 162,000 Japanese from this area was completed 14 May 1946, except for 1807 persons being held for war crimes trials. In addition to the repatriation of Japanese to Japan, 6584 Formosans and 3051 Koreans were returned to Formosa and Korea respectively. Because the Japanese awaiting repatriation in the AMF theater were in poor physical condition relative to other theaters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, herein after referred to as SCAP, at the request of the local allied military authorities supplied Japanese hospital ships for the transportation of a comparatively high percentage of the repatriates from these areas. Fuel and supplies for repatriation ships and, food and clothing for repatriates being transported to Japan from the AMF theater was supplied, insofar as possible, from Japanese stocks before the vessels sailed from Japan. Because the round trip from Japan to Rabaul is over 6000 miles, vessels were refueled and resupplied for the return voyage to Japan from allied stocks in the AMF theater. The stocks, in Japan, of clothing were insufficient for all needs, including repatriation, for this reason warm clothing was supplied repatriates from US and other allied stocks both within and outside of the AMF theater.

The distance involved rendered impossible the use of short range recovered Japanese shipping for repatriation from AMF areas to Japan. The use of demilitarized long range Japanese warships such as cruisers and destroyers was mandatory. Ships of this type, not designed for

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troop or passenger service, were not the most desirable for transporting large numbers of passengers on a long voyage. SCAP took into consideration the limitations of these ships in determining the repatriate carrying capacity of each ship after it was converted for repatriation service by the Japanese. The voyage was made as safe and comfortable as was physically possible commensurate with the prompt execution of the surrender terms and the provisions of the Potsdam Conference and the Hague Convention concerning repatriation.

To augment the Japanese recovered shipping used in repatriation, United States, Japanese-manned Liberty ships and Landing Ships, Tank (LSTs) were converted and used for repatriation. This shipping shortened by 50% the time required to repatriate Japanese.

The water movement of the entire 162,000 Japanese from the AMF theater was accomplished speedily and without notable incident. The suffering of the Japanese in these areas was greatly lessened because the allied forces utilized to the fullest extent, both Japanese and allied Japanese-manned shipping, other than that needed to maintain the minimum Japanese economy, for repatriating these people.

SECTION V

As of 9 July 1946, the Headquarters of the Australian Army at Melbourne reported a total of 1,807 Japanese were being held for war crimes investigation in AMF theater. (See Note 15) 1644 of these Japanese are located at Rabaul, New Britain Island, and their repatriation is being deferred for war crimes investigations. The remaining 163 Japanese are prisoners of war located on the Australian mainland; 14 are interned, serving sentences and, 149 are held pending judicial investigation. All these

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Japanese will be repatriated to Japan upon completion of necessary investigation except those detained as defendants in war crimes trials or serving sentences. These individuals will be disposed of through legal channels.

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 4. CIS - GHQ - AFPAC APO 500 JP/OSA/16335 24 April 1946
 5. CIS - GHQ - AFPAC APO 500 JP/TOK/17982 23 April 1946
 6. CIS - GHQ - AFPAC APO 500 16285 24 April 1946
 7. CIS - GHQ - AFPAC APO 500 JP/TOK/20849 23 April 1946
 8. CIS - GHQ - AFPAC APO 500 JP/TOK/20868 23 May 1946
 9. CIS - GHQ - AFPAC APO 500 JP/OSA/18769 17 May 1946
 10. Lt. Col Burgess G-3 Repatriation Section SCAP at Otake questioned 5 Jap soldiers from Rabaul. They were healthy, had had enough to eat and were well-treated.
 11. CIS - GHQ - AFPAC APO 500 JP/OSA/20302 29 May 1946
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 15. Army Melbourne 4490/AG 24939 dated 9 July 46.
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JP/NAG/2019

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - GHQ - AFPAC
APO 500

30 March 1946

FROM:

TOMIDA Miki
c/o Otake Yoshinobu
No. 7, Hagino-cho,
Seto Aichi Pref.,
Japan

TO:

MORI Zennosuke
No. 78, Minamimari-cho,
Shitaya-ku, Tokyo,
Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
SRS
PH
MD
8th A MG
SACSEA

Date of Commun:
27 Mar 46

Comment by:
J-243

Type of Commun:
Letter

Language:
Japanese

Dispos. of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

DEMOBILIZATION: ALMOST ALL JAPANESE SOLDIERS DIED OF
DISEASE IN NEW GUINEA

Writer states:

"Demobilization Office at Ito-cho, Shizuoka Prefecture told me the rate of death from disease of Japanese Army was biggest in New Guinea of all war theatres. Ninety eight per cent died of disease. Civilians attached to Army were almost annihilated too."

