

DOWNLOAD PDF PRISONER OF WAR AND CONCENTRATION CAMP MONEY

Chapter 1 : How Monopoly boards got second world war prisoners out of jail free | UK news | The Guardian

It covers POW camp money from the Boer War, World War 1, World War 2, the Vietnam War, and periods in between wars. It covers most countries of the world, and is the most comprehensive book available. This is a book that I use almost daily.

Theresienstadt was used as a military base by Austria-Hungary and later by the First Czechoslovak Republic after , while the " Small Fortress " across the river was a prison. Although Leitmeritz was ceded to Germany, Theresienstadt remained in the Czechoslovak rump state until the German invasion of the Czech lands on 15 March At the Wannsee Conference on 20 January , Heydrich announced that Theresienstadt would be used to house Jews over the age of 65 from the Reich, as well as those who had been severely wounded fighting for the Central Powers in World War I or won the Iron Cross 1st Class or a higher decoration during that war. These Jews could not plausibly perform forced labor, and therefore Theresienstadt helped conceal the true nature of deportation to the East. Later, Theresienstadt also came to house "Prominent" Jews whose disappearance in an extermination camp could have drawn attention from abroad. The members of the Aufbaukommando used creative methods in order to improve the infrastructure of the ghetto and prepare it to house an average of 40, people during its existence. The construction project was funded by stolen Jewish property. The waterworks often broke down during the first months due to inadequate capacity; in order to improve the supply of potable water, wells were drilled and the pipe system overhauled so that everyone could wash daily. Although the Germans provided the materials for these improvements, largely in order to reduce the chance of communicable disease spreading beyond the ghetto, Jewish engineers directed the projects. It was the only transport whose destination was known to the deportees; other transports simply departed for "the East". The first transports targeted mostly able-bodied people. Due to the need to accommodate these Jews, the non-Jewish Czechs living in Theresienstadt were expelled, and the town was closed off by the end of June. In order to alleviate overcrowding, 18, mostly elderly people were deported in nine transports in the fall of A small number of healthy young people were selected temporarily for forced labor. Himmler refused, due to the increasing need for Theresienstadt as an alibi to conceal information on the Holocaust reaching the Western Allies. The children were held in strict isolation for six weeks before deportation to Auschwitz; none survived. Two days later, commandant Anton Burger ordered a census of the entire camp population, approximately 36, people at that time. All inmates regardless of age were required to stand outside in freezing weather from 7 am to 11 pm; people died on the field from exhaustion. Five thousand prisoners, including Edelstein and the other arrested leaders, were sent to the family camp at Auschwitz on 15 and 18 December. In February , [39] the SS embarked on a "beautification" German: Many "Prominent" prisoners and Danish Jews were re-housed in private, superior quarters. The streets were renamed and cleaned; sham shops and a school was set up; the SS encouraged the prisoners to perform an increasing number of cultural activities, which exceeded that of an ordinary town in peacetime. Nobody thought of new transports. We felt forgotten and forsaken. Murrelstein became Jewish elder and retained the post until the end of the war. Gallen , Switzerland, 11 February Theresienstadt became the destination of transports as other camps were evacuated. Starting on 20 April, between 13, and 15, concentration camp prisoners, mostly Jews, arrived at Theresienstadt after surviving death marches from camps about to be liberated by the Allies. They were starving and infected with lice and typhoid fever , an epidemic of which soon raged in the camp and claimed many lives. Theresienstadt was the only Nazi ghetto to be liberated with a significant population of survivors. The SS commandant was in charge of some 28 SS men, 12 civilian employees, the Czech gendarmes who guarded the camp, and the Jewish self-administration. The guards, who often smuggled letters and food in return for bribes, [70] were frequently rotated to avoid contacts developing between guards and prisoners. It was reconstituted several times and comprised men at its peak in February The self-administration included the Jewish elder German: Edelstein and his deputy, Otto Zucker , initially planned to convert Theresienstadt into a productive economic center and

