

Far East Prisoners Of War

Last Post Over the River Kwai is the carefully researched account of the experiences of the officers and men of 2nd Battalion The East Surreys during the Second World War. Stationed in Shanghai in the early 1940s, the Battalion was deployed to Malaya and fought gallantly to slow the Japanese advance. After heavy losses the survivors found themselves POWs in Singapore in February 1942 after the humiliating surrender which Churchill described as Britain's worst ever military disaster. The next three and a half years saw members of the Battalion suffering appalling hardship at the hands of their brutal Japanese captors, whether in Singapore, on the Death Railway, Malaya or Japan itself, as well as on hellships. Many died but remarkably the majority survived to tell their story. Their prolonged captivity with unbelievable hardship, deprivation and cruelty makes for distressing but inspiring reading.

Taken prisoner in Java, Terence Kelly's captivity was full of incident. He was witness to barbaric cruelty and suffering particularly on the journey packed into a filthy cargo ship under atrocious and inhumane conditions. Once in Japan, he was a slave in the Hitachi shipyards where he got to know other Japanese and learn their language. His book reveals more about the psyche of his captors than other similar works. His Hiroshima camp was unique and was possibly the best camp in which the Japs held POWs. Many of the inmates were influential men, who knew the Far East and had held important posts. The interaction between POWs and captors was fascinating and his book offers a rare insight into the Japanese character, as unthinkable defeat and humiliation became a reality. Kelly's account of the A-Bomb attack and the chaos that followed it is fascinating and rare.

Feature films have created the stereotype of the Second World War prisoner of war. He is the spruce, stiff-upper-lipped Alec Guinness in *The Bridge on the River Kwai*, or Steve McQueen's cunning and opportunist 'Cooler King' in *The Great Escape*, the all-American motorbike hero. If he is imprisoned in Europe it will have to be in the forbidding North German Schloss of Colditz or the tunnel-riddled Stalag Luft III. But, as Midge Gillies shows in this groundbreaking work of social history, the true experiences of nearly half a million Allied servicemen held captive during the Second World War were nothing like the Hollywood myth - and infinitely more extraordinary. The real lives of POWs saw them respond to the tedium of a German stalag or the brutality of a Japanese camp with the most amazing ingenuity and creativity. They staged glittering shows, concerts and elaborate sporting fixtures, made exquisite ornaments - even, amid the terrible privations of the Thailand-Burma railway, improvised daring surgical techniques to save their fellow men's lives. Whatever skills or hobbies they took with them to captivity they managed to continue and adapt - to the extent of laying out a 9-hole golf course between the huts of one German camp. They took up crafts and pastimes using materials they found around them: even the string from a Red Cross food parcel was used to make cricket balls, football nets and wigs for theatrical performances. Men studied, attended lectures, learned languages, sat for qualifications and exams, on such a scale that one camp was nicknamed 'The Barbed-Wire University'. A number of books written by POWs in captivity are still in print today. And often the years in captivity proved a turning-point in their lives, as the new interests and skills they took out of the camp enabled them to embark on a post-war career in which

they would succeed at the highest level - whether actors like Clive Dunn and Denholm Elliott, artists like Sir Terry Frost and Ronald Searle, or the birdwatchers who studied rooks and jackdaws beyond the perimeter wire in distant parts of the German Reich and went on to run the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Drawing on letters home, diaries and interviews with redoubtable survivors now into their nineties, Midge Gillies recreates the daily lives of a truly remarkable group of men. It is a story by turns thrilling, funny, desperate and moving, but never less than inspirational.

Eleven Winters of Discontent

Healing in Hell

FEPOWs and Their Families : Stories from Far East Prisoners of War and Those that Waited for Them Or Lived with Them After Their Release from Captivity

Planning and Realities

The Recovery of Britain's Far East Prisoners of War, 1941-1945

The Siberian Internment and the Making of a New Japan

The odyssey of 600,000 imperial Japanese soldiers incarcerated in Soviet labor camps after World War II and their fraught repatriation to postwar Japan. In August 1945 the Soviet Union seized the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo and the colony of Southern Sakhalin, capturing more than 600,000 Japanese soldiers, who were transported to labor camps across the Soviet Union but primarily concentrated in Siberia and the Far East. Imprisonment came as a surprise to the soldiers, who thought they were being shipped home. The Japanese prisoners became a workforce for the rebuilding Soviets, as well as pawns in the Cold War. Alongside other Axis POWs, they did backbreaking jobs, from mining and logging to agriculture and construction. They were routinely subjected to "reeducation" glorifying the Soviet system and urging them to support the newly legalized Japanese Communist Party and to resist American influence in Japan upon repatriation. About 60,000 Japanese didn't survive Siberia. The rest were sent home in waves, the last lingering in the camps until 1956. Already laid low by war and years of hard labor, returnees faced the final shock and alienation of an unrecognizable homeland, transformed after the demise of the imperial state. Sherzod Muminov draws on extensive Japanese, Russian, and English archives—including memoirs and survivor interviews—to piece together a portrait of life in Siberia and in Japan afterward. *Eleven Winters of Discontent* reveals the real people underneath facile tropes of the prisoner of war and expands our understanding of the Cold War front. Superpower confrontation played out in the Siberian camps as surely as it did in Berlin or the Bay of Pigs.

Sickness, starvation, brutality, and forced labour plagued the existence of tens of thousands of Allied POWs in World War II. More than a quarter of these POWs died in captivity. *Long Night's Journey into Day* centres on the lives of Canadian, British, Indian, and Hong Kong POWs captured at Hong Kong in December 1941 and incarcerated in camps in Hong Kong and the Japanese Home Islands. Experiences of American POWs in the Philippines, and British and Australians POWs in Singapore, are interwoven throughout the book. Starvation and diseases such as diphtheria, beriberi, dysentery, and tuberculosis afflicted all these unfortunate men, affecting their lives not only in the camps during the war but after they returned home. Yet despite the dispiriting circumstances of their captivity, these men found ways to improve their

existence, keeping up their morale with such events as musical concerts and entertainments created entirely within the various camps. Based largely on hundreds of interviews with former POWs, as well as material culled from archives around the world, Professor Roland details the extremes the prisoners endured — from having to eat fattened maggots in order to live to choosing starvation by trading away their skimpy rations for cigarettes. No previous book has shown the essential relationship between almost universal ill health and POW life and death, or provides such a complete and unbiased account of POW life in the Far East in the 1940s.

The author of *Guarding Hitler* delivers “ a study revealing the Japanese use of Allied POWs in medical experiments during WWII. ” —The Guardian The brutal Japanese treatment of Allied POWs in WW2 has been well documented. The experiences of British, Australian and American POWs on the Burma Railway, in the mines of Formosa and in camps across the Far East, were bad enough. But the mistreatment of those used as guinea pigs in medical experiments was in a different league. The author reveals distressing evidence of Unit 731 experiments involving US prisoners and the use of British as control groups in Northern China, Hainan Island, New Guinea and in Japan. These resulted in loss of life and extreme suffering. Perhaps equally shocking is the documentary evidence of British Government use of the results of these experiments at Porton Down in the Cold War era in concert with the US who had captured Unit 731 scientists and protected them from war crime prosecution in return for their cooperation. The author ’ s in-depth research reveals that, not surprisingly, archives have been combed of much incriminating material but enough remains to paint a thoroughly disturbing story. “ The narrative does not seek sensation or attempt to draw irrefutable conclusions where it is clearly impossible to do so, instead it simply provides a balanced assessment of what is known and what seems probable. ” —Pegasus Archive

American Prisoners Of Japan: Did Rank Have Its Privilege?

Creativity Behind Barbed Wire

Prisoners of the Japanese

Captive Artists

The Story of Eight British Servicemen in World War II in the Far East

A Prisoner's Story

My Life in a Japanese Prison Camp During World War II

Captivity, Slavery and Survival as a Far East POW is the incredibly moving story of Gus Anckorn, a British soldier who was captured by the Japanese and held for over three and a half years. Before the war, Gus was a magician and throughout the war, entertained both fellow soldiers and Japanese guards with his tricks. Gus has a brilliant sense of humor and a 'tell it as it is' attitude which got him into a number of scrapes with both the Japanese and his own side. He has a remarkable humility to his character and is extremely endearing, both in the book and face to face guaranteeing massive media attention. Gus experienced terrible ordeals that no one should have to face. He should have been killed on four or five occasions, but remarkably survived due to quick thinking and good luck. Gus also reveals the heartache of leaving his fiancée behind and not knowing if he would ever see her again. This is an incredibly moving book and will surely be considered as one of the classic Far East POW stories. Gus is still alive and active today, very publicity focused and well connected. He still holds the unique claim of being the youngest ever member of the Magic Circle and is now currently their oldest ever member. He is also a member of the Masons. Gus has appeared on BBC TV when they arranged for him to meet a Japanese

POW camp guard on the bridge at Kwai.

What would it be like to leave your loved ones behind knowing you may never see them again? Then depart on a ship in the dead of night heading for an unknown destination and find yourself in the heat of a battle which concludes in enemy conditions so terrible that your survival in captivity is still under threat? Cultivated from a small, faded, address book secretly written by a young soldier in the Royal Army Service Corps, Captured at Singapore, is a POW story of adventure, courage resilience and luck. In 1940, Londoner Stanley Moore became Driver T/170638 and trained for desert warfare along with many others in the British Army's 18th Division. Their mission, they thought, was to fight against Hitler and fascism in the Middle East. But in a change of plan and destination, he and his fellow servicemen became sacrificial lambs on a continent much further from home. After tough rudimentary combat training in England, Stan's division set off on a secret overseas mission. After months at sea, and several unexpected ports of call, their convoy was redirected to the other side of the world as the Imperial Japanese Army rampaged across Manchuria, Hong Kong and other parts of Asia. Singapore was under sole British jurisdiction and a large naval base had been built after the First World War to defend the island at the foot of the Malay Peninsula. The British Government believed Japan would never attack their prize territory and so left Singapore to fight for itself with limited troops and outdated equipment. But after an attack on Pearl Harbor, the under-trained and undersupplied 18th Division was redirected to fight the Japanese. Using extensive research and personal documents, the authors' account - via their father's small, faded, diary and his 1990 tape recording - tells of Stan's journey and arrival in Keppel harbor under shellfire; the horrific 17 day battle to defend the island, the Japanese Admonition and the harrowing forced labour conditions after capitulation. Only a small percentage of the 85,000 British troops returned after the war. Captivity and years of trauma ultimately stole years of the young soldiers' lives, which they were later ordered to forget by the British Government. The aim of this work is to provide information for future generations to understand how ordinary men died under horrific conditions of war, and how the lucky survived.

By the laws of statistics John Wyatt should not be here today to tell his story. He firmly believes that someone somewhere was looking after him during those four years. Examine the odds stacked against him and his readers will understand why he hold this view. During the conflict in Malaya and Singapore his regiment lost two thirds of its men. More than three hundred patients and staff in the Alexandra Military hospital were slaughtered by the Japanese - he was the only known survivor. Twenty six percent of British soldiers slaving on the Burma Railway died. More than fifty men out of around six hundred died aboard the Aaska Maru and the Hakasan Maru. Many more did not manage to survive the harshest Japanese winter of 1944/45, the coldest in Japan since record began. John's experiences make for the most compelling and graphic reading. The courage, endurance and resilience of men like him never ceases to amaze.

Captive Memories

Cultural Heritage and Prisoners of War

Captive Fathers, Captive Children

Prisoners of War in Hong Kong and Japan, 1941-1945

The 2nd East Surreys in the Far East, 1938-1945

Captives of War

Psychiatric Morbidity Amongst Ex Far East Prisoners of War More Than Thirty Years After Repatriation

Describes the ordeal of American, British, and Australian prisoners held by the Japanese during World War II, revealing the hardships that they endured as well as the strength, determination, and friendship that helped many of them to survive.