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - GHQ - AFFAG
APO 500

25 April 1946

FROM:

MARUYAMA Hirozo
Surgeon-captain
5th Corps H.Q., Rabaul 6th
Brigade, South Seas
Expeditionary Forces

TO:

KATO Yoshishi
Yonoe, Shiromi-mura,
Oda-gun,
Okayama Pref., Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
CIC
GS
SRS
CIE
8th A, MG
SACSEA

Date of Commun:
Postmark; None

Language:
Japanese

Comment by:
P7 J1657

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

Type of Commun:
Postcard

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: JAPANESE AWAITING REPATRIATION IN RABAU
SUFFERING FROM MALARIA & FOOD SHORTAGE

Writer states:

"Here in Rabaul also, we are suffering from the misery of the defeat, and are obliged to labor for the Australian Army. Among hardships, malaria and food are the most distressing."

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JP/OSA/15905

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - OHQ- AFPAC
APO 500

19 April 1946

FROM:

UNO Inosuke
Ogawa, Naktagawa-mura
Isshigun
Wise Pref.,
Japan

TO:

YOSHIKUNI Yoshie
Ariyasu, Nishikadota-mura
Chikujyo-gun
Fukuoka Pref.,
Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GE
GC
CIS
GS
SRS
CIE
PE
SACSEA

Date of Commun:
3 Apr 46

Comment by:
P-25 J-1736

Type of Commun:
Letter

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: DEMOBILIZED POW FROM RABOUL TELLS HIS EXPERIENCES

Writer states:

"The other day I visited a neighbouring villager, who had been demobilized from Rabaul on the 17th of last month. As I heard some news from him about the condition of the POWs there, I would like to tell you something about it. Since the end of the war, healthy POWs had been engaged in compulsory labor. Some of them were busy in constructing barracks of the Australian Army. But 80% of the POWs were suffering from malaria. They could hardly walk. As regards to food situation, they had sufficient, because they got some vegetables from their own fields. They would eat anything in order to stay alive. The above-mentioned villager came back home via Otake, Hiroshima Pref., after a trip of 8 days from Rabaul. On board the ship meals cost daily ¥ 50, while they received only ¥ 200 when they left Rabaul. All the time in Rabaul, they did not received a sen of pay. They were told that their pay were to be sent to their families in Japan. As to clothing they were only shirts and pants at the time of repatriation. When they were in Rabaul they had almost nothing to cover their bodies with and were entirely naked.

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JP/OSA/15905 (Continued)

Page 2

The ship wherein they were repatriated, was one of the navy. They had to lie day and night with 12 persons in a narrow space of 1 Jo (Ex: 1 Jo = approximately 2 sq. yard.) on the deck inclusive the luggage. To shelter themselves from rain, each of them had only 2 blankets. When the steamer approached Japan, they had to seek refuge from the cold weather in the cabin. There are 122,000 POWs still left in Rabaul. Three ships sail regularly between Japan and Rabaul monthly. Those who stayed behind will be completely demobilized by July. In Rabaul, POWs were divide in 18 groups; one group contained 10,000 POWs. The order of repatriation came usually so suddenly, that he said they could never expect demobilization before the very moment."

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 ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

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CONFIDENTIAL

JP/OSA/16335

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - GHQ - AFPAC
APO 500

24 April 1946

FROM:

HIRAI Masanaho
The 3rd Commander of the
4th Regiment, The 1st
Brigade at Rabaul.

TO:

TAJIRO Hitoshi
c/o Loko-so
Sengokuhara-Spring
Hakone, Ashigarashimo-gun
Kanagawa Pref., Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
GS
SRS
CIE
8th A MG
SACSEA

Date of Commun:
10 Mar 46

Comment by:
P-26 J-394

Type of Commun:
Postcard

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: BUSY WITH PLANTING RICE AND SWEET POTATOES

Writer states:

"By the good help of the Australian Troops, we are all doing pretty well at Rabaul and planting sweet potatoes. The sowing of rice is important for us, for it is the only food, we have to live on. Fortunately we can harvest it three times a year. As for our military clothes, we don't need them and have put them away since the war was over. All that the farm produces, is by our own work. Now that the time of repatriation has arrived, we take some exercise everyday."

Examiner's Note: 213 incoming letters containing similar information were intercepted from various senders awaiting repatriation at Rabaul.

