

(Information below provided courtesy of Vince Lopata extracted from the section on his book series of The Winnipeg Grenadiers World War II History)

TOKYO 3D TSURUMI PRISONER OF WAR CAMP

1. Establishment and Controlling Authorities

The camp was established on 21st January 1943 under the control of the Tokyo District. It was originally known as Tokyo Prisoner of War Branch No. 5 Camp. On 1st August 1943 the camp was renamed Tokyo Prisoner of War Detached No. 3 Camp. The camp was terminated 1945 May 13th because of the heavy bombing of Tokyo and Yokohama. The prisoners were moved to the Main Camp at Omori and then dispersed to other camps in Japan.

2. Location

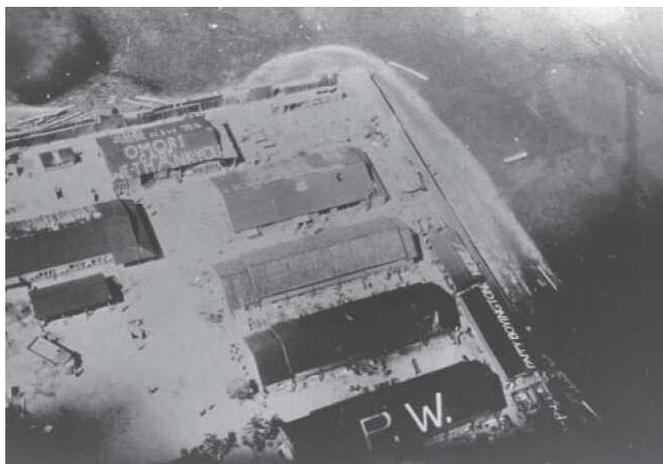
The camp was located at Yokohama-shi, Tsurumi-ku, Suyehiro-cho, 1-chome.

3. Company

The Grenadiers worked for the Nihon Kokan Tsurumi Zosen (Nihon Ironworks).

4. Dates at the Camp

The 1st draft's second group numbering 209 Grenadiers and Captain Anthony Reid¹ (Royal Canadian Medical Corps) boarded their train and traveled to Tokyo arriving at 0700 hrs on 24th January^{2,3,4}. Then they boarded an electric train for a 10-mile ride to this camp.



Tokyo District Main Camp (Omori), Yokohama Area

5. Type of Work

The work consisted of a variety of jobs building ships for the Japanese war effort. The prisoners were moved to other area camps as required.

However, when some of the other Japanese companies in the area required workers for their production, prisoners from Tokyo 3D were transferred to them for short periods of time. Below is a list of the companies where the POWs may have worked at:

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|--|
| Tokyo Main Camp (Omori) | Location: | Tokyo-to, Omori-ku, Iriarai-machi, Japan |
| Company: | | Nippon Tsuun |
| Type of work: | | |

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Kawasaki POW Camp | Location: | Kawasaki-shi, Oshima-machi, Japan |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|

¹ Captain Anthony Reid, Royal Canadian Medical Corps was the medical officer attached to The Winnipeg Grenadiers.

² Pte C.R. Dick Diary

³ Rfm Lance Ross Diary

⁴ Hellship Voyages,

Company: Nippon Tsuun
Type of work:

Tsurumi POW Camp Location: Yokohama-shi, Tsurumi-ku, Suyehiro-cho, 1-chome, Japan
Company: Nihon Ironworks - Tsurumi Shipyards
Type of work: Variety of jobs related to ship building

Sumidagawa POW Camp Location: Tokyo-to, Arakawa-ku, Minami Senju, Japan
Company: Nippon Express Company
Type of work:

Tsurumi POW Camp

The following is part of the citation for the award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal to Staff Sergeant C. A. Clark, Canadian Postal Corps and the Military Medal to Private K. S. Cameron, The Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps for an incident that took place at this POW camp. It provides a background of the type of work being conduct at this camp. Also, it describes the fire that destroyed the operations of the shipyard for almost six months and severly impacted their ship production.⁵

In connection with Staff-Sergeant Clark, Commander Edward V. Dockweiler of the United States Navy writes: "About 2000 hours, 20 January 1944, a large fire broke out in this yard, completely destroying the steel shed, ship outfitting stores, prisoner of war mess hall, riggers lobby, tool rooms, part of the ship fitters shop and mold loft. The area occupied by these buildings was about 800 by 600 feet. I would estimate the damage caused by this fire at about three-quarters to one million dollars. Aside from the monetary damage accomplished, the production of this yard was reduced about 60 percent for a period of at least eight months. At this time the yard was engaged in building escort destroyers and merchant shipping. Its tonnage production was about 8,000 tons a month. Considerable repair work also was being undertaken at this time. This fire was started by Staff-Sergeant Clark, Canadian Postal Corps, and Private K.S. Cameron, Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps. The method used was a candle, the bottom of which was surrounded with celluloid shavings accumulated from soap boxes. The length of the candled determined the time of firing. This incendiary medium was placed behind some rubbish in one of the little used and inspected store rooms. The Japanese authorities made a very thorough investigation of the damage caused by the above mentioned fire, but were unable to determine its cause or the part played by these two young men effecting it. If the part that Sergeant Clark and Private Cameron played in this sabotage had been discovered, undoubtedly they would have been executed or tortured to death. This act of sabotage greatly crippled the production of this yard and directly minimized the Japanese war effort, and the contribution to the Allied war effort that these two men made under the handicap of being prisoners of war cannot be overestimated. The occurrence of this fire is part of my official report to my own Navy Department. I submit this report to your office with the recommendation that this act of Sergeant Clark and Private Cameron be properly recognized and adequately rewarded. Their conduct as prisoners of war while under my jurisdiction was exemplary and fulfilled the highest tradition of the Canadian Army".

6. Medical Services

Hospitals that were used for treatment of prisoners of war were:

⁵ 'C' Force Decorations, Medals, Awards and Honours, 1941 to 1945", V. J. Lopata, CD, 2012 October 01, self-published, McNally Robinson, Winnipeg, Canada.

At this time the number of Grenadiers transferred to Tokyo Omori, Tokyo 10B and Tokyo 6B is unknown.