Captivity, Slavery and Survival as a Far East POW is the incredibly moving story

*of Gus Anckorn, a British soldier who was captured by the Japanese and held for over three and a half years. Before the war, Gus was a magician and throughout the war, entertained both fellow soldiers and Japanese guards with his tricks. Gus has a brilliant sense of humor and a 'tell it as it is' attitude which got him into a number of scrapes with both the Japanese and his own side. He has a remarkable humility to his character and is extremely endearing, both in the book and face to face guaranteeing massive media attention. Gus experienced terrible ordeals that no one should have to face. He should have been killed on four or five occasions, but remarkably survived due to quick thinking and good luck. Gus also reveals the heartache of leaving his fiancée behind and not knowing if he would ever see her again. This is an incredibly moving book and will surely be considered as one of the classic Far East POW stories. Gus is still alive and active today, very publicity focused and well connected. He still holds the unique claim of being the youngest ever member of the Magic Circle and is now currently their oldest ever member. He is also a member of the Masons. Gus has appeared on BBC TV when they arranged for him to meet a Japanese POW camp guard on the bridge at Kwai. Dozens of British and Commonwealth officers of the rank of colonel and above were captured by the Japanese at the fall of Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Burma. These senior officers, many of whom were decorated war heroes, were separated from the men and formations, and shipped around the Japanese Empire in one group, kept alive so that the Japanese could ritually humiliate them at every opportunity. In direct contrast to how the Germans treated captured Allied senior officers, the Japanese inflicted the same appalling regime of starvation, beatings and hard labour on these senior prisoners, and several died through such abuse. Prominent personages treated in this way included General Percival, (GOC Malaya) and a host of major-generals, brigadiers, colonels and senior colonial officials. The detailed post-war testimonies given by these prominent prisoners greatly aided the Tokyo War Crimes tribunal in exposing the nature of Japanese treatment of Allied POWs. It was an extraordinary story of middle-aged military professionals living a day-to-day existence at the behest of cruel and capricious gaolers. All previous POW books on the Far East have concentrated upon the well-known sufferings of the thousands of more junior officers and other ranks taken prisoner, and largely ignoring the fates of the men whose command decisions actually led to captivity. SALES * A completely new angle on the ever popular genre of Japanese POWs * Untold story of the appalling treatment of these men by their captors * Researched and written by the author of Slaughter at Sea AUTHOR Mark Felton is an academic teaching history at Shanghai University. He is the author of Yanagi - The Secret Underwater Trade between Japan and Germany, The Fujita Plan - Japanese Submarine Attacks on the USA and Australia 1941 -42*

Japanese Human Experiments on Allied Prisoners of War

These Valiant Men

Hearing Before the Subcommittee on the Far East and the Pacific of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Eighty-fifth Congress, First Session, on H. Con

The Memoirs of a Far Eastern POW Medic

The Coolie Generals

Long Night's Journey into Day

Surviving the Sword

James Henry Banton was born in Burton on Trent in 1920. He worked as

a driver of a steam locomotive used to used to transport beer and supplies to breweries around the town. When war broke out Jim joined the RAF, eventually becoming a Leading Aircraftsman as part of the RAF ' s ground crew. During this time Jim had met the love of his life Dorothy Mason. Jim didn't know that when he left Gladstone Dock in Liverpool he would not see home or his family including Dorothy for another four and a half years. Eventually posted to the Far East he was captured by the Japanese in the hills on the island of Java. Used as slave labour, starved, beaten and witnessing death on a daily basis he was later put to work on the building of the Sumatra Railway. The Far East Prisoners of war became known as the Forgotten Army, however there has been little reference paid to the Sumatra Railway compared with other theatres of WW2. With this in mind the prisoners who worked on the Sumatra Railway could be considered to be the ' Forgotten of the Forgotten Army ' . In August 1945 the world celebrated victory in Europe, however for the FEPOW ' s the war dragged on. As parts of the world were trying to return to normality Jim and his colleagues were being made to dig their own graves in the Sumatra jungle. The FEPOW ' s lives hung in the balance as orders had been issued to murder all POW ' s should mainland Japan be invaded by the Allies. This book is Jim ' s story and it is hoped it will also be a reminder not only of the sacrifice of the Forgotten Army but also highlight the suffering of the ' Forgotten of the Forgotten Army ' – The Sumatra Railway POW ' s.