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

CONFIDENTIAL

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JP/TOK/17982

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - GHQ - AFPAC
APO 500

23 April 1946

FROM:

ABE Aishi
c/o Ota
Kumamachi-mura, Futaba-gun,
Fukushima Pref., Japan

TO:

WATANABE Iden
Owata, Narusawa-mura,
Minamitsuru-gun, Yamanashi Pref.,
Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
8th A G2
ADPAC-A2
ASF

Date of Command:

20 Apr 46

Language:

Japanese

Comment by:

P-9/J-1

Disposition of Command:

Passed

Type of Command:

Letter

COMMENT

ARMED FORCES: HISTORY OF BATTALION IN NEW
GUINEA

Writer states:

"About 600 men of our Battalion (Mo - 1930th corps. I succeeded Major OHARA in his office on the 3rd of October 1943) landed safely at Wewak in New Guinea on the 13th of May 1943, and took up the duties of anti-air-force of Wewak Air Field.

"We had no battle until the middle of August 1943, but the P-38s came sometimes for scouting. There was the first air raid on August 17. From the middle of January 1944 our position was turned into an attacking object of the enemy.

"On 22 Apr. 1944 American Forces landed at Aitape. As a battery of mountain artillery in the attacking corps against the landing army, we about 300 left Wewak on the 13th of June and reached our destination at the end of July 1944, and we received an order to guard the coast of Yakanuru. There we fought some battles against tanks.

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(Continued Page 2)

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

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JP/TOK/17982

Page 2

"In the middle of August we were forced to withdraw to Wewak and came back there at the first of September. In the four villages called Shumange, Indogun, Mangejank and Tsunbari, which are situated 80 kilometers south from the air-field we were supporting ourselves. We ate the native food supplied by Kanaka tribes and maintained our lives. We suffered from the shortage of food (fat and albumin) and medicine. We suffered from malaria. The fierce fights of long hours aggravated our bad health.

"Most of my men died by June 1945 and only 40 survived. We were expecting the chance to sacrifice ourselves.

"At the end of July 1945 we received an order to fight to the last man and were waiting the decisive battle which was due to be fought in August. But before that battle we were notified of the surrender of Japan. We shed tears of grief.

"At the end of January 1946 we 33 men including 4 officers, (at first there were 24 officers in the Battalion) received the order to return home."

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

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JP/OS 16285

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - GHQ - AFPAC
APO 500

24 April 1946

FROM:

KAWAMURA Yasuji
(1st 18-Gun, Zanmu-seiri Han
(Disposition Unit. 18th Army)
c/o Hakuunkaku Hotel
Ito-cho, Shizuoka Pref. Japan

TO:

TAKAHASHI Tsuchizo
1272 Hama Higashi-Maizuru
Maizuru City
Kyoto Pref. Japan.

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
8th A G2
ADPAC-A2
ASF

Date of Commun:
10 Apr 46

Language:
Japanese

Comment by:
P28 J-1690

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

Type of Commun:
Letter in Print

COMMENT

ARMED FORCES: BATTLE CASUALTIES OF REGIMENT AT BIWAK IN NEW GUINEA

Writer, apparently a former regiment commander in a mimeographed letter, dated Mar 46 to the bereaved family of his former subordinate, states:

"The 2nd Communication Regiment of 'Mo' Flying Corps landed at Biwak in New Guinea on August 12 1943. After fighting many battles around Biwak, the casualties of our regiment amounted to quite a number, and food and ammunitions, also became scarce. At last in July 1945 our regiment received orders to carry out a suicide attack, but just before we were going to make our final sally, we received the Imperial order of surrender. When we laid down our arms, the survivals were only 29 out of the original 505"

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Send to Repatriation
JP/TOK/20849

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - G2 - GHQ - AFPAC
APO 500

23 May 1946

FROM:

MATSUMOTO Kichitaro
No.1 Room, 5th Infirmary,
Internal Treatment National
Shimoshizu Hospital,
Yotsukaido, Imba-gun, Chiba
Pref., (Japan)

TO:

KOYAMA Sakiko
c/o HANAYA DRAPER'S
173, 4-chome, Motomachi,
Kawaguchi-shi, Saitama
Pref., (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:

SACSEA
GC
GB
CIS
GS
SRS
CIE
PH
8th A MG

Date of Commun:
11 May 46

Comment by:
P39 J-990

Examined by:
J-209

Type of Commun:
Letter

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: BAD LIVING CONDITIONS OF JAPANESE IN RABOUL

Writer states:

"Since February 1, 1944, transportation between the South Seas (Raboul district) and the homeland had been cut off and it was impossible to send letters to the fatherland. The air-raids on Raboul were the severest in the world and everyday we were busy avoiding the enemy's attacks.

"Whenever we saw even one Japanese air plane, we could not help weeping. We were informed of the termination of the war on the afternoon of August 16. Since then life was miserable and dreary. There was no food so we had to eat everything. Even snakes, lizards and frogs were delicacies to us. There was not even a grain of rice so we used to eat sweetpotatoes every day.

