



ADBC MEMORIAL SOCIETY AND AMERICAN DEFENDERS OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR

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Number 2

POW Survivors and Families Visit Japan in Fifth Friendship Visit





Picture Left: Front: (Seated) L-R, Warren Jorgensen, Ambassador Caroline Kennedy, Bill Sanchez and Anthony Costa Back: (Standing) L-R, Darrell Stark, Dan Crowley and Oral Nichols. Picture Right, Ambassador Kennedy and Bill Sanchez

For the fifth year the Japanese government sponsored a visit to Japan for former WWII Prisoners of War who were held by the Japanese over three and a half years. The activities took place between October 12th and October 20th. The seven men invited to participate in the US-Japanese POW Friendship Program were: Anthony Costa, 94, from Concord, CA (4th Marine), Dan Crowley, 92, from Simsbury, CT (24th Pursuit Sg); Warren Jorgenson, 93, from Bennington, NE (4th Marine); Oral Nichols, 93, from Carlsbad, NM (Wake Island, Civilian); Bill Sanchez, 94, Monterey (59^{th}) Park. Coast CA Artillery); Jack Schwartz, 99, from Hanford, CA (Guam, Navy); Darrell Stark, 91, from Stafford Springs, CT (31st Infantry). For most this was their first trip to Japan in over 70 years.



Highlights of the trip were a press conference at the Japan National Press Club, a meeting with Ambassador Caroline Kennedy at the Ambassador's Residence. visit **Kyoto** а to Museum of World Peace at Ritsumeikan University. There was press conference at the Japan National Press Club where all the members spoke and answered questions about their POW experiences.

Caroline Kennedy talks Darrell with Stark as his daughter Judy Stark (standing) watches interest. The meeting was held at Ambassador Kennedy's home in Japan. Read more about Stark on page six.

Ambassador

Some members of the delegation visited the site of the prison camp in which they were held. At Kawasaki, Jack Schwartz was amazed to see that the barracks where he lived he was when imprisoned at the Mitsui factory were still standing. Other men went to Osaka, Omori, and Hitachi. It was a healing experience for most of the men and they were glad that they participated in the trip.

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The ADBC Memorial Society

ADBC Memorial Society

Honoring the Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor
Dedicated to those persons living and dead who fought
against overwhelming odds against
the enemy at the outbreak of World War Two



of the American Defenders of Bataan &

Corregidor

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The Quan

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> George Wallace Editor, The Quan



Pictured Above Officers, Andrea Krempa, At Large Member, Caroline Burkhart, Vice-President, Jan Thompson, President, Judy Pruitt, Treasurer, Jim Nelson, At-Large Member, President, Judy Pruitt, Treasurer, and Kristen Meilicke. Not pictured are Jim Erickson, At-Large Member

Contributors to this newsletter: Jan Thompson, Jim Brockman, Kathy Holcomb, Andrea Krempa, Caroline Burkhart, Darrell Stark, Warren Jorgensen, and Larry Jorgensen, and George Wallace



President's Message -- Jan Thompson

This fall seven more of our former POWs were invited to Japan. Anthony Costa, Dan Crowley, Oral Nichols, Bill Sanchez, Darrell Schwartz and Warren Jorgenson. Within this issue of our Quan you will read some of the men's reactions to the trip. Former National Commander Lester Tenney was the individual who fought for these trips and finally was able to get the Japanese Government on board to invite our men over.

The Japanese Government has been inviting seven former POWs now for five years.

Late this summer, and with the assistance of our United States State Department, we sent out a letter to a database of men who had been prisoners of the Japanese to see if there were others out there who would like to go in the future. We now have a waiting list of about 25! And there were many who contacted me who would have liked to go but age has taken its toll. As a result of this positive reaction we are now trying to encourage the Japanese Government to increase the numbers for next year's trip. We are hopeful that they will listen as I think these trips have been beneficial for both sides. I will keep you posted over the next few months how this progresses.

Since our convention in May, the Mukden Prisoner of War Remembrance Society had their annual re-

union in Greensboro North Carolina where three of our men attended; Erwin Johnson, Randall Edwards and Ralph Griffith. I was able to attend with another Board member Andrea Krempa and our honorary descendant Loretta Swit. We were all very impressed with the activities that descendant and lead organizer Anna Lyons arranged. More information about this event is also included in this issue of The Quan.

As we end the year, we hope you are feeling generous. Please consider making a donation to the ADBC-MS. We are tax exempt and your donation can be earmarked by you for any activity that you would like to support: the educational grants, the Roger Mansell Lecture Fund, the Jim Collier Memorial Fund. I think we can be proud of what this organization has accomplished in its infancy but it is a group effort and many of the activities do require financial help.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday!

Jan Thompson



Obituaries and other articles should be sent to thequan@comcast.net or mailed to:

The Quan

67 7th Street Wellsburg, WV 26070



Books for Sale

Two books by Jannie Wilbrink Java Lost: A Child Imprisoned by the

Japanese in WWII.

Java Lost: Eighteen Inches on a Mattress

Each book is \$25.00 plus \$4.00 Shipping and Handling. C o n t a c t : M a r i a n n e Rohrbough, 13219 W. Twin Peaks Rd., Marana, AZ 85653

Once Forgotten, by D.Randall Haley,, PhD, and retired Army Major. It is about Philip R. Haley's combat and prisoner of war experiences in the Far East. It can be pur chased at http://amazon.com for \$28.00

Survivor, An American soldier's heartfelt story of intense fighting, and survival from Bataan to Nagasaki -Msgt. Frank N. Lovato as told to Francisco Lovato. This book can be purchased at www.survivorbook.com for \$23.00

I Am Coming Home, by Wendell H. McGarry. It is a first person account of Dr. McGarry's experiences as a POW in the Philippine Islands. From Corregidor (1942) to Ft. Frank, to Bilibid, to Cabanatuan and to his liberation at Bilibid in 1945. It can be purchased at gwenajm@hotmail.com for \$14.00 or e-mail requests to address below.

