

DECLASSIFIED

Authority AND 740063

5E 467 Pentagon Building
Arlington, Virginia
26 February 1946

Sergeant Joseph G. Pase, 12013918
323 E. Market Street
Georgetown, Delaware

Dear Sergeant Pase:

The Provost Marshal General has assigned to the American Prisoner of War Information Bureau the task of compiling all available material pertaining to the treatment by our enemies of American prisoners of war and civilian internees.

In order to gather factual data regarding the many aspects of life of a prisoner of war we are dependent upon the cooperation of repatriates for information and documents which will bring to light as many details dealing with captivity as can be recalled.

It will be appreciated if you will send this office at the earliest possible date an informal letter setting forth the information you have which in your opinion will be of value in the preparation of an all-inclusive report.

Facilitation of recording may be aided by the attached check list.

Thanking you, I am

Yours very truly,

2 Incls
Check List
Self-addressed envelope

WILLARD A. SMITH
Captain, CMP
Chief, Liaison and Research Branch
American Prisoner of War Information
Bureau
Provost Marshal General's Office

8. N. KING ST.
Georgetown, Del.
1st MARCH 1946

WILLARD H. SMITH, Capt., CMP.
Chief, Liaison & Research Branch
P.W. INFORMATION BUREAU

SIR:

Information as requested in your letter
of 26th Feb., is hereby submitted:

Re: PAR 1. & 12. - Roster and rough diary of my
Company are inclosed.

PAR. 2. - organization - Signal Company, AIRCRAFT WARNING
Phil. Dept., captured APRIL 9th. 1600 hrs. K.M. post
181, BATAAN, P.I., participated death march to Camp
O'Donnell - Trifol. to Camp Cabanatuan, Tarlac, P.I.
on July 5th, 1942. - TRSD TO PORT AREA, MANILA. OCT. 5th
1942 - TO board ship "TOTTORI MARU" on Oct 7th 1942 -
arrived Korea (Fusan) on ABOUT NOV. 9th 1942, arrived
MUKDEN, MANCHURIA ABOUT NOV. 12th 1942 - DESIGNATED
MUKDEN PRISONER OF WAR Camp - departed May
24th 1944 arrived May 28th Kyushu left for KAMIOKA
Japan same day arrived Kamiooka evening 29th May
1944. (Designated KAMIOKA P.O.W. Camp. - remained there
until Japs surrendered.

PAR. 3. Camp O'Donnell opened on or about April 9th 1942,
Number of AMERICAN P.W.'s constantly varied, was base camp
for all Americans on BATAAN. - Camp CABANATUAN opened
sometime in June, 1942. base camp for all men from
BATAAN and about two-thirds of men from Corregidor
number unknown. - MUKDEN P.O.W. camp opened about
Nov. 10th 1942 - 1420 AMERICAN P.W.'s number of Americans
constantly varied due to deaths and transfer of personell
KAMIOKA P.O.W. Camp - ~~Smith~~ ^{Dutch} P.O.W. opened camp - 150
Americans arrived May 29th 1944 and 194 Americans
arrived Aug. 3rd 1944 completing complement of Americans

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PARA. 4. - prior to May 24th 1944 from memory only:

S/Sgt. W. Hackman, Apr. 1942, Cpt. L. P. Vasey, Apr 1942
Sgt. O. Handerson, Apr. 1942. Sgt. Paul Flecken Apr. 1942
Sgt. W. Pye June 1942, S/Sgt. W. Wooten, June 1942
Pfc. W. Kisko July 1942 Pfc. J. Davies July 1942
Sgt. LANNING, John L. - 16005232 died 12.21.44
Sgt. HERRING, Robert R. 6969898 " 2.15.45
Pvt. SMITH, James H. 19011174 " 3.3.45
S/Sgt. MOSS, HARRY J. 6298045 " 3.4.45
Pvt. ANDERSON, Robert H. 19054316 " 3.31.45
Pfc. DOWNS, George R. 19054518 " 4.6.45.

→ (Pertains only to Kamikaze P.W. Camp) ←
PARA 5. - (a) Eat nothing but cooked grain (Rice and maize)
about once per month each man about one (1) oz of meat
" " " two weeks about 3 oz of fish, occasionally
as a reward for working hard each man would receive
about 5 oz of beans (soy) this happened about every 3 weeks.
(b) medical facilities were deplorable, once a man was
hurt or became sick, the Japs. placed every obstacle
in his way of recovery (withholding medicines sent by
Red Cross, not raising sufficient fuel to warm the
sick quarters, insufficient blankets, and greatly reducing
the rations of the sick - deprived them of all reading
material and punished those who were caught
reading or smoking, making it so miserable for
the sick and wounded that many lost the will
to live - a more detailed account may be had from
the officers in charge of all sick P.W.'s in that Camp.

Dr. C. H. Jackson
Coldlands Farm
Horley, Surrey, England.

(c) Housing facilities were very poor, men sleep on straw
mats with insufficient blankets, 24 men to a room
which normally accommodated 10 men. for heat in
winter, two ~~handfuls~~ hands full of charcoal per day
could be burned in a small wooden box in center
of room, the buildings were so frail it was
necessary to shovel all snow from roof daily

3

- © to prevent their collapse
- © P.W.'s were responsible for digging their own latrines at previously designated locations, and ~~putting~~ erecting shields to protect themselves from cold winds.
- © we were not permitted any recreational facilities other than reading and were permitted only 1 book to 6 men per six months, men were not to select their own books.

Para 6. Our first Red Cross parcels were received in Aug. 1944 — one large parcel to twenty-five men, one small parcel per man in December 1944, one small parcel per man in Feb. 1945, one small parcel per man in March 1945 and 1/2 small parcel per man in Apr. 1945.

Para 7. we were permitted to write as many letters as we desired, very few ever left camp — many men did not receive a letter or message during their entire internment

Para 8. Each man was required to work 9 hours per day in lead mines with civilian foremen armed with rubber pipes which they did not hesitate to use when a P.W. failed to accomplish the specified amount of labor. wounded men (hurt while working) were forced to remain in the mines until their shift was completed — all work was inspected and detailed by Mitsui Mining Company officials daily

Para 9. Camp Commander — Lieut Chotaro Furishima

Administrative { Sgt. Montani
" Yamataka
Pvt. Shimoda
" Takoochi
" Imai

and a large Jap. guard complement which changed weekly.

4.

PARA. 10.

Re. all medical care of P.W.'s in Kamioke P.O.W. Camp.

Dr. C. H. Jackson
Coldlands Farm
Horley, Surrey, England

Re. Administration of Camp. — Kamioke

1st Lieut G. H. Theunissen
LUCHTVOORT, DEPARTMENT VAN OORLOG
BATAVIA, JAVA.

PARA 11 —

As I have submitted this information twice previously, with supporting documents, I have insufficient records with which to make a more detailed report and I sincerely hope this will be satisfactory.

Thanking you Sir I am.

Yours very truly.

Joseph E. Pass
1st Sgt. U.S. Army.

Note: Prior to May 24th 1944 I did not occupy a position of any great responsibility and therefore all written records in my possession prior to that date were submitted to my superiors in the various P.W. camps where I was interned.

J.P.