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

#7

CONFIDENTIAL

JP/TOK/20849 (Continued)

Page 2

The majority of my comrades died of Malaria caused by malnutrition.

"It was extremely rprovoking to be stoned by the natives. Those left in Raboul are leading very miserable lives. Today's newspaper reports that although the repatriates from there total thirty thousand (30,000), seventy thousand (70,000) are still awaiting repatriation."

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

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JP/TOK/20868

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS-G2-GHQ-AFPAC
APO 500

23 Mayy 1946

FROM:

YASE Kimiko
168, Akagawa-cho,
Asahi-ku, Osaka,
Japan

TO:

YOSHIDA Hatsuko
560, Shiori-machi, Yokosuka Shi,
Kanagawa Ken, Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB CIE
GC PH
CIS AG
CIC SACSEA
GS 8th A MG
SRS 8th A G2
ESS

Date of Commun:
19 Apr 46

Comment by:
P10 212

Examined by:
J-1382

Type of Commun:
Letter

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATES: MANY DEATHS AMONG DEMOBILIZED JAPANESE IN NEW GUINEA

Writer states:

"Five thousand and forty soldiers are waiting for repatriation at Sarum and will come back to Japan by November.

"According to recent information, 2,000 Japanese demobilized soldiers started from a mountain in New Guinea but only 20 of them arrived to the shore where ships are waiting. The other could not follow their friends. Some of them died from hunger saying, 'Give me something to eat,' and some were too weak to cross a swift stream. The main cause of their death was an advanced stage of malnutrition."

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

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JP/OSA/18769

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

17 May 1946

FROM:

TAKU Teruko
23 Higashino-cho, 7-chome
Tanabe Higashiumiyashi-ku
Osaka City Japan

TO:

TAMURA Midori
2 Kamiyumi-cho, Kamazawa
City Ishikawa Pref. Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
SRS
CIE
PH
8th A MG
SACSEA

Date of Commun:
25 Apr 46

Comment by:
P2 904

Type of Commun:
Letter

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION:

JAPANESE REPATRIATES IN NEW GUINEA TAKE NO
GRAIN FOR YEAR

Writer states:

"I hear that my tenant's family at SUWYOSHI were quite surprised to see their son who suddenly returned from the military service in New Guinea with a heavy heart under depressing conditions about a month ago. It is said that, as he took no kind of cereal at meals for a year, he has grown so weak that even now he can take no boiled rice except only a small quantity of rice-gruel. I heartily sympathize with him in his suffering from hardships and privations abroad."

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

#9

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JP/OSM/20302

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS-MIS-GHO-SCAP
APO 500

29 May 1946

FROM: IIDA Shin, 2nd Lieutenant
c/o Commanding Organ attached
to 2nd Unit, 5th Rabaul Detachment
South-seas Expeditionary Forces

TO: IIDA Haruko
Matsukobuchi, Nihiyama-mura
Kanzaki-gun, Saga Pref.
(Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:

GB PH
GC SACSEA
CIS 8th A MG
GS
ESS
SRS
CIE

Date of Comm: _____
Postmark: None

Comm: by:
P15 J 1907

Type of Comm: _____
Postcard

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Comm: _____
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: JAPANESE AWAITING REPATRIATION IN RABAU

Writer states:

"There were a great number of patients suffering from malaria, but some days ago we were given plenty of a specific medicine for malaria by the Australian Forces to take as prophylactic. Now the patients have considerably decreased and there are few people suffering from that tormenting fever. We should be grateful to the Australian Forces from the bottom of our heart."

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JP/OSA/20365

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

29 May 1946

FROM:

YABE Makoto
3rd Company
20th Field Air Supply Depot
Lemban Island, Malaya

TO:

WATANABE Yoshihito
Umeda, Shirakata-mura
Iwase-gun
Fukushima Pref. (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:

GB 8th A MG
GC
CIS
GS
ESS
SRS
CIE
PE
SACSEA

Date of Commun:

Postmark:

None

Comment by:

P22 J1677

Type of Commun:

Postcard

Language:

Japanese

Disposition of Commun:

Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: GOOD TREATMENT OF JAPANESE AWAITING REPATRIATION
IN RABAU

Writer, a demobilized Japanese soldier waiting repatriation
in Rabaul, states:

"I have been in good health ever since. I weigh about
60 Kilogram (Ex: 1 Kilogram - 2.2 lbs.) at the present, and
am enjoying my daily life. Thank Heaven! I have never been
ill. How delicious are those meals provided by the British
Army! I take them with deep thanks, smacking my lips with
relish every time."

Examiner's Note: Five (5) incoming letters containing similar
information were intercepted from various senders waiting
repatriation at Rabaul.

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

#12

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JP/OSA/18085

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - G2 - GHQ - AFPAC
APO 500

10 May 1946

FROM:

DAIICHI FUKUINSHO
KANBOSHIRYOKA (1st Demobiliza-
tion Dept. Secretariate
Materials Section)
Greater Tokyo, Japan

TO:

SANIN JYORIKUCHI SHIKYOKU
(Sanin Landing Place Branch Bureau)
Higashimaizuru
Maizuru City, Kyoto Pref., Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
CIC
GS
SRS
CIE
PH
8th A MG
SGAJAP
SACSEA
ASF

Date of Commun:
15 Mar 46

No. of Inclosures:
Three

Comment by:
O&D J-934

Language:
Japanese

Type of Commun:
Letter

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

- 1. ARMED FORCES.
- 2. REPATRIATION.

- 1. ARMED FORCES: REPORT ON GUERRILLAS BY JAPANESE ARMY IN BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND AND JAPANESE ARMY STATIONED IN FORMOSA

A. The reference information 'KO' No.25 as the summary verbal report of Captain NOMURA, who has repatriated on 8 March 1946 by the repatriation ship 'Katsuragi' read as follows:

- a. "Repatriation of 2,472 persons from Bougainville Island was completed. However, some 100 soldiers including officers who did not gather at 'Fauro Island' have been resisting against the Allied Forces
- b. "1,300 Koreans and Formosans (including aborigines) were ordered to leave the ship at Raboul.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Continued Page 2)

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

#13

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

c. "About 100 persons including Lieutenant-General KANDA, Commander of Army, Lieutenant - General AKIZUKI, Commander of the division, Major-General MAKATA, Chief of the staff of the Army, Colonel TAMAKI, Senior staff officer, Colonel EJIMA, Chief of the staff of the division, Lieutenant-Colonel KANDA, Senior staff of the division, Colonel MUDA, Commander of the 13th Regiment, Colonel FUKUNAGA, Commander of the 45th Regiment, and Colonel NAKAMURA Kohei, Commander of the 6th Field Artillery Regiment are now in Rabaul as the witnesses of war criminals.

B. In the reference information 'KO' No.26 dated 14 March 1946, it is revealed that the following Japanese Army Forces were stationed in Formosa at the time of the end of the war.

a. Headquarters of the 10th Expeditionary Forces.

Divisions: 9, 12, 50, 66 and 71st Divisions and 8th Flying Division.

Independent Brigades:

75, 76, 100, 102, 103 and 112 Brigades.

2. REPATRIATION: CONDITION OF REPATRIATION IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT, FORMOSA, KOREA AND MANCHURIA.

A. The reference information 'KO' No.25 on the condition of repatriates in the Southern district reads as follows:

"a. Food condition: It is presumed that they are doing the best for self-supplying, but with little success, and are supplied with foodstuffs by the Allied Forces.

b. Public peace condition: The public peace in Java and Sumatra is becoming worse affecting the other districts.

c. Sanitary condition: Owing to the shortage of sanitary facilities and medicine, patients of Malaria fever, beriberi, and under-nourishment are increasing, and the number of patients is 10 percent of the total number of persons.

d. Transportation of repatriates from the Central Pacific and Philippine Islands districts is stopped. Repatriation from Eastern New Guinea has completed. Repatriation from Borneo and North Australia is now carried on.

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Continued Page 3)

e. Condition of repatriates in Siam:

Food condition is comparatively good foodstuffs are supplied by the Siamese Government. There is no anxiety in regard to the public peace condition, as they are living in groups. Sanitary condition is generally bad. Medicines in possession are scarce. Place of gathering is outskirts of Bangkok.
Number of persons remaining is 121,645.

f. In French Indo-China.

They have a considerable quantity of foodstuffs, which are gradually undergoing the management of the Allied Forces. They are now receiving living on a restricted ration. The Major part of them are living in groups, and there is no anxiety in regard to the public peace. Sanitary condition - no great anxiety is needed. Place of gathering - Haiphong Saigon. Number of persons remaining is 105,920. Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be the end of 1946 or in the Spring of 1947.

g. In Burma.

Food condition - they are receiving foods from the Allied Forces, and are in good condition.

Public peace condition - Major part of them are living in groups, and there is no anxiety in regard to the public peace.

Sanitary condition - Majority of persons are suffering from Malaria, and patients of dysentery and undernourishment are ever increasing.

Place of gathering - Moulemaen.

