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COLONEL, CAC, U.S. ARMY
SUPERINTENDENT

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SOUTH - EAST ASIA TRANSLATION AND INTERROGATION CENTER

AIR BULLETIN NO. 131

<u>INDEX NO.</u>	<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>ITEM</u>
6675	<u>Tactical Employment.</u>	1	1485
6675.28	Anti-mechanized warfare tactics.		
6700	<u>Training - General.</u>	1	1485
6700.28	Training in anti-mechanized warfare.		
7905	<u>Ship Movements.</u>		
7905.39	Aug 43, HAKONE MARU, 12000 tons, movements JAPAN - SINGAPORE.	14	1487
7905.43	Aug 43, Convoy movements, JAPAN-SINGAPORE.	14	1487
9100	<u>Organization.</u>		
9130	Reference to various army air units.	4	1486
9150			
9156			
9156	Reference Airfield Bns in BURMA.	1	1485
9150	Reference to various army air units.	14	1487
9156	Organization of 84 Airfield Bn.		
9161			
9185	<u>Airfields, Air Stations, etc.</u>		
	22 Feb 45. Reference to MEIKTILA Air Base.	1	1485
9210	<u>Commissioned Air Personnel.</u>		
	Army air officers.	1	1485
	Officers of 84 Airfield Bn.	14	1487
9310	<u>Morale and Welfare.</u>		
	PW information on morale in army and army air units.	14	1487
9500	<u>Supply and Evacuation System.</u>		
9500.071	Sep 44. Supply and transfer of ammunition.	4	1486
9506	<u>Aviation Plants.</u>		
	Reference to SASEBO Naval Aircraft Factory.	14	1487
9535	<u>Ammunition and Pyrotechnics.</u>		
9535.071	Sep 44. Supply and transfer of ammunition.	4	1486
9535.071	Jun 44. Notification concerning the use of ammunition for improved 13 mm Pom-Pom.	4	1486

(cont.)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NN0826533By 210/SM/44NARA, Date 11/15/93

CONFIDENTIAL

AIR BULLETIN NO. 131
(Cont.)

<u>INDEX NO.</u>	<u>CONTENTS.</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>ITEM</u>
9570	<u>Armament and Equipment.</u>		
9570.20	Specifications for AA guns.	14	1487
9570.49	Reference to an unidentified weapon, 'FUTON BAKURAI', 19 Feb 45.	4	1486
9700	<u>Training - General.</u>		
9700.28	Plan for training to devise means to counteract mechanized warfare and recent methods of attack by Allied aircraft.	1	1485
9700	Training schedule in 99 KOKU KYOIKUTAI.	14	1487
9720	<u>Organizational and Unit Training</u>		
	Plan for training to devise means to counteract mechanized warfare and recent methods of attack by Allied aircraft.	1	1485
	Training methods in 99 KOKU KYOIKUTAI.	14	1487
9800	<u>Military Air Defence System</u>		
	Plan for training to counteract recent methods of attack by Allied aircraft.	1	1485
9805	<u>Air Defence Warning System</u>		
	Air defence warning system in 84 Airfield Bn.	14	1487
9815	<u>Anti-Aircraft Gun and Searchlight Defence System.</u>		
	Sketch of AA sites at MAYMYO and NAWNGHKIO, and description of AA gun defence system at NAWNGHKIO.	14	1487
9909	<u>Air Operation Orders, Instruction, Plans.</u>		
	22 Feb 45. Appendix to 7 Air Sector Op Order A/645.	1	1485
	27 Sep 44. 9 Airfield Coy Op Order 172, LASHIO.	4	1486
	8 Jan 45. 7 Air Sector Op Order C/216, 'KARO'.	4	1486
9927	<u>Decoys and Dummies.</u>		
	22 Feb 45. Training instruction to use dummy targets near airfields as decoys for bombers.	1	1485

Note: Identifications given in brackets by Translator in this Bulletin, e.g. YUMI 6823 (214 Inf Regt -Tr) are taken from "Detailed Order of Battle of the Japanese Armed Forces in Burma" prepared by GSI (a) ALPSEA. Where the identifications are marked with an asterisk, they are taken from documents or PW reports previously received by SEATIC or from 14 Army Intelligence Reports.

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DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NN0826533By 20/SM/44NARA, Date 11/15/93

BULLETIN NO. 131

Page 14

ITEM 1486 (cont.)

mechanism must always be removed when the grenades are being transported.

B. When it is necessary to remove the safety pin in the course of inspection, first remove the screw at the bottom and see that the igniter mechanism is removed.

C. It is especially important to keep the igniter mechanism dry.

D. An excess of oil in the fuse housing (around the firing pin spring) will harm the functioning of the mechanism. Therefore, it is necessary to wipe away any excess.

Distribution: 4 FB, 8 FR, 50 FR, 64 FR, 81 FR, 1 FB, 7 FB, 24 FB, 25 FB, 15 ab, 17 ab, 19 ab, 23 ab, 34 ab, 52 ab, 75 ab, 81 ab, 82 ab, 84 ab, 90 ab, 92 ab, 94 ab, 5 ac, 9 ac, 12 ac, 17 ac, 18 ac, 38 ac, 85 ac, 1 FTR, 3 FTR, 2 FNR, 17 KS, 20 AA, 36 AA, 35 JS, 275 JS, 280 JS, 281 JS, 86 HJ, 7 HS, 8 HS, 111 HS, 112 HS, 67 RK, 68 RK, 80 RK, 62 KC, 13 FH, 1/13 FH, 19 FS, 1/19 FS, III/19 FS, 31 TM, 32 TM, 34 TM, 5 Air Liaison Coy, 5 FD, Control Section.

RA/DCE/MW

ITEM 1487

Captured at MEIKTILA on 2 Mar 45.

Interrogation.

INTERROGATION REPORT dated April 1945.

1. INTRODUCTION

PW, although cooperative, is not highly intelligent. His memory for dates is extremely poor, as is also his recollection of place names. Intelligence fair; reliability fair.

2. IDENTIFICATION AND EARLY HISTORY OF PW AIR/024

Rank and name: Sup Pte [REDACTED]

Unit: 84 Airfield Battalion

Trade: AA Gunner

Date and place of birth: [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]

(cont.)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NN0826533By 210/SM/44NARA, Date 11/15/93

CONFIDENTIAL

BULLETIN NO. 131

Page 33

ITEM 1487 (cont.)11. ALLIED WEAPONS:

Most of the Japanese killed in BURMA were killed by the "CHEKKO" (i.e. "Czech" - Bren gun); and the weapon they were most afraid of was the rocket. PW has never seen or heard of flame-throwers being used in BURMA. As regards aircraft, PW personally dislikes bombing most of all, but it appears that the infantry's great fear is of low-level strafing.

12. RELATIONS WITH SUPERIORS.

PW displayed an unusual contempt for officers. He bitterly pointed out that the officer ought to be a father to his men, and the men like children to the officers, but whereas the men gave the officers their devotion and trust, the officers simply let the men down.

The NCO's on the other hand, were not so bad; it was they who were running the war.

13. DISCIPLINE.

Discipline in general was still good, but where an officer bore down hard on his men while at the same time having a good time for himself, the men lost their respect for him. Face-slapping was becoming less and less common. It had never been extensively practised by the NCO's, but mostly by the old hands. In Feb this year, the CO of PW's unit issued an order forbidding face-slapping completely.

14. MAIL.

When PW first arrived in BURMA he used to write home once a week, but as time went by and he received no replies he became discouraged and tailed off. The two letters he had had, from his brother, said they had had no mail at all from him. In about April or May last year, there was a period when no mail at all came for anyone. This was explained as being due to the closing of S.W.F.A. by the Allies.

15. AMENITIES.

(a) Comfort Bags: PW never had a comfort bag while in BURMA.

(b) Comfort Girls: There had been some comfort girls in MAYMYO, but PW had never been able to afford to visit them. The rates were Yen 3.50 and Yen 5.00, with half-rates for half the time. Out of PW's Yen 24- a month, he saved Yen 10-, and the rest went on cheroots, etc.

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CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NAID826533By RO/SM/44NARA, Date 1/15/93

CONFIDENTIAL

BULLETIN NO. 131

Page 34

ITEM 1487 (cont.)

(c) Canteens: The only canteen PW knew of was in MAYMYO, and that sold only coffee. Cigarettes were not to be had at all (except at New Year, when he received 10).

16. ATTITUDE TO CAPTURE.

PW has ceased to have any feelings about capture. He was perfectly content and had no complaints. After the war he wanted to settle in India and work - at no matter what job. He would not return to Japan, and did not want his family to know he was a prisoner.

17. ATTITUDE OF JAPANESE IN BURMA.

The Burmans neither liked nor trusted the Japanese because of their depredations on the country. PW regarded the Japanese behaviour as very wrong, and said they had no right to do such things. This was also the official view. The punishment for rape was immediate death on the spot, and the looters had to refund the loot or its value.

18. ALLIED PW.

PW knows nothing of Allied PW.

19. LEAFLETS.

PW never saw or heard about Allied leaflets, except on one occasion at NAWNGHKIO, when the OC KEIBI CHUTAI told the men that if the Burmese brought in any leaflets, it was not forbidden for the soldiers to read them.

/MW

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