

# Evidences of Crimes

Archives Left over by Japanese Army Invading China

Sa Su as Chief Editor



CHINA INTERCONTINENTAL PRESS



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# FOREWORD

Early in 2014, Jilin Provincial Archives made to the public a batch of archives left by the Japanese army invading China, and this news was reported by Xinhua News Agency to the whole country and the whole world. These archives provide new evidences on the monstrous crimes committed by the Japanese invaders, as powerful reply to the acts of the right-wing forces in Japan denying the history in defiance of the intuitive knowledge of the mankind.

On Aug. 15, 1945 when Japan announced its surrender, the Kwantung Military Police in Changchun started destroying the archives accumulated during the past 14 years of invading in China in its headquarters, and this action lasted for several days. However, the Japanese army was not able to completely destroy them because of the approaching Soviet Red Army, so they buried underground unburnt archives in a hurry. In 1950, these archives, partly burnt, were discovered in Jilin on a construction site, the public security department of the province accepted them and organized their sort-out, and then handed them over to Jilin Provincial Archives in 1982. Many of these surviving archives of the Japanese army in China are fragments and incomplete, but even so, they still



reveal the multiple bloody and brutal crimes of the invaders.

Starting from 2012, Jilin Provincial Archives organize systematic translation and interpretation of these archives, and 14 subject groups were set up on Nanjing Massacre, comfort women, Unit 731 and forced expropriation of labors. With the progress of the translation and interpretation work, crimes of the Japanese invaders were revealed one by one.

These archives about Japan's invasion of China made public recently are rich in content and tight in arrangement. There were mainly taken from the archived files of Kwantung Military Police, all written in Japanese, mainly consisting of text records such as reports, regulations, letters, monthly reports, report on important issues, telephone records, civil situation investigation, observations, and investigation forms, and also some photos and pictures. The contents of the archives include economic, political, military affairs and transport, and cover areas of Central China, North China, Northeast and Southeast Asia. The archives are formalized and well arranged in contents and format, and both in recording and wording, for example, the Post Inspection Monthly Report recorded in detail the date, sender, receiver,

abstract of content and disposal opinion of every letter, in a complete and detailed manner.

These archives about Japan's invasion of China have a special value. They were prepared by Japanese in their course of invading China, truly recording all activities in their aggression of China. Most of archives are first-hand historical materials, and a considerable part of them are original, unique and irreplaceable. When the dates, places, figures and events recorded in these archives are linked together through comparison and textual research, a period of history of Japan invading China can be completely reflected. There are 217 volumes of Post Inspection Monthly Report from 1937 to 1944, their contents cover the movement of Japanese army, the facilities of the army, conditions of military projects and how labors were captured to build military projects, also, crimes of raping women and torturing and killing children are also described.

It is worth noting that the archives show that during invasion of China, the Japanese army held a number of worship ceremonies for Yasukuni Shrine at Zhongling Pagoda in Hsinking (Changchun). In the Report on Temporary Grand Memorial Ceremony at Yasukuni Shrine signed by Yoshijiro Umezu, it was specified that worship ceremony be held for those killed in the war at Zhongling Pagoda in Hsinking at 10:15, Apr. 25, 1943, and details of the

ceremony were specified, including the garment, lines and firearms for the ceremony.

In this book, some fragments of the archives left over from the Kwantung Army Military Police Headquarters were selected, to present the truth with the archives made by the Japanese themselves, so that people in the world can better see the true nature of Japan militarism and the right-wing force in Japan. Mr. Sa Su, a writer traveling in Japan and having long engaged in the research of historical materials concerning the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, selected many precious pictures for this book in conjunction with the contents of the archives. These pictures and their notes, together with the few words in archives, tell true stories in history, to exhibit the crimes of aggressors in a richer and more visual form.



[illegible]



01

Prisoners of War of Allied Forces

## 01 Prisoners of War of Allied Forces

On Dec. 8, 1941, the Japanese troops launched a sneak attack of Pearl Harbor, an important military base of the US army, triggering the overall eruption of the Pacific war. In a short period of five months, the Japanese troops swept across the Southeast Asia, capturing nearly 200,000 men of the allied forces. To imprison these POW's of the allied forces, the Japanese troops set up 115 concentration camps in 12 countries and regions under their occupation, including the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Myanmar, Thailand, Wake Island, Java, Korea, and Shenyang, Shanghai, Weifang, Taiwan and Hong Kong of China, and also in Japan, and they include those called by the Japanese as "asylum," "branch and subbranch asylum," "dispatching camp," "criminal affair camp," and "POW camp." Shenyang Allied Force POW Camp of WWII is the one locking up POW's with the highest ranks of the allied forces, and with the site maintained most complete.

This POW camp at Shenyang was set up on Nov. 11, 1942, the POW's were first locked up in North Camp in the north suburb of Mukden (Shenyang), and transferred to the new camp on July 29, 1943, i.e. the existing site of the Shenyang Allied Force POW Camp of WWII. On Oct. 14, 1944, the Japanese army set up No. 1 branch of Mukden POW camp at Zhengjiantun of Siping Province (now Shuangliao City of Jilin Province) to imprison general and field officers of POW's of the allied forces. On Dec. 1, 1944, they transferred high-ranking generals including Wainwright from

Zhengjiantun to Xi'an County of Siping Province (now Liaoyuan City of Jilin Province), and set up No. 2 branch of Mukden POW camp.

After WWII, the National Archives and Records Administration of the United States decrypted some historical files concerning the POW's of the allied forces, and they include the list of POW's at Shenyang Camp. As sorted out from the list dated Jan. 1945, the Japanese troops locked up 2,018 POW's of allied forces of the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Holland, Canada and New Zealand at "Mukden POW camp" and its No. 1 and No. 2 branches, of whom 523 were general and field officers, including 76 with the rank of brigadier general and above. No. 1 and No. 2 branches of Mukden POW Camp, or Zhengjiantun POW Camp and Xi'an POW Camp, detained most high-ranking generals of the allied forces captured by the Japanese troops during the whole Pacific War. They included senior generals of the allied forces and heads of colony governments: Lieutenant General Jonathan Wainwright, Major General Edward King and Major General George Moore of the US Army; Lieutenant General Arthur Percival of the UK Army; Lieutenant General Ter Poorten Governor of Hong Kong Mark Young, Governor of British Straits Settlements Toms, Governor of Dutch East India.

On Nov. 11, 1942, the allied forces POW's arrived at Shenyang after a long and hard journey, then they were forced to do heavy physical labor after a short rest. There were roughly



three types of forced labor of POW's: under direct subordination, dispatched labor and labor in the camp.

**Labor under direct subordination:** the first labor place of the POW's was a directly subordinated labor zone – Manchu Working Machinery Limited, its original site was Segment II Zhulin Street, Dadong District, Mukden City (now 28 Pangjiang Road, Dadong District, Shenyang City), one of the heavy machine factories built by Japan after taking Shenyang. In “Manchu Working Machinery Limited” there was a special “POW Labor Section” to manage the labor of POW's.

**Dispatched labor:** in addition to having POW's work in “Manchu Working Machinery Limited” every day, the Japanese troops set up three dispatching camps in 1944. These three dispatched camps were about 5 to 10 miles from the Shenyang Allied Forces POW Camp, and these factories were not under the jurisdiction by Mukden POW Camp, therefore POW's dispatched to these camps all stayed there, and could return to the POW camp only when receiving medical treatment or being locked up in confinement.

**Labor in camp:** on one hand, there were not many Japanese guards in the camp, so some public affairs should be done by the POW's themselves, on the other hand, as some POW officers did not work in factories, they did daily work in the kitchen, odd work, attendance, cleaning, haircutting and breeding in the camp, and sometimes they also did temporary work such as civil works and hauling.

After being captured on the battlefield in Southeast Asia, the POW's of allied forces suffered various tortures of the Japanese troops either on the way of marching or in the POW camp, they had no sufficient food, clothing or medicine, and lived under severe conditions. Even before they arrived at Pusan, some POW's died of diarrhea, malaria, endemic neuritis and pneumonia. A total of 248 POW's of the allied forces died at Shenyang camp from Nov. 11, 1942 when the first batch of US army POW's arrived at Shenyang to Sept. 11, 1945 when the POW camp was liberated.