Number of persons remaining - 74,390. Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be the end of 1946 or in the Spring of 1947.

h. In Malay, including Andaman Island & Nichobol Island.

Food condition - for all their efforts towards self-support, it is in vain to get food on account of the poor crops.

Public peace condition - major part of them are living in groups, and there is no anxiety in regard to the public peace.

Sanitary condition - almost all of them are suffering from undernourishment, and patients of Malaria are increasing.

Place of gathering - Rembang Island and Galan Island.

Number of persons remaining - 153,105.

Number of persons repatriated - 3,878 (3%)

(Continued Page 4)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JP/OSA/18085(Continued)

Page 4

Time of completion of repatriation - is expected to be the end of 1946, or in the Spring of 1947.

i. In Sumatra

Food condition - the quantity of foods in possession is very small, and it is very hard to purchase foods on account of the bad condition of public peace.

Public peace condition - continuously attacked by the natives intending to capture weapons.

Sanitary condition - is bad.

Place of gathering - Rembang Island.

Number of persons remaining - 70,552.

j. In Java.

Food, public peace, and sanitary conditions are same as in Sumatra.

Place of gathering is Galan Island.

Number of persons remaining is 67,323.

k. In Borneo

Food condition - there is no prospect for self support on account of scarcity of food stocks and poor crops owing to unfertility of the soil.

Public peace condition - well treated by the Australian Forces, but there is a great probability of mistreatment by the Dutch Forces when the latter take the place of the farmer. The natives attitude toward Japanese is not bad.

Sanitary condition - patients are increasing, and most of them are suffering from Malaria.

Place of gathering -- Kuchin, Labuan, Jesselton, Samarinda & Balikpapan.

Number of person remaining - 33,660

Time of completion of repatriation is expected in the Autumn, 1946.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Continued Page 5)

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

l. In Celebes.

Food condition - there are foods stored to feed them by June, 1946, and self-supporting measures are comparatively progressing.

Public peace condition - same as in Borneo.

Sanitary condition - generally in good condition, having some 300 to 600 patients only.

Number of persons remaining - 31,790.

Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be in Autumn, 1946.

m. In Northern Australia.

Food condition - foods are supplied by the Australian Forces, self supporting is impossible.

Public peace condition - is good.

Sanitary condition - most of the patients are suffering from Malaria.

Number of persons remaining - 101,021.

Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be in Autumn, 1946.

n. In Western New-Guinea

Food and public peace conditions - same as in Northern Australia.

Sanitary condition - 20 to 30 percent of the patients are suffering from Malaria.

Number of persons remaining - 21,460.

Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be in Autumn, 1946.

o. In Eastern New-Guinea.

Food condition - owing to the fact that the number of the persons remaining is small, there is no fear of food-shortage.

Public peace and sanitary condition - same as in Western New-Guinea.

Place of gathering - Mush Island.

Number of persons repatriated - 3,559 ?

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Continued page 6)
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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 9 0 7 7 4

Repatriation seems almost to be completed.

p. In Small Sunda Islands.

Food condition - self supporting is possible with foods stored.

Public peace condition is becoming worse under the influence of the conditions in Java.

Place of gathering - 'Marimpu'.

Number of persons remaining - 22,785.

Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be in Autumn, 1946.

q. In Rabaul.

Food condition - is good, having a considerable quantity of foods, and self-supporting measures are completed.

Public peace condition - is good, as they are gathered up.

Place of gathering - Rabaul.

Numbers of persons remaining - 122,925.

Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be in Autumn, 1946.

r. In Bougainville Island.

Food condition - No difficulty in getting food will be felt, as they are supplied by the Australian Forces and by self-supporting.

Public peace condition - same as in Rabaul.

Sanitary condition - almost all of them are suffering from sick.

Place of gathering - 'Fauro Island'

Number of persons remaining - 8,000.

Number of persons already repatriated-----5,800 (42%)

Time of completion of repatriation is expected to be in March, 1946.

(Continued Page 7)

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 9 0 7 7 4

JP/TOK/18923

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - G2 - GH - AFPAC
APC 500

2 May 1946

FROM:

YOSHIKAWA Masanori
c/o Kokuritsu Saitama Byoin,
(National Saitama Hospital)
Saitama Pref., Japan

TO:

WATANABE Tettaro
c/o Shinjuku Denryokukyoku,
Shomuka (Section of General
Affairs, Shinjuku Bureau of
Electric Power) Yoyogi, Shibuya-
ku, Tokyo, Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

CB
GC
CIS
COMNAVJAP
CIC
8th A G2
ADPAC-A2
SACSEA

Date of Commun:
6 Mar 46

Comment by:
P33 J-1335

Type of Commun:
Letter

Number of Inclosures:
One

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

ARMED FORCES:

ACTIVITIES OF JAPANESE FORCES IN SOUTH PACIFIC AND
NEW GUINEA

Writer states:

"Mr. METAKI Demichiro landed on Wusungchen on Oct. 27, 1942, as one of the recruits of Chushi-Dokuritsu-Kohei Rentai (Ex: Central China Independent Engineer Regiment). There, he was trained for one month. On Nov. 24, he arrived at Hankow, and the next day, joined a regiment at Kansen, about 70 kilometers north-west of Hankow.

"After about one week's training, the regiment moved to Shanghai on Dec. 2. On the 15th of the month, the regiment was demobilized, and on the same day it was renamed 'Akatsuki 1942 Unit', with no change of personnel. At the same time it was announced that the unit was to participate in the Southern Islands Campaign. On the 20th of the month, the unit left Shanghai, and arrived at the port of Palau on the 31st. There, Mr. METAKI undertook training for one month from Jan. 1, 1943. On Feb. 1, his unit landed on Rabaul. On the 23rd, they again set sail for New Guinea, and landed on Hansa, 200 kilometers west of Madang, on the 28th of the month.

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(Continued Page 2)

#14

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*From the day on, the unit undertook the marine transportation between Hansa and Madang. In July, Mr. METAKI was dispatched to the Philippines to study the art of welding, and returned in Sept., after finishing the course. Until Dec., he continued the transportation work, and at the middle of Dec., the Kobayashi squad, to which Mr. METAKI belonged, was detached to the 51st division which had been formed in Mito (Ex. City in Ibaragi Prefecture, Japan), and since then he engaged in the Newak-Marienburg-Malay transportation.

"The situation then was good on the whole, and the craft unit were supplied with the best rations, and they worked quite actively. The movements were chiefly carried out at night, but they had to fight against the American flightboats or torpedo boats very often. Since March, 1944, the situation became gradually difficult and the increasing intensity of the air-raids by enemy planes forced our units to retreat.

"The striking struggles of the members of the squad under the command of Mr. KOBAYASHI inspired the whole unit to a great extent. At the end of April, thousands of Americans landed by surprise on Hollandia and Aitabe, intending to wage guerrilla warfare in the largest rear bases of the Japanese Army.

"By this operation of the enemy forces, the connection between our units and the rear forces was completely cut off. The 18th Army decided to live on by themselves, because the communications with Palau and Rabaul were impossible, but before that, they tried an operation of driving the enemies out of these districts. However, due to the difference between their powers and equipments and ours, we were defeated, and were forced to go into the mountains.

"In September, we gathered at Dagua in order to find a way to support ourselves, and then gradually moved to Marien Burg. The soldiers marched, carrying on their backs heavy things, and arrived at the destination after 40 days of struggles, traversing mountains, damp ground, and jungles. Provisions were exhausted on the way, and we had to continue our journey, looking for the day's food. Thus, the Kobayashi Squad arrived at Masan.

"During this period, most of the members of the unit died from hunger and disease. Mr. METAKI conquered these difficulties, but when he reached the destination, he was taken ill owing to the fatigue of marching.

"The writer was guarding the coast line about 40 kilometers away from there, but I know all about this by communications from the unit. While staying there, the situation became more and more dangerous, and the soldiers began to lose hope, and some of them even committed suicide.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Continued Page 3)

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

CONFIDENTIAL

JP/TOK/18923

Page 3

"On November 11th his condition became serious. On the 29th, when his comrades woke up, they found him dead. He was man of strong will and used to speak quite clearly, and sometimes joked with others in the daytime, but it is reported that he was rather low-spirited that night, before he went to sleep. Many soldiers died calmly in this way, after three months of overwork and poor nourishment.

"The number of the dead in this area increased daily, and all of us left dismal. After March 1945, the rate began to come down. In August, the unit received the order for all the members to die gloriously.

"We were just going to follow the instruction, when the order of his Majesty to suspend hostilities was reported.

"We have returned home now, but, also, Mr. METAKI is sleeping at Masan in New Guinea. Though I am now in Japan, my thoughts often fly to the southern islands. When I think of my comrade who will never return home, a thousand emotions crowd my mind. I don't know how to console his parents. I only pray for the repose of his soul."

Inclosures:

1 letter

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

CONFIDENTIAL

SMA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JP/OSA/16632

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
CIS - G2 - GHQ - AF'PAC
APO 500

26 April 1946

FROM:

SHITAMISE Kiyoshi
Navy Lieutenant
3rd Company, 10th Detachment
Rabaul 10th Division,
South Seas Expeditionary
Force
Rabaul

TO:

SHITAMISE Yoichi
Teramachi, Higashi-Ota-
mura Sera-gun,
Hiroshima Pref., Japan

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
GC
CIS
GS
SRS
PH
8th A MG
SACSEA

Date of Commun:
4 Mar 46

Comment by:
P21 J294

Type of Commun:
Postcard

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: TROPICAL CLIMATE AND FOOD SHORTAGE IN RABAUL

Writer states:

"Fortunately, I am enjoying good health here in Rabaul. The climate here, being stationary all the year round, has made our bodies flaccid. Besides, we are suffering from the food shortage. We hope we shall be able to go home within this year."

Examiner's Note:

Four incoming letters containing similar informations were intercepted from various senders awaiting repatriation at Rabaul.

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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER 90774

CIVIL CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT
 CIS MIS GHQ SCAP
 APO 500

19 June 1946

FROM:

SEKI Fusakichi
 No. 444, Nakakuki, Otani
 Shimotoga-gun, Tochigi Pref.
 (Japan)

TO:

UKIGAWA Toshio
 Sawatsu-mura, Niihama City
 Ehime Pref. (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
 CIS
 GC
 GS
 SRS
 CIE
 PH
 8th A MG
 COMNAVJAP
 CIC, ESS, BCOF

Date of Commun:

11 June 46

Language

Japanese

Comment by:

J-439

Disposition of Commun:

Passed

Type of Commun:

Letter

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: HARDSHIP EXPERIENCED IN RABUAH ISLAND

Writer states:

"I was put in prison for Japanese in Rabuah Island as a war criminal suspect, and was finally acquitted. While there, I experienced the hardest life that I ever knew, engaging in 18 hours of hard labor daily, going through all sorts of hardship and undergoing cruelties far beyond description. Indeed how I ever survived the tortures of my two months of prison life I hardly know. My case was cleared. I was one of the 2000 soldiers of the mixed army comprising the 75th Detachment, who have returned home safely."

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no

JP/10/4782

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

14 June 1946

FROM:

AKA INF Yoshimitsu
c/o AKAMINE Taro
No. 2, Mae, Ikeguchi Hibitsu-
cho, Nakamura-ku Nagoya (Japan)

TO:

UFNO Masajiro
No. 16, 4 chome, Itabashi
Itabashi-ku Tokyo (Japan)

DISTRIBUTION:

GB
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SRS
CIE
PH
8th A IG

Date of Commun:
6 Jun 46

Comment by:
J1882

Type of Commun:
Letter

Language:
Japanese

Disposition of Commun:
Passed

COMMENT

REPATRIATION: HARDSHIP OF A REPATRIATE FROM AUSTRALIA

Writer states:

"We were told at on Australian Camp and from the Headquarters that our deposit would be delivered to us on the ship. But so far we haven't received anything. I have exhausted my money and bartered blanket (the thankful gift from the Australian Army to us) for food. Please send us some money, if the deposits reaches you."

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

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Doc. No. 19470 B

RJI/HT

~~For reference~~

6 June 46

Sent by: KORIKAWA MARU (氷川丸).

Received: Heads of the General Affairs Sections of the 1st and 2d Demobilization Bureau.

Sent by Chief of Medical Detachment.

Radiogram No 312,200

Information on KEI Island (TN West of RABAUL).

There is a total of 11,174 men on KEI ISLAND under the command of Col NAKAHIRA, Minekichi (中平峰吉), Commanding Officer of the KEI Sector Unit. This total is made up of 10,354 men of the Army KOI (鯉) Unit and 820 Navy personnel (20 Guard Force.) They are concentrated on KEI Island and are self-sufficient. They have the 2 and 4 Field Hospitals of 5 Division (capacity 500 persons each), and the Navy Infirmary (capacity, 100 persons) as medical facilities. Since medical supplies have been carefully conserved since the end of the war, I believe that they are sufficiently provided. The patients suffer mainly from malaria, beri-beri, etc, but recently amoebic dysentery and paratyphus have broken out. We have taken 135 amoebic dysentery cases and typhus cases aboard this ship.

Thirty men have died since the war ended. Food was scarce at the time the war ended, and around February, there was some uneasiness; but thanks to supplies provided by the Australian Army and what they could produce themselves, they got by without incident.

In April 7700 persons (including nine Chinese and 1034 Formosans and Koreans) were returned home. It is planned to complete the return of all the remaining 3109 (including 30 suspected war criminals) to their homes in JAPAN the early part of June. It seems that the attitude of the Australian, Dutch, and English Liaison Officers and the residents in this area toward the Japanese is very good.

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