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therefore avoid deportations; they were unaware that the Nazis already planned to deport all the Jews and convert Theresienstadt into a German settlement. Theresienstadt was the only Jewish community in Nazi-occupied Europe to be led by Zionists. Paul Eppstein, from Berlin, was appointed as the liaison with the SS command, while Edelstein was obliged to act as his deputy. The SS used the national divisions to sow intrigue and disunity. Besides the "Prominent" prisoners, young Czech Jewish men had the highest status in the camp. As the first prisoners in the camp whether in the Aufbaupolizei or through connections to the Aufbaupolizei most of the privileged positions in the camp fell to this group. Makeshift hospitals, staffed mostly by female nurses, were organized in each barracks for the most serious cases. Within this framework, the Transport Department selected which people would be deported. If someone were selected for a transport, it was possible to appeal, but in practice such appeals were rarely accepted. The intention was to keep the children somewhat insulated from the harsh conditions in the camp so that they would not succumb to "demoralization". Aided by teachers and helpers recruited from former educators and students, the children lived in collectives of per house, [90] separated by language. Their housing was superior to that of other inmates and they were also better fed. Because of this, the ideological quality of education depended on the inclination of the person who ran the home; this was formalized in an agreement. Study of the Hebrew language was mandatory despite the increased danger to educators if they were caught. Most prisoners had to live in overcrowded collective dormitories with sixty to eighty people per room; men, women, and children lived separately. A few prisoners, especially those who had connections, managed to create private "cubbyholes" Czech: Younger people did not face starvation, although many lost weight. Men controlled the administration and also worked in various workshops, including carpentry, leather, and tailoring, and in the mines of Kladno. Some also worked on SS military projects.

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Chapter 2 : Prisoner of War and Concentration Camp Money By Lance K. Campbell | Wigan Lane Books

A prisoner-of-war camp (often abbreviated as POW camp) is a site for the containment of enemy combatants captured by a belligerent power in time of war.. There are significant differences among POW camps, internment camps, and military prisons.

Zonderwater POW camp in Cullinan , South Africa Conditions in Japanese Camps[edit] Leading up to war, Japan was slowly establishing itself as a superpower, but the country was much too small, and therefore they needed more resources. Before attacking Pearl Harbor , the Japanese had attacked Thailand and captured an area defended by 10, British and Indian troops in Malaya. They attacked Pearl Harbor which led to the United States declaring war against them. In , they had taken Hong Kong and set up camps along Kowloon. China was not nearly as advanced in technology at the time but put up strong resistance to the Japanese advance. From there they dominated Asia. It was said[by whom? The Japanese believed it was shameful to be captured alive in combat. The warrior spirit was a Japanese field army code that was celebrated in January , which states that an individual must calmly face death. Those who disobeyed orders would be sentenced to death by the symbolic Japanese sword. The sword was seen as a symbol of wisdom and perseverance to the Japanese, and it was an honor to die by it. These prisoners did not have much to eat, and they had little if any clothing. Some of the guards were so brutal that they would answer requests for water with their fists or rifle butts. If prisoners were seen as no use, physically weak, or rebellious, they would be killed. At the end of the war, when the camp inmates were released, many had lost body parts, and many were starved and resembled walking skeletons. Some prisoners feared death from their treatment at the hands of the Japanese over the Americans dropping bombs on the camps. Mental illness affected prisoners traumatized by the sheer brutality of guards. According Lieutenant Colonel Phillip Toosey , who shared his experiences in the camps, the Japanese committed brutal atrocities. Or the guards would tie a prisoner on a tree by their thumbs, with their toes barely touching the ground, and leave them there for two days without food or water. After the two days of torture, the prisoner would be jailed until death. The bodies would later be burnt. Human hair was often used for brushes, plant juices and blood for paint, and toilet paper as the "canvas". Some of their works were used as evidence in the trials of Japanese war criminals. In many cases, survivors of camps were traumatized or ended up living with a disability. Many survivors went home or to other areas of the world to have a successful life as a businessman, or they would devote themselves to helping poor people or people in the camps who were in need of support. The Japanese camps totalled the most deaths out of any prisoner of war camps. The Red Cross had not dropped any parcels into these camps because they were too well defended to fly over. The few prisoners of war sent to Canada included Japanese and German soldiers, captured U-boat crews, and prisoners from raids such as Dieppe and Normandy. The camps meant for German POWs were smaller than those meant for Japanese prisoners and were far less brutal. German prisoners generally benefitted from good food. However, the hardest part was surviving the Canadian winters. Most camps were isolated and located in the far north. Death and sickness caused by the elements was common. Many camps were only lightly watched, and as such, many Germans attempted escape. Tunnelling was the most common method. Peter Krug, an escapee from a prison located in Bowmanville, Ontario , managed to escape along the railroads, using forests as cover. He made his way to Toronto , where he then travelled to Texas. Fighting, sometimes to the death, was somewhat common in the camps. Punishments for major infractions could include death by hanging. German POWs wore shirts with a large red dot painted on the back, an easily identifiable mark outside the camps. Therefore, escapees could be easily found and recaptured. Japan seemed to be able to attack along the Pacific and Canada could potentially be next. The Nikkei Canadians and Immigrants of Japanese origin were stripped of possessions, which were later auctioned off without consent. The intense cold winters made it hard to live as the Nikkei were placed in camps; these campers were made of Japanese immigrants and Japanese-Canadians. They lived in barns and stables which were used for animals,

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therefore unsanitary. It took 5 years after the war for the Nikkei to gain their rights. Compensation was given but was not enough to cover the loss of properties. Over 22, Nikkei were put into these camps.