Captured at Singapore
A Diary of a Far East Prisoner of War
Pen and Sword Military

The result of an 8 year study with 66 British former ex POW who could not or would not speak about their captivity after the war and when they returned home most were sick men, still affected mentally and physically by their ordeal. Most made their way to the Liverpool School of Tropical medicine to seek the expertise of doctors there. So began a unique six-decade-long medical and scientific collaboration Conditions for Far East Prisoners of War were truly hellish. Appalling diseases were rife, the stench indescribable. Food and equipment were minimal or non existent. Men died daily, many in agony from which there was no relief. And yet, in the midst of such horrors, the human spirit steadfastly refused to be broken. Captives helped each other, intense bonds were formed, selfless sacrifices made. Tools and medical equipment were fashioned from whatever could be found, anything that could make life more bearable. Resilience, resourcefulness, pride and camaraderie; these were the keys to survival. Freedom, for those who made it, meant many things: home, family, comfort, of course; but also adjustment, loss of friendships, and a difficult road to recovery that for some would be lifelong. Most refused to talk about their experiences, coping alone with the post traumatic

stress and chronic health problems. It was these ongoing physical after effects of captivity that brought a group of men into contact with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Beginning in 1946 and lasting right up to the present day, LSTM's involvement with the health (and latterly the history) of these veterans represents the longest collaborative partnership ever undertaken by the School. Out of this unique and enduring relationship came knowledge which has improved the diagnosis and treatment of some tropical infections, together with a greater understanding of the long-term psychological effects of Far East captivity. Using eyewitness accounts and the personal perspectives of this group of now elderly POWs as the backdrop, *Captive Memories* charts this fascinating history.

List of Books on Prisoners of War and Internment Camps in the Far East During the Second World War

Burma Railway Medicine

The Unseen Art of British Far East Prisoners of War

British Prisoners of War in Europe in the Second World War

Prisoners of the Japanese in the Far East, 1942-45

Captivity, Slavery and Survival as a Far East POW

The Far East Prisoners of War Held in Java, 1942-1945

Although this is part of the Official History of New Zealand in the Second World War it is, in fact, the only official history of Prisoners of War produced by any Allied nation dealing with POWs, and is therefore of exceptional interest since it necessarily touches on prisoners of all other Allied countries too. The author's aim has been to build up what he calls a 'mosaic' picture of POW life from a multitude of accounts. The picture presented is a grim one - far from the glamour presented in films such as 'The Great Escape' - but also one of the endurance of the human spirit under extreme stress. Some 9,000 New Zealanders were taken prisoner in the war, from theatres as diverse as the Far East, North Africa, the Middle East, the Mediterranean and Europe. Of these, as many as 718 managed to escape, including 110 who got to neutral Switzerland from Germany and Italy. Accompanied by interesting and revealing photos and drawings made by prisoners, and by maps showing the locations of POW camps, this shows the grim but inspiring reality of the POW.

This thesis examines the story of American POWs held by the Japanese in WWII to see if there were significant differences in treatment based on rank. It examines how the Japanese treated the prisoners according to international law and also distinctions made by the officers themselves simply because of higher rank. The thesis begins by discussing the historical framework for POW rank distinctions by looking at past wars and the development of rank distinctions in international rules. It then covers the American WWII POW experience in the Far East from Bataan and Corregidor to the war's end. Special emphasis is placed on distinctions made in food, housing, pay, medical care, camp administration, work requirements, escape opportunities, transportation, leadership problems, and overall death rates. The study concludes that there were significant differences in treatment based on rank.

These differences caused extremely high enlisted death rates during the first year of captivity. The officers fared worse as a group, however, because the Japanese held them in the Philippines until late 1944 because international rules prevented the Japanese from using officers in Japan's labor camps. During shipment to Japan many officers died when the unmarked transport ships were sunk by advancing American forces.

A biography of the British World War II veteran and Japanese POW camp survivor who went on to create a life-saving device. Countless thousands of men and women around the world have good reason to be thankful that Frank Pantridge survived three and a half years of brutal Japanese captivity. Had he not, they too would in all probability have died too. Taken prisoner at the fall of Singapore in February 1942, Frank was forced to endure appalling deprivation. Conditions on the Burma railway were notorious, and the death rate was horrendous. On returning to Belfast in late 1945, Frank specialized in heart diseases. Convinced that the prompt application of electric shock after cardiac arrest could save lives, he reasoned that ventricular defibrillation should be applied not just in hospitals but in the workplace, the home, the street or ambulance. His first "portable" defibrillator was produced in 1965 and over the intervening years evolved into the compact units so prevalent today. The importance of Pantridge's invention was well demonstrated when U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson's life was saved in 1972. This stirring biography reveals the full story of a remarkable man who survived against the odds to save countless lives. Praise for Frank Pantridge MC "Cecil Lowry's book describes a man who...survived against all the odds. . . . A fascinating and moving story." —Books Monthly (UK)

*Japanese Prisoner of War and Inventor of the Portable Defibrillator
Captured at Singapore*

Unsung Heroes of the British Army

A Diary of a Far East Prisoner of War

In 1945, Far East Prisoners of War Returned to Their Families. But Their War was Not Over

Echoes of Captivity

The Barbed-Wire University

In 1941, Sgt Albert Victor Ient sought adventure and travel in the Services. Stationed in Hong Kong, he faced a different reality when his position was overrun. A generation later, his son Vic Ient set out to discover exactly what his father went through as a POW on the island of Innoshima. This is the story of how World War II affected everyday people. Beneath the politics, military tactics and diplomacy, there were the ordinary, hard-suffering servicemen. The author uncovers details of not only Sgt Ient's capture and imprisonment, but also of the experiences of seven others who lived to share their personal accounts. Ient explores armed conflict, ghastly prison transport and 3 years of suffering, through personal testimony, maps, photographs and telegrams, all in the context of the Far East theatre. With great strength, and even humour, these eight men's accounts reveal what POW life was really like. Including a

foreword from WWII historian Dr Tony Banham, These Valiant Men is both personal and factual – a must read for anyone with an interest in World War II. “A worthy and necessary addition to the library of works on the Second World War in the Far East.” – Reader Review

The 'Death Railway' was very well named. More correctly called the Burma or Thai-Burma Railway, it was a major project during Allied Far East imprisonment under the Japanese. Over 60,000 prisoners worked on its construction, the majority of whom were British, and some 20 per cent died before release in 1945. Working conditions were appalling, the climate inhospitable, and food supplies grossly inadequate, making the POWs terribly vulnerable to a plethora of tropical infections and syndromes of malnutrition. No medical care was given by their Japanese captors, and it fell to the Allied POW doctors and medical orderlies to treat the sick, which they did with little in the way of medical equipment or drugs.

This book focuses on the numerous examples of creativity produced by POWs and civilian internees during their captivity, including: paintings, cartoons, craftwork, needlework, acting, musical compositions, magazine and newspaper articles, wood carving, and recycled Red Cross tins turned into plates, mugs and makeshift stoves, all which have previously received little attention. The authors of this volume show the wide potential of such items to inform us about the daily life and struggle for survival behind barbed wire. Previously dismissed as items which could only serve to illustrate POW memoirs and diaries, this book argues for a central role of all items of creativity in helping us to understand the true experience of life in captivity. The international authors draw upon a rich seam of material from their own case studies of POW and civilian internment camps across the world, to offer a range of interpretations of this diverse and extraordinary material.

Death and Deprivation on the Forgotten Sumatra Railway

The Incredible Life of Fergus Anckorn

Forgotten Prisoners of War

The Devil's Doctors

Japanese Prisoners of War

Far Eastern Prisoners of War Bulletin

Conjuror on the Kwai

Americans are well informed with respect to atrocities committed by Germany during WWII. After the war, Germany apologized to concerned parties and even granted significant reparations. Generally, WWII opponents in Europe and the U.S. have become allies. Few are aware that Japan also committed serious wartime atrocities during WWII, including "The Rape of Manila," "The Bataan Death March" and its methodical starvation and torture of prisoners of war. Japan has not unequivocally apologized and has failed to make reparations. As a consequence, China and some

other countries continue to be extremely upset with Japan's failure to admit its complicity in WWII atrocities. In this book, Roy Fisher Doolan, son, and Roy Gibson Doolan, father, explain first hand experiences of what actually happened in the Philippines during WWII. Until Japan relents and accepts it's responsibility for the tragic consequences of WWII in the Far East, it will remain in a state of denial. "And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

John 8:32

Capture-- Imprisoned servicemen -- Bonds between men -- Ties with home -- Going "round the bend" -- Liberation -- Resettling -- Conclusion

Unsuitable for family reading.

The Conjuror on the Kwai

Disease, Death and Survival on the Thai-Burma Railway, 1942-1945

A Survivor's Account of the Burma Railway and the Hellships 1942-1945

By Hellship to Hiroshima

Beyond the Bamboo Screen

Official History: Prisoners of War 1939-1945

American Prisoners of War in the Far East. Remarks of Hon. Elbert D. Thomas a Senator from the State of Utah in the Senate of the United States February 7, 1944 Relative to American Prisoners of War in the Far East

Prisoners of the Japanese raises disturbing questions as well about the value placed on the lives of Allied POWs by their own supreme command. Of all military prisoners who died in the Japanese zone of captivity, more than one in four were killed by "friendly fire" ordered by General Douglas MacArthur. It is impossible not to be seized by the horror of the POWs' ordeal. But while the inhuman cruelty of the Japanese prison camps is documented exhaustively - beyond the shadow of a doubt - the book, at its core, tells a heartening story of ordinary men, trapped in impossible circumstances, not only struggling to survive but stubbornly, triumphantly asserting their humanity.

Ken Adams, as a trained medic, was sent out to the Far East and immediately saw action on the Malay Peninsula. Captured at Singapore he initially worked at Changi Hospital. Many moves and much worse capos in Thailand were to follow. He describes his life, work and the terrible conditions endured at the hands of the Japanese and Korea guards and worst of all, the Kempetai secret police. Illnesses such as dysentery, malaria, avitaminosis, cholera and smallpox had to be treated with minimal or no medicines. Starvation was a fact of life. The author was frequently moved around and in 1945 took part in a march of many hundreds of miles which inevitably proved fatal to many of his fellow POWs. Liberation and repatriation are movingly described as, most significantly, is the whole process of settling back into normal life after so long in captivity of the worst kind. Healing in Hell is an exceptional account that demands reading.

Considers (85) H. Con. Res. 140.

Last Post over the River Kwai

Scottish Prisoners of War Under the Japanese : Extracts from Newsletters of the Scottish Far East Prisoner of War Association and Other Sources

August 1945-.

Return of American Prisoners of War who Have Not Been Accounted for by the Communists

POWs of World War II in the Pacific

Frank Pantridge MC

Claims Against the Japanese Government for Compensation for Former Far Eastern Prisoners-of-war; Proposed Use of Japanese Assets as Compensation; Claims for War Time Damage and Loss of Property Caused by the Japanese; Incorporation of Claim Arrangements in the Japanese Peace Treaty. Code FJ File 1481 (papers 31-57)

Why are the daughters and sons of Far East prisoners of war still captivated by the stories of their fathers? What is it that compels so many of the children, after so many years, to search for the details of their fathers' captivity? And how, over the decades, have they come to terms with their childhood memories? In his book Terry Smyth treads new ground by examining the processes through which the children's memory practices came to be rooted in the POW experiences of their fathers. By following a life course approach, and a psychosocial methodology, the book demonstrates how memory and trauma were 'worked into' the social and cultural lives of individual children, and explores how the relationship between their inner psychic worlds and subsequent memory practices unfolded against a challenging and morally ambivalent geopolitical background. The book invites readers to engage with the author in a journey of exploration and self-reflection, with elements of auto-ethnography adding richness to the text. Enlivened by interview extracts, case study material and ethnographic observations, this work opens up fresh and ambitious perspectives on the personal legacies of war.

During World War II the Japanese were stereotyped in the European imagination as fanatical, cruel, almost inhuman - an image reflected in most books and films about prisoner of war in the Far East. While the Japanese certainly treated those they captured badly, behaving far worse to Chinese and native captives than to Europeans, the conventional view of the Japanese is unhistorical and simplistic. It fails to recognize that the Japanese were acting at a time of supreme national crisis, at a particular period of their history, and that their attitudes were influenced by a combination of their perception of their own racial identity mixed with a powerful historical tradition. This collection of essays, by both western and Japanese scholars, aims to see the question from a historical viewpoint, and from both a western and Japanese perspective, looking at it in the light of both longer-term influences, notably the Japanese attempt to establish themselves as an honorary white race. The essays also examine particular instances. Conditions in the almost self-run camp at Changi contrasted remarkably with those on the Burma Railway, where disease and a failure to provide supplies caused terrible suffering. The book also addresses the other side of the question, looking at the treatment of Japanese prisoners in Allied captivity.

Legacies of the War in the Far East

The Real Lives of Prisoners of War in the Second World War

American Prisoners of War in Th Far East

No Mercy from the Japanese