Gwen J. McGarry, PO Box 392,

Gwen J. McGarry, PO Box 392 Ephraim, Utah 84627

"Deadline Captain Charlie's Bataan Diary." by Charles Underwood. It is the story of a newspaper reporter to commander: survivor of Bataan, Death March, life in three POW camps, for \$16.99. Is is published by Piscataqua Press. When ordering there mention member of Quan and request the 10% discount.

The book may also be ordered from Amazon.com

Happenings at ADBC Museum in Wellsburg, WV



Jim Brockman, and former Professor Richard Lizza look as U.S. Senator Joe Manchin views the items from the original ADBC

James S. Brockman, the new curator of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Museum, Education and Research Center, located at the Wellsburg library building, has many academic credentials and life experiences which make him ideally suited for taking the reigns at the local collection.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from La Roche College, a Master of Arts in Archives, Museum and Historical Text Editing with a concentration in 20th Century History from Duquesne University with graduate work in Urban Studies and the History of Technology from Carnegie Mellon University and Higher Education Leadership from Union Institute and University in Cincinnati, Ohio. His career spans 30 years in education and economic development and he recently held several teaching and administrative positions at the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and several private universities in western Pennsylvania. He was a member of the PASSHE Economic Development Board and Local Education for the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

In addition to his three tours in Vietnam he served aboard the *USS Tanner*, AGS-15, a hydrographic research ship and the *USS Conserver*, ARS-39, a rescue salvage ship with the rate of Radioman/Cryptographer. He also served in VF-41, an F-4 squadron out of Oceana Naval Air Force Station, and flew off the *USS Roosevelt CVA-42*.

Transferring to VQ-2 of Rota, Spain, he maintained the Photographic Intelligence Office of the squadron, was also Top Secret Document Control Officer and flew unarmed photo reconnaissance missions for the squadron.

Brockman attended the Naval Cryptographic School in Hawaii, Photographic Intelligence School in Denver, Missile Shoot School, Marine Air Corp Air Station, Yuma, AZ and Top Gun School, Miramar, CA.

In addition to his academic background, business and mil-

itary experiences, he has considerable success in fundraising and grant writing. He plans to work in that area to help increase financial support for both the library and the ADBC Museum.

In accepting the post he said he is pleased to have an opportunity to make a difference in the growth and development of what he considers a vital organization of global importance.

The ADBC Museum was established at the local library as a special collection and named as an official designate repository for documents, items and memorabilia of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor in 2008. It houses the largest collection of materials and items dedicated exclusively to the members of the ADBC, and to their World War II experiences and their heroic defense of the Philippines.

--contributed by George Wallace

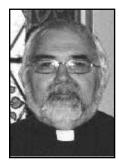
Jim Brockman Outlines Plans at the Museum

We are still receiving artifacts from a variety of sources, many thanks to Linda Goetz Holmes and Nina Bigley for their recent donations of artifacts. We are also working with such museums as the United States Naval Academy and the Eldred World



War II Museum in securing artifacts to complete or add to our collection. We are also looking into traveling exhibits for several events next year. We are continuing to upgrade the museum to AAM standards and have begun to rotate artifacts to allow for viewing of different artifacts during different times of the year. Did you know we have a large collection of Bob Hope USO photos?

The Chaplain's Corner - Davis Ferrell



The season is surely changing. The trees are turning brilliant hues and the weather has developed that nip. Of course, it has more nip in some areas than others. I do not know about you but one of the things that has bothered me this year is the Christmas displays in the store. Not that I am opposed to Christmas decorations but starting before Halloween seems a bit much. As I

think about it, one of my biggest concerns about starting so early is that it seems to move us right past Thanksgiving. The one time of year, we are called to giving thanks to God. It seems like something that would be so easy to do and to come so natural. Yet, it does not seem to be. I know that it is easy to me to listing my prayers and concerns when I am praying to God. They just seem to reel off my tongue but when is comes to listing thanks I often have to think for a moment. That is so ridiculous with all the blessing I have.

One of the things I remember dad and others talking to me about while they were in prison camp was giving thanks. Now they really had cares and concerns. Dad would say that finding one thing to be thankful each morning helped to keep his perspective on life. Now if he could do that at a time when he was off hungrier than I can ever imagine how can I do less. With that said, you would think it would

come easy for me to give thanks each morning for just one blessing in my life. Well the problem is that too often I jump out of bed ready to face the day and do not take the time. My request of you is that you take at least a moment each day to thank God for at least one blessing in your life. It does not have to be first thing in the morning. It is important though that you pick a time and do you best to make it a habit. I believe that it can really help in keeping a positive perspective on your life. Between commercialism and negative campaign adds that is not always easy to do this time of year.

My prayer for each of you, is that first during Thanksgiving and then Christmas that you give thanks for your blessings. Hopefully, you will have an opportunity to be with family which is another blessing. For those of you who still have family or friends who were POWs or spouses, hold them close and give special thanks. It is a time of year, of joy, of laughter, of song, and of love. May the blessing of the Lord be with each of you.



 \mathbf{D} +

Happy Holidays
from
the ADBC Memorial Society
and the ADBC Museum

Darrell Stark Connects to the Past in His Japanese Trip

My dear Mr Stark.

It has five years passed Since I saw you later. Now and thou excollecting at that time.

I feel yearning for you to much I am living the dreary life since. I have lost very older child last summer:

I have long wanted to write to you, but please excuse me for my long silance.

I future gayan exists on your kind help. I am sure that you will give me your kind guidence and friendships and I hope they will be lasting forever.

Wishing you many happyness heartely your affectionaltely.

8th march 1950

N. Nakahara

8. Suehiro cho yokkawan utig Japan.

Text of letter

It has been five years passed. Since I saw you last. Now and then recollecting that time. At that times, I feel yearning for you so much. I am living the dreary life since I have lost my older child last summer.

I have long wanted to write to you, but please excuse me for my long silence.

I future Japan exists on your kind help. I am sure that you give me your kind guidance and friendship and I hope they will be lasting forever.

Wishing you many happiness heartily yours affectionately.

8th March 1950

M. Nakahara 8 Suchiro cho

Yokkaichi City Japan

The letter included with this article was written by one of only two Japanese who truly treated me like a human being. As I made preparations to go to Japan for the fifth Japanese/POW Friendship visit it was my sincere hope that I would have an opportunity to talk to some of Mr. Nakahara's family and express to them my very, very heartfelt gratitude for what he did for me and my friend and I am extremely sorry that I never responded to his letter.

I was taken captive by the Japanese on Bataan, spent time at Cabanatuan and Davoa Penal Colony. In Manila we were placed on the Canadian Inventor on July 2, 1944 and then spent 62 days on a very long and horrible death ridden trip arriving in Japan on September 1, 1944. It turned out to be the longest running time of any ship transporting POW's to Japan. As a result that ship was called the Mati Mati Maru, which means Wait, Wait in Japanese.

When I arrived in Japan, I was sent to Yokkaichi and worked in the copper smelting plant. That is when I came in contact with Mr. Nakahara, who was our boss. The work was extremely hard and hot. We were working a coal furnace which we had to feed the coal through a hopper that blew it into a

burner. We were suppose to screen and make sure there were no metal particles with the coal that could cause the burner to break.

Occasionally we would place some object into the hopper to cause a break and I am certain that our boss was aware of it, but we never received any punishment at all for those breakdowns.

One day, my coworker and I took Mr. Nakahara's lunch that he had brought to work and ate it. He never said a word to us about it, but the next day when he came back to work he brought two lunches and he said to us "one for you and one for me". He did that every day that we worked together and I feel strongly that his family also made a sacrifice to give us a little food to eat. He continued to do that until an earthquake put the factory out of business and we were transferred to Toyama, Japan.

The principle thing I want to say about his kindness is this: We prisoners were starving and I am sure at that time during the war (thinking about it years later) that the Japanese were having difficulties getting enough food for themselves.

From October 11 - 20, 2014 I was fortunate to participate in The Japanese

/ POW Friendship Program with 6 other POWs. We visited Japan as guests of the Japanese government. We were welcomed and treated with a great deal of hospitality.

The most exciting and emotional part of the trip was my visit to Yokkaichi on October 16. I visited Ishihara Sangyo, LTD the company that I was a slave laborer for. Prior to the visit I sent a copy of the letter from Mr. Nakahara to Mr. Marvin Hosokawa in the company's San Francisco Office. Mr. Hosokawa was kind enough to contact the factory in Yokkaichi. The management at the factory on the day of our visit, was so kind, even at one point taking my hand and saying they are very sorry for all the bad things in the past.

That was an extremely emotional moment because there was not anyone in that room that was responsible for those things. They then told me that they were not able to find Mr. Nakahara but using the address from the letter they found a lady that was his neighbor and still lived in the same place. I asked if I could contact her and they suggested it would be better if they did. So, I left a letter with the company that I had written to the Nakahara family.

(cont. on page 9)

My Visit to My Father Harold Vicks Work-site at Ishihara Sangyo and to Hiroshima-- by Kathy Holcomb



On September 8, 2014, my husband, Jeff, and I had the wonderful opportunity to visit Yokkaichi, a central city in Japan, and Ishihara Sangyo, the company my dad was forced to work for while a prisoner of war in Japan during WWII.

We were accompanied by Kinue Tokudome, a wonderful Japanese woman who works to promote dialogue between the Japanese people and the United States on the history of the POWs of the Japanese during WWII.

In the morning we left the Nagoya train station riding on a local train. As the train rolled over the tracks Kinue told me that these were most likely the same tracks my dad was transported over when he arrived from the Philippines on the Hellship, the Canadian Inventor. As I listened to the sound of the train running over the tracks I wondered what it must have been like for my dad going to yet another prison camp after having survived several camps in the Philippines where thousands of his fellow POWs died. Were any of the buildings I was looking at as we passed by standing during that Were the sounds of the train on the tracks the same? Did he see any of the same things? I know for sure he wasn't traveling in an air-conditioned car, as we were. This was the first of many times that day I would become emotional thinking about my dad and what he went through.

At the station we were met by Mr. Hiroshi Kimura from Ishihara Sangyo

and traveled by company bus to their facility. They were a copper mine back when Dad was a POW there but now they produce much safer products. As we drove to Ishihara Sangyo, I could feel my dad with me. I knew he didn't receive a welcome as we did.

We went into the building and were escorted to a large conference room. We sat across from the people

from Ishihara Sangyo. There were about five employees of the company seated (and others standing), including the Director and Managing Exec-

utive Officer, Akira Kobayashi, the Executive Officer and Deputy Director of the plant. Masashi Tsuchimoto. Kinue was kind enough to translate. Mr. Kobayashi started out by saying they apologized for what took place at their company where they used POWs as forced laborers durina the war. He used

the word "apology" and didn't just talk around it. You could tell they weren't just words he felt obligated to say because of the circumstances, but was a heartfelt apology. I had trouble holding back the tears and it was obvious they could feel and sympathize with my pain. He bowed very low while sitting and kept his head down for a few moments. On behalf of my father, I accepted the apology he rendered from Ishihara Sangyo. I so, so wish my father could have heard it. Unfortunately he passed away on July 6, 2007 before even receiving the apology from the Japanese government, which was offered by Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki in 2009 and again by Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada in 2010.

They had prepared a packet telling us about the company and giving us two photos. One was of the camp as it was when Dad was there, and one of the company as it stands now. The two photos were taken from the same advantage point so they could show me where things were then and how the plant layout today is different. As I looked at it I realized that the building next to us was most likely the spot where the barracks my dad stayed in were located.

The first stop on the tour was at the memorial for those POWs who died within the camp. Ishihara Sangyo is unique among those Japanese companies that used Allied POWs in that



Building on left is probably where Dad's barracks were

they set up a memorial. The original memorial was built in 1947 but destroyed by a typhoon in 1959. We got off the bus and walked through a small grove of trees to the memorial. It was beautiful and well kept. As I walked through the trees to the memorial, I thought about the men dad told me about that didn't make it back. Again my emotions overcame me. The memorial was beautiful. They had fresh, beautiful flowers for me to lay at the site and two urns of fresh flowers were on each side of what they believe was the original plaque, washed away by the typhoon. They re-made the plaque and

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Memorial at Ishihara Sangyo (I), Mr. Kobayashi, my husband Jeff, Kinue, Mr. Tsuchimoto, me, Mr. Kimura (right)

it is mounted above the original one. It says,

"Nothing is more sublime than to sacrifice one's own life for the sake of others. This is dedicated to those who fought and died bravely in the name of peace and freedom during World War II."

There is also a board, near the memorial, which says, in Japanese,

"This is the monument dedicated to the soldiers of the Allied Powers who unfortunately passed away here during World War II. Let us put their souls at rest for ever and ever with the bouquet of our passions for peace."

I said a prayer for Dad's friends who had died there and told Dad this visit was for him and I was doing it as he could not be here. I could not help but think that if not for Hiroshima my dad might very well had been one memorialized at the spot I was standing.

We continued our tour within the plant. We turned onto a street and Kinue said "This is street where your dad would have walked to work every day." I got goose bumps. There was also a building in the approximate location of where the tallest smoke stack in Japan used to stand. It was where my dad and the other U. S. soldiers had to bow every day. In my mind's eye I could picture him and his friends walking down this street. I asked if I could get out as I had to stand where he might very well have walked and look at the building, imagining the smoke stack, and picturing how my dad bowed, maybe in this very spot, every day. Here I was in good health and well

fed while it probably took every ounce of his strength to walk these roads.

The next stop was the bay where copper ore was unloaded. This might be where dad was when he said he could see the bombing of Nagoya, by the U. S., across the bay. They told me a building near that point was one that was standing during that time. I was allowed to walk over and touch the wall of the building. I took in the smells (sulfur and ocean) and how the air felt, thinking how Dad too had experienced these things, wondering if he had touched the same wall 69-70 years ago. The tears flowed with the thought this was a spot where he was in such agony. There was another building dating back to that date still standing and I also went over to it to put my hand on a building my dad would most certainly have seen so many years ago.

We then went back the way we came and I tried to take in everything while thinking about Dad being there during the darkest days of his life. It's very hard to put into words how I felt.

We went back into the conference room and I was encouraged to ask questions. I really didn't have any. I'd seen everything they could show me. They didn't really know where the copper furnace or hospital were which were two places Dad spent a lot of time. They gave me a gift, as a token of our friendship, of a Japanese fan on a stand. It is beautiful.

I thanked them from the bottom of my heart for taking the time and incurring the expense of several people's salaries, the flowers, etc., and for their apology. It meant so much to me and I know it would have to my dad as well.

As we left, I looked back again at the place the barracks most likely had been, feeling Dad's presence. All of the men from Ishihara Sangyo were standing in front of the building waving goodbye. I'm sure that's not the kind of memory Dad has of Ishihara Sangyo but my last memory is pleasant, though bittersweet. I shall never forget the kindness of the people of Ishihara Sangyo and so wish my dad could have been there.

I grew up hearing stories of the Bataan Death March, the POW camps in the Philippines, the Hell ships and Dad's time at the camp run by Ishihara Sangyo. He suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder his whole life. He was in his late 60's when he jumped out of bed in the middle of the night, thinking he was diving into his tank as the Japanese attacked. He had pain his entire life from the broken foot he sustained at Ishihara Sangyo when the train he was riding carrying copper ore derailed. Despite the pain, after returning home, he chose to be a service station owner where he was on his feet all day on cement. I can remember, as a child, how much his foot would hurt at the end of the day. After my dad broke his foot and was refused medical care, he used crutches made by his fellow POWs. Later in life he developed aneurysms under both arms and had to have surgery. Scars from diseases he contracted at the camps caused scarring to his lungs and he spent about a month in a Veteran's Administration

(cont. on next page)

(continued from previous page)

Sanatorium for those with active tuberculosis. All tests, except the x-ray, showed he did not have TB so we smuggled him out in the middle of the night before he contracted it from the other men in the same ward of the hospital.

The war and the cruel treatment he received by the Japanese was a part of his life. It was with him every single day. He talked about it daily and unfortunately did not live to hear the apology from the Japanese government, nor visit the camp. I think if he had received the apology and visited the camp and seen the sincerity of the people now in charge, it would have made him feel better. I'm not sure he could forgive or forget, but I think it would have eased the pain somewhat and certainly would have shown him that the Japanese people alive today regret the actions of their predecessors and that now it is time to move forward and put the past behind us.

Ishihara Sangyo is one of the very few companies that have apologized for wartime POW forced labor. They welcomed the first POW in 1961, so they were doing the right thing not that many years after the war. Other companies such as Mitsubishi, Mitsui, Nippon Steele and Kawasaki, not only refuse to apologize but deny access to POWs who want to revisit the site of the place that forever changed their lives. It is my hope that these companies see the positive side of letting the POWs and their descendants visit and follow the example of Ishihara Sangyo.

During my trip to Japan this time, I had the wonderful opportunity to ring the peace bell in the Peace Park at Hiroshima with a Japanese lady. We both had tears in our eyes as we did it. My generation wants to move on past the harm Japan and the United States did to each other. I am so thankful I had the opportunity to visit both Hiroshima and Ishishara Sangyo and to receive the apology and to forgive. I will never forget their kindness. I think Dad would have been proud of me.



Mukden Reunion 2014

The annual reunion of the Mukden Prisoner of War Remembrance Society was held at the beginning of October in the city of Greensboro, NC. This year's coordinator was Anna Keever Lyon. Anna enlisted the help of her lovely daughters Leigh Anna and Sarah, and together with family, friends and the entire city of Greensboro, they hosted an outstanding meeting. The choice of a charming and historic downtown hotel, the Biltmore Greensboro proved to be ideal. It was a wonderful home base and the reunion was organized to showcase the city with many interesting excursions. One of the highlights was an exclusive southern BBQ complete with a lively performance by a local Barbershop Quartet. The food was delicious and the entertainment brought endless smiles. It also gave us the perfect opportunity to celebrate Erwin Johnson's birthday

The Greensboro Historical Museum held an Honoring Ceremony for the survivors of the Mukden POW camp. The presentation of colors was executed with precision by the Fort Bragg Color Guard. Erwin Johnson, former POW, led The Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. David Holley beautifully performed "The Star Bangled Banner". Dr. Holley is the head of the Opera Department at the University of NC, Greensboro. sang all four verses and wowed us with his vocals. Loretta Swit, actress and generous supporter of the ADBC Memorial Society, read a poignant letter that was written by an anonymous POW author regarding our freedom. Loretta's reading was powerful and she graciously gave interviews to the press and reporters who were on hand covering the event for the local TV news. Mayor of Greensboro, Nancy Vaughan made us all feel like honorary citizens. Representative Howard Coble presented letters written to James Beshears, Randal Edwards, Ralph Griffith, Erwin Johnson, and Robert Rosendahl, former POWs. Congressman Coble has represented his district in NC for over thirty years.

A special thank you to the Westover Church, Greensboro for hosting a private screening of Jan Thompson's film," Never The Same, The Prisoner-Of-War Experience". The film sparked thought provoking conversations among the audience, and those who had not yet seen the movie were especially grateful.

Westover Church was the site of the Memorial Service held this year for the Deceased Mukden Prisoners. Pastor Don Miller read a beautiful prayer and gave us inspirational words of dedication for all those who have passed. There was time devoted for family members to speak of their remembrances and to honor their loved ones. We all agreed that Loretta should read again the anonymous POW letter. Westover Church welcomed us all and Pastor Miller gave enormously of his time to speak with us all individually.

The 2014 Mukden Reunion is one that will never be forgotten. The enthusiasm of the attendees was contagious. The Mukden coordinators for 2014, the staff at the Biltmore Greensboro, the Greensboro Historical Museum, Westover Church, and the entire city of Greensboro, NC is to be congratulated on a truly memorable event.

Andrea Krempa ADBC Memorial Society Board Member

Darrell Stark Connects to the Past (cont. from page 6)

Many thanks to Ishihara Sanyo, LTD for truly making this a friendship Program.

On November 14 I received a letter from Mr. Nakahara's son. I am so happy that I can let his children and grandchildren know the kind of human being he was, a man that would

sacrifice to help another human being. My thanks to Jan Thompson (ADBC), our State Department, and the Japanese Foreign Ministry for all their hard work in planning this trip.





Jack Jr and Jack Sr Schwartz (senior is 99 years old)



Oral and Jeff Nichols



Darrell and Judy Stark

POWs Return to Japan 2014



Mukden Reunion in Greensboro, NC



POWs formerly imprisoned in Mukden, Manchuria, their descendants and friends attended the Mukden Reunion in Greensboro, Noth Carolina. Ralph Griffith, Loretta Swit, Erwin Johnson, and Randall Edwards are pictured above. See page nine for details of this meaningful event that occurred in early October.

ADBC Memberships and Quan Subscriptions

The ADBC Memorial Society will now become your one stop shopping for ADBC Memorial Society Memberships and Quan Subscriptions.

You can make checks out to Judith Pruitt, ADBC Memorial Society, 23 Elwell Road, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

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Father and Son Write of their Trip to Japan



At left is Yuka Ibuki, a former teacher in Japan who has been involved with creating dialogue between the Japanese POWs and the Japanese people and companies who formerly used the men in their companies because of the shortage of manpower during the war.

With her are Warren Jorgenson and his son Larry who share their experiences below and tell of their feelings of healing and appreciation of all those who make these trips possible.

As guests of the Japanese seven ex-pows experienced seven days of almost pure adulation. Unbelievable. We apparently were being chaperoned by the Department of Foreign Affairs. We were introduced to may dignitaries including Mr. Nakayama the State Minister of Foreign Affairs who had just returned from a state visit to

Egypt. What a fine gentleman he was. If I ever had any doubts about the sincerity of the Apology extended us in 2010, they've been erased. I fear that as a group we seem to think that if that apology hadn't been extended by the Emperor it didn't count. Bull hockey! Judging from the experience, the

newspaper editorials, etc., the Jap-

anese people seemingly couldn't be more happy with and appreciative of their alliance with America.

2014 Japan/POW Friendship participant Warren Jorgenson

I got the call from my father (Warren Jorgenson) in June. Upon hearing his question, it was with some apprehension that I said "yes". Dad had gotten a call asking if he would be interested in being one of seven POW's who would travel with a caregiver, as guests of the Japanese Government for the 2014 POW Friendship Tour. I told him that I would make the trip with him only if he was certain he could do it. At age 93, many things aren't as easy as they once were.

October got here quickly and we were off on the journey. We were very pleasantly surprised to be traveling aboard a new Boeing 787 in Business class accommodations that had seats that laid out flat. The plane also reached speeds of 725 MPH, making a long trip in much shorter time.

Upon arrival we were greeted by a lady whom dad knew from ADBC meetings. She had arranged transportation to our Hotel in Tokyo. We arrived at the Prince Tower Hotel and were introduced to translators and group leaders with whom we quickly grew close.

We would spend four nights in Tokyo, one night, in smaller groups, at a city of special interest to the POW's, then three nights in Kyoto (Japan's ancient capital and cultural center) with the entire group again. We rode private chartered buses and bullet trains and even taxis (always with wheel chair accommodations).

The eight day itinerary, was pretty full but still provided lots of sight seeing and even time to shop, with stops made at locations to make this easy with wheel chairs. We stayed in 5 star hotels and ate 5 star food, always buffet style. I called my wife after about 6 days and told her I would be adding at least 5 pounds on the trip. I was pleasantly surprised to find that I actually lost 3 pounds despite eating like a king at every meal. We attended conferences, met politicians, were asked questions

by the news media, and got to meet The US Ambassador to Japan, Caroline Kennedy at the Embassy in Tokyo.

On a side note. On at least two occasions we were asked by the local media about our opinion of article 9 of the Japanese constitution. In retrospect, it might be best to just say "Questions like this are best left to your elected officials who understand the impact of such things on the Japanese people better than we do."

We met new friends and grew closer to old ones. Despite the amazing sights and experiences, maybe the most memorable moments were had simply relaxing near a fire place in a hotel lobby listening to the POW's laugh and tell stories.

I think I can safely say with the other caregivers, we were all grateful to have had this amazing opportunity, and create memories of a lifetime.

Larry Jorgenson Seal Beach, Ca.

~ Deceased ~

DEATHS

This Issue
Ruth G. Cunningham
Cecil Forinash
Earl Dean Rayhel
John Real

Ruth G. Cunningham

Ruth Cunningham 91, of Spokane Valley, WA, passed away on October 10, 2013. In 1980, she was instrumental in organizing the Spokane-Inland Empire Chapter of the AXPOW. She was extremely active in the chapter and served as adjutant for over 30 years. Ruth received the Out-Standing Female Non-Veteran Award by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs in 2001. Ruth's husband, Cecil, was a prisoner of war of the Japanese and interned in Davao, P.I. and Yokkaichi, Japan for 3 ½ years. He served in the 7th Material Sqd- in the 19th B.G. Cecil was a Life Member in ADBC and Ruth was an honorary member. They were active in the N.W. Chapter of ADBC and attended many chapter and national conventions. Ruth is survived by two loving daughters. Susan and Gloria, and their spouses, three granddaughters and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Cecil in 2002 and her grandson in 2010.

Cecil Forinash

Forinash, Cecil L. (Colonel, US Army Retired) - age 96, of Knoxville, Tennessee, died July 25, 2014, after a brief illness. He is preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Mary May Forinash. He is fondly remembered by his children, David L. (Jean) Forinash of Elizabethton, Tennessee, and Patti (Walter) Trent of Colorado Springs, Colorado; his grandchildren, Mariebeth

(Keith) Avotte, Geri (Matt) Mahaley, Tim (Heather) Forinash, Jason Forinash, Derek (Sean Mayo) Trent, Kelli Trent, Laura (Zac Grey) Trent; and six great grandchildren. Cecil was born December 9, 1917, in West Chester, Iowa, to John C. and Mary Forinash. He entered the University of Iowa in 1935. and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve in 1939. He entered active duty as part of Third Infantry Regiment on July 5, 1939. In 1940, he was assigned to the Philippine Islands and, in 1941, became an aerial observer with the Air Corps. Upon Japan's invasion of the Philippines, he requested and was assigned to Second Battalion, 31st Infantry Division of the Philippine Army. He was wounded in the fighting, but elected to stay in the Philippine Islands. After months of fighting in the defense of Bataan and Corregidor, he was captured by the Japanese Army April 9, 1942, and endured days on what is now known as the "Bataan Death March". After months in prison camp in the Philippines, he was transferred on a hell ship to Japan where he remained a prisoner of war at various camps until his release on September 8, 1945. Upon his return to the United States and subsequent hospitalization, he was sent to Miami Beach for recuperation and met the love of his life and future wife, Mary May, who was in charge of the Red Cross Operation serving former Japanese prisoners of war. They married in Powell, Tennessee, on June 22, 1946. Deciding to attend the University of Tennessee College of Law, he graduated in 1949. After law school, he re-entered the Army as a Judge Advocate General Corps officer, where served across the United States. Korea, and Europe until his retirement November 1, 1969. He and his family returned to Knoxville in 1969 where he briefly entered into the private practice of law. He became a prosecutor in the Knoxville City Court and later retired as an assistant attorney general in Knox County in 1983. After retirement, he

and his wife continued to follow University of Tennessee football and basketball as well as travelling across the country, to the Far East and Europe. He served as caretaker for his wife for ten years after she developed cancer until her death in 2006. The family joined Church Street United Methodist Church in 1969, and remained a member of the Church and the Murphy Builders Sunday School Class until his death. The family wishes to thank Kim Hutchinson who cared for Mary and Cecil for many years, and to Sally Williams who helped him over the past two years. The family also thanks Velma Bradford for her companionship in recent years. A special thank you to the staff of the VA Mountain Home CLC who made his last days as comfortable as possible. Interment service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery, and friends may call at their convenience at Rose Mortuary Mann Heritage Chapel. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers. contributions be made to Church Street United Methodist Church, 900 Henley St. Knoxville, TN, 37902

Earl Dean Rayhel



September 24, 1920 August 24, 2014 Earl Rayhel, 93, of Terre Haute, passed away on Sunday, August 24 at Union Hospital. Earl was born September 24, 1920, in

Clark County, Illinois. He was the son of John William and Grace Bell (Griffin) Rayhel. He was a resident of Terre Haute for 69 years. Earl served in the United States Army during WWII as a member of the 17th Company. He was stationed in the Philippine Islands at the beginning of WWII and was taken prisoner on April 9, 1942. He survived the "Bataan Death March" and 3 1/2 years as a POW in Mukden, China before being liberated by the Soviets in 1945. On his way to the Philippine Islands in ear-

Deceased-Continued

ly 1941, the ship he was on, stopped at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He met his older brother, Virgil Rayhel, who was killed at Hickman Field on Dec 7, 1941. After the war, Earl worked for Weston Paper Company for 38 years. He was a Cub and Boy Scout Master for Honey Creek Troop 228 for 10 years. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, traveling, and woodworking. Earl was an avid Chicago Cub's fan since the age of 6 and love to watch them play baseball. He was a mer of the Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church, a life-time member of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, and an honorary plank holder for the US Navy warship, the USS Bataan. He also was a member of VFW Post 972 and The American Legion Post 0328. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Della Mae (Skelly) Rayhel of Terre Haute. Two sons, Ron Rayhel and wife Loretta of Montclair. VA and Gary Rayhel of Terre Haute. Earl also left seven grandchildren, Traci Rayhel-Smith of Terre Haute, Amber Huffman of West Terre Haute, Teresa Rayhel Childs of Staunton, VA, Elizabeth Rayhel of Montclair, Mary (Rayhel) Gavine of Edinburgh, Scotland, Kelly Rayhel of Indianapolis, and Matthew Rayhel of Montclair. Four great grandchildren, Kaylen, Sabrina, Justin and Haley. One great-great grandchild, Braxton; one brother, Lester Roy Rayhel, Bellevue, NE and one sister, Rose Ann Bowels, Paris, IL. Earl was preceded in death by his six brothers and three sisters. Services were on 29 August at the Roselawn Funeral Home and a military honor quard was performed by American Legion Post 328. Earl was laid to rest in Roselawn Memorial Park in Terre Haute, Indiana.

John Real



World War II Veteran, survivor of the Bataan Death March, and Japanese Prisoner of War, hero John Real passed away on Sunday, June 8, 2014, at the age of 92 with family at his side. His passing signals the loss of another member of that generation of Americans that quietly sacrificed so much for their country during the last world war. They and their families continued this sacrifice the remainder of their lives as they dealt with the Post Traumatic Stress that was an inevitable result of the wartime experiences. John Manuel Real was born on February 22, 1922, in Navaho, Arizona. His parents, Manuel and Isabel Real, were en route with their children, Frank and Lucille, from Malaga, Spain, to Ojai, California. The Real family took up residence in a small home outside of town near Thacher School where Manual tended Mr. Thacher's orange trees. Because his father died when he was young, John's brother, Frank, became a role model and a substitute father to him as they worked to help their mother support the family. As he reported during an oral history interview with Rutgers University in 2007, John had graduated from Nordoff High School in 1941 and being adventurous, was interested in getting as far away from home as possible. The Army Air Corps offered such an opportunity---the exotic Philippine Islands. John and fellow classmates, Louis Hayes and Bill Fredricks, joined up together and John was assigned to Clark Field, outside of Manila. There he began training in aerial photography, flying on many aircraft, including the B-17. On December 8, 1941, the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Japanese attacked Clark Field. Thus it was that John moved with his squadron and many others to Bataan to await reinforcements. Those hoped for reinforcements never materialized and John and his fellow soldiers were overrun by the Japanese. After surviving the horrors of the Bataan Death March, John and the other survivors were marched and then crammed into narrow gage train cars and taken to Camp O'Donnell. Seeing death everywhere and realizing that if he remained at Camp O'Donnell he too would die. John volunteered for a work detail and was trucked back to

Bataan. Within six months of his capture, John was put in the crowded hull of a Japanese hell ship, into a cargo hold with little air, food or water, for the long journey to Japan. The unmarked ship was deliberately positioned at the end of the convoy so to be in the most vulnerable position in case of American air raids or submarine bombings. The ship arrived, however, without incident, and John was assigned to the labor camp at Nigata, Japan. There he worked for forty two months as a POW, enduring near starvation, freezing cold and the debilitating effects of the malaria that he had contracted in the Philippine Islands. John remained in Nigata until the Americans dropped the atomic bombs that ended the war. After his release John returned to the U.S. and hitch hiked his way guietly back to Ojai, arriving at four in the morning. He graduated from Ventura College and attended UC Santa Barbara, staying close to Ojai so he could continue to help his mother. He subsequently obtained his Master's in Business from Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. While there he met fun-loving Standard Oil Company employee Gertrude (Trudy) Doherty, who was Michigan Irish, a lifelong true- blue democrat and a phenomenal talker. During their turbulent five year courtship, both transferred to Los Angeles where John worked in sales for the Borden Company. Eventually, John and Trudy were married at Saint Basil Catholic Church in Los Angeles in 1957. They purchased a house in Whittier and added three children, Christopher, Alicia and Gregory to the family before moving to Ventura in 1966. John particularly enjoyed camping, trips to the beach and sports including the Anaheim Angels with his family. He also had a great interest in tennis which he started playing as a child in Ojai. John continued to work in sales and marketing for pharmaceutical companies until his retirement. He then continued to serve as a volunteer docent at the Getty Museum in Malibu and at the Ventura County Museum. He also enjoyed travel and the fact that

Deceased-Continued

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then continued to serve as a volunteer docent at the Getty Museum in Malibu and at the Ventura County Museum. He also enjoyed travel and the fact that he had visited so many places around the world.

William White

William (Bill) Orville White, age 99, passed away at his home on August 8, 2014. He was born in Kingsbury, Indiana on February 26, 1915, one of four children of Lewellyn and Florence (Wicham) White. He graduated from Kingsbury High School in 1933, then spent a year in CCC. Most of his life he worked in farming. Bill entered the army in 1941. After training at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, he was sent-

to the Philippines with a mobile radar unit. When war was declared on December 7, 1941, he was sent to Bataan. After four months of war, his unit was forced to destroy their guns and equipment and surrender to the Japanese. He was part of the Bataan Death march, during which many died of beatings, lack of food and water, and disease. He spent six months in O'Donell POW camp where hundreds died every day. The survivors were sent to Cabanatuan No. 1 to work on airfields and roads. One year later all able bodied men were sent to Japan to work in factories and mines. Bill worked in coal mines at Camp 10 Fukuoka on the island of Kyushu, Japan. Three and one half years of slave labor and starvation were ended when Japan surrendered on August 14, 1945. The surrender came after the second atomic bomb exploded over Nagasaki. Bill weighed 80 pounds at that time and spent a year in the hospital. In 1947 he married Claribel Hebeisen in Chicago, Illinois. In 1949 he drew a homestead on the Ralston Bench in Ralston, Wyoming. This was part of the Heart Mountain Project. They farmed there until 1990 when they sold the farm and moved to Powell. Wvoming. Shortly thereafter Clare was called to eternal rest on July 30, 1993. Bill was a member of the Powell Methodist Church, American Ex-

Deceased-Continued

POWs, Defenders Bataan and Corregidor, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled Veterans, American Legion #26 Powell, and the Masonic Lodge #222 Kingsbury, Indiana. Two sisters Lois W. Nelson of LaPorte, Indiana, and Lacelia Kliss of LaPorte, Indiana, and many nieces and nephews survive Bill. Bill White is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, Powell, Wyoming.

KNOWN DEAD

Elias Coloma



Five Reasons to Order Remembrance/Ben Steele Photo Note Cards



- 1. You are honoring WWII POWs who fought and endured so much in the name of freedom.
- 2.. You are passing on a story that every generation must hear of loyalty and bravery.
- 3. You are reminding others of our WWII POWs' courage and heroism.
- 4. You are paying tribute to those who sacrificed their free-

dom for ours.

5.. You are supporting the ADBC Memorial Society.

The cards with envelopes are \$2.00 a piece plus shipping. You receive 1 free for every 5 ordered. The cards are individually made, and many may be viewed on the ADBC Memorial Society website.

I am also willing to take special orders for theme based cards – patriotism, flowers, seasons, holidays, animals, sunsets, etc. **Contact:** Sharon Cooper phone no.:(509) 582-8601 or (509)554-4551, 2610 W. 8th Pl. Kennewick, WA 99336

E-mail address: fromtheheart2007@aol.com

Note from editor: More pictures can be found at http://phillippine-defenders.lib.wv.us/html/sharon cooper card.html

Patches for jackets, etc. They are the size that are usually seen on the arms of jackets and are a favorite of the Patriot Guard Riders

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New Orleans Site of 6th Annual ADBC Memorial Society Convention, June 2015

The sixth annual ADBC Memorial Society convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana from Wednesday, June 3 through Saturday, June 6, 2015. The hotel is the Wyndham Gardens at New Orleans Airport, 6401 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA. The room rate is \$99 plus tax per night. For reservations, please call 504-885-5700 being sure to mention ADBC Memorial Society to receive our rate. We have just been notified that the hotel will be changing from a Four Points Sheraton to Wyndham Gardens effective November 19, 2014. Therefore, the phone number will change at some point in late November. If you have any issues or need help with your hotel arrangements, please email Judy Pruitt at pruittja13@aol.com and I will be happy to help.

The hotel is located approximately three miles from the New Orleans International Airport. There is complimentary 24 hour shuttle service from the airport to the hotel. You will need to call the hotel once you have retrieved your luggage. The hotel does have on-site parking, outdoor pool and patio area. Wireless internet service is also complimentary throughout the hotel.

This is a full service hotel with on-site restaurant and bar. There are also restaurants within blocks of the hotel. It is approximately 10 minutes from downtown New Orleans. We will be arranging a trip into the National World War II Museum. This is still in early planning stages; more information will follow.

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

Convention Chair, Judy Pruitt

PHILIPPINES WWII HISTORY TOUR 2015 April 3 to 12 A tour for a cause by Edna Binkowski

Edna Bautista Binkowski, author of the book CODE NAME HIGH POCKETS (true story of Claire Phillips, an American woman who spied against the Japanese officials during WWII in the Philippines), narrates the beginning of the war up to liberation as shetakes you to the former battle sites and memorials.

An advocate of preserving Bataan History, she rehabilitates abandoned markers and war memorials on Bataan. She built the HOSPITAL ONE memorial in Limay, Bataan. Ongoing project: HOSPITAL TWO (aka Jungle Hospital) in Cabcaben. Mariveles.

ITINERARY

Apr 3 Fri Arrive Manila. Transfer from airport to hotel.

Apr 4 Sat Manila City Tour: Intramuros, Fort Santiago, lunch at Manila Hotel,

Santo Tomas University, American Cemetery

Apr 5 Sun Corregidor Day Tour

Apr 6 Mon Manila-Clark Museum-Subic (reflect on the Dec. 8 1941 bombing)

Apr 7 Thu Subic Tour and Las Casas (Spanish heritage homes in Bagac, Bataan)

Apr 8 Fri Bataan. Visit the zero kilometer and other memorials. Tentative date for

the dedication of the Jungle Hospital Memorial. Watch the parade. Dinner.

Apr 9 Thu Observe the Mt. Samat Ceremony DAY OF VALOR. Visit the San Fernando

Train Station where the POWs were carried by box cars to Camp O'Donnell.

Apr 10 Fri Visit the former Camp O'Donnell now called Capas Shrine and reflect on the

miserable life of the POWs in captivity in this very sad place. See the box car.

Apr 11 Sat Visit the Cabanatuan memorial and reflect on the role of the underground

that smuggled money, medicine, letters to the POWs and the great raid.

Farewell dinner a cultural dinner show in Intramuros.

Apr 12 Sun Take your onward flight

FOR DETAILS contact Edna Binkowski at endbink@mozcom.com

REGISTRATION FORM 6th ANNUAL ADBC MEMORIAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE WYNDHAM GARDENS, NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT JUNE 3-6, 2015

PLEASE PRINT COMPLETE INFORMATION. USE ONE FORM FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING. PLEASE CHECK IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST ADBC MEMORIAL SOCIETY CONVENTION. NICKNAME OR PREFERRED FIRST NAME (for badge) NAME:_____ (LAST) (FIRST) (MI) ADDRESS: CITY:_____STATE:___ ZIP:____ I AM A FORMER POW. MY UNIT WAS MY LAST POW CAMP: ____I AM THE SPOUSE OF FORMER POW: __I AM THE WIDOW OF FORMER POW: UNIT CAMP __; DAUGHTER ____; SON-IN-LAW ____; DAUGHTER-IN-LAW __ I AM A: SON NIECE/NEPHEW GRANDCHILD ; GREAT-GRANDCHILD ; FRIEND ; OTHER OF (Former POW's Name) UNIT I AM A: RESEARCHER ; WRITER ; HISTORIAN ; EDUCATOR ;OTHER **REGISTRATION FEES AND BANQUET TICKET (please check appropriate lines)** EARLY BIRD MEMBER per person received by May 18 Free to POWs, Spouses, and Widows __Early Bird Fee Children 10 - 18 each (after May 18 please add \$15.00) ______ 25.00 __No registration charge for children 10 years and under (inquire about reduced banquet charge) 0.00

PLEASE REGISTER ONE PERSON PER FORM. IF YOU ARE REGISTERING SEVERAL PEOPLE, INCLUDE ALL FEES ON ONE CHECK. MAKE THE CHECK PAYABLE TO ADBC MEMORIAL SOCIETY AND MAIL WITH ALL THE FORMS TO:

CHECK #_____

TOTAL FEE FOR THIS REGISTRATION IS ENCLOSED \$

Judy Pruitt, ADBC Memorial Society 23 Elwell Road Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 pruittja13@aol.com

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The ADBC Memorial Society and the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor



Warren Jorgenson presents donation to Ms. Taeko Sasamoto, General Secretary of the POW Research Network Japan, on behalf of the ADBC-MS for the building of a monument honoring a POW camp site in Nagasaki.