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Chapter 3 : WW1 prisoners of war

The prisoner monetary system was conceived in ghettos such as Lodz, carried to camps such as Auschwitz and Dachau and still existed in the displaced persons camps that were established by the Allies after World War II.

One in four would not make it out alive. Nylstroom Camp, South Africa. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 2 of 34 Boer women and children in a concentration camp. Wikimedia Commons A young boy, withered to nothing but skin and bones, sits inside of his tent. Irene Camp, South Africa. During the war, farms were destroyed, fields salted and wells poisoned to keep the Boers from feeding their fighting men. The families that lived inside would then be dragged off to a concentration camp, where many would die. Wikimedia Commons 5 of 34 Inside of one of the "native compounds," where black South Africans were interred. Kimberley Camp, South Africa. These men will likely be shipped to prisons overseas. Their families, however, will be sent into concentration camps to starve and die. Wikimedia Commons 7 of 34 Lizzie Van Zyl, a dying young girl. Lizzie Van Zyl contracted typhoid fever in the camp and slowly withered away. She could not speak English. Nurses who tried to help her were told by the camp heads "not to interfere with the child as she was a nuisance. Wikimedia Commons 8 of 34 A distant view of the lines of tents that made up a concentration camp in the Boer War. Norval Pont Camp, South Africa. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 9 of 34 British soldiers on guard at a concentration camp. Balmoral Camp, South Africa. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 10 of 34 Distributing the meat rations at a concentration camp. Springfontein Camp, South Africa. These tents would often be home to as many as 12 people, forced to squeeze together and share diseases because of the massive overcrowding. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 12 of 34 A native South African village, surrounded by a fence of barbwire and turned into a work camp. Native families were rounded up and sent into concentration camps of their own to keep them from feeding Boer troops. An estimated 14, natives died in the camps. Wikimedia Commons 14 of 34 Native South Africans were often forcibly put to work by the occupying British forces. Camp Durban, South Africa. Library and Archive Canada 15 of 34 Native South Africans doing forced labor in a concentration camp. The original caption to this photograph, meant to be propaganda to defend the concentration camps, proudly notes that the forced laborers were "singing" while they worked. Bronkerspruit Camp, South Africa. Generally speaking, the nurses and matrons in the camps had nothing but good intentions. They did their best to help the captives stay healthy and safe -- but with too few resources and space to do it, the people under their care died at such alarming rates that the camps nearly exterminated an entire population. Klerksdorp Camp, South Africa. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 19 of 34 Native South Africans pose for a picture in front of the wagon that brought them to the concentration camp. Wikimedia Commons 20 of 34 A refugee Boer family, still free of the concentration camps, try to get out of the country before they get caught in the horrors of the camps. Wikimedia Commons 21 of 34 Boer refugees arrive at Merebank station, with their every earthly possession at their sides. The concentration camps of the Boer War started off as well-meaning refugee camps that took in people like these. Diseases and starvation started racking the camp and whole crowds of people started dying. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 22 of 34 A church service inside of a concentration camp, held in the open air. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 24 of 34 A group of Boer children with a native woman, who seems to have been brought in to replace their missing mother. Wikimedia Commons 25 of 34 A young Boer girl in one of the camps. Wikimedia Commons 26 of 34 Boer prisoners sit down for an outdoor church service. Middelburg Camp, South Africa. Klerksdorp Camp, South Africa. Pietersburg Camp, South Africa. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 31 of 34 South African prisoners sit by the wall of their concentration camp. Standerton Camp, South Africa. Library of the London School of Economics and Political Science 32 of 34 A South African family stand by their home, inside a village that has been turned into a British-run camp where

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thousands will die. Wikimedia Commons 33 of 34 Boer prisoners of war gather together for an open-air church service. Here, uniquely, they are mostly men. All but a few will soon be shipped out of the country, with their wives and children left behind. Diyatalawa Camