

CONFIDENTIAL - BRITISH SECRET

ALLIED TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER SECTION  
SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA



Classification changed to *Unclassified*  
by *CHC-SEC* date *11/13/77*  
dated *2 April 47* Initials of MID officer  
effecting change *CHP*

SERIAL NO. 117  
30 Apr '43

INTERROGATION REPORT NO. 67, [REDACTED]

1. Attached is a Report on information gained from Japanese PW, [REDACTED]

2. All information contained in this report has been extracted from this PW source only. Its value should be assessed and its distribution restricted accordingly.

BCJM/JMC/MK

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No. 5

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## INTERROGATION REPORT NO. 67.

PW's Name: [REDACTED]

Rank: GUNZOKU (civilian militarily employed)  
Chinese labourer

Unit: MARUOKA 2803 BUTAI  
2 Bn  
SEKI TAI

Where Captured: WAU Area

By Whom Captured: Aust Troops

How Captured: Deserted

When Captured: 6 Feb '43

Height: 5' 4"

Weight: 130 lbs

Age: 24

Private Address: [REDACTED]

Education: Primary School 5 years

Civil Occupations: Chocolate factory owner, and dried fish merchant.

1. PREAMBLE

PW was of better than average intelligence and appeared anxious to give any information of value that he knew. However, due to his lack of knowledge of the Japanese language the information he was able to gather from the Japanese was limited. In addition, what he was able to see was limited by the restrictions on the movements of Chinese coolies.

2. CHRONOLOGY

Personal History Of Chinese Parentage, PW was born in HONGKONG and is a British subject. His business interests were in KOWLOON, where he lived.

Pre SWPA

17 Nov '42 With 9 of his employees, PW abducted in KOWLOON by Jap Gendarmes.

18 Nov '42 With 37 other Chinese, put aboard TAIAN MARU. Sailed for PALAU in convoy of 5 merchant ships and 2 DD (See sec. 11)

Voyage Out

30 Nov '42 Arrived PALAU. Stayed 5 days. Sent ashore in parties in charge of Jap Officer (See sec. 10, 11 and 17)

In SWPA

10 Dec '42 Arrived RABAUL. During stay there employed in discharging ships and erecting huts for Chinese labourers.

12. ENEMY SUPPLIES

Jap A/C A/C seen by PW at PALAU were described by him as single engined "sea planes and land fighters". The former had either one or two floats. Land Fighters predominated.

HONGKONG There was a manufacturing area in KOWLOON which was restricted to Chinese working there. As far as PW knew, no munitions were being manufactured. He had heard that parachutes, web-belts, water bottles and respirators were produced in KOWLOON.

13. MORALE & PROPAGANDA

Conditions in Japan PW heard of a troupe of Jap entertainers and newspaper reporters who made a tour of the fronts assuring troops that all was well and food plentiful in Japan. He remarked that the Chinese inferred from this that conditions were not as described and that all was not well on the Home Front.

Attitude to Allied Nations In RABAU, PW saw about 40 white men doing coolie work. 30 of them were working in an ice-plant and the rest were dock-labourers engaged in loading trucks at the time he saw them. His Section Leader told him that they were civilians brought for the purpose from HONGKONG.

Conditions in Services Chinese coolies were not allowed to visit the brothels in RABAU. They were maintained by the Military and inmates were Koreans.

PROPAGANDA Broadcasts War news was posted daily on a Bulletin Board in PW's ship. He remembered particularly that Japan was credited with a great victory in Coral Sea. At PALAU a radio was brought on board to entertain troops with music and Jap plays.

Allied Leaflets PW had never seen any but at LAE, the Jap section boss had told the Chinese that if they picked up any they would catch a loathesome disease.

16. CHEMICAL WARFARE

Chinese were not issued respirators and were at no time instructed in anti-gas measures. Jap troops often discarded respirators when over-burdened.

17. TOPOGRAPHY

PALAU Sheltered by the breakwater, there were 60 to 70 ships anchored in the channel leading to the Harbour. All merchant vessels except the 2 DD of his convoy.

18. MEDICAL

Hospital Ships PW saw 6 or 7 at PALAU when he was there in Nov '42. He recognized the vessels as such by the crosses on them.

Sickness In NEW GUINEA, 40% of PW's Unit were ill from Malaria, fatigue, and lack of food. MARUOKA, the BUTAI Comdr, was originally quite fat but after a couple of weeks he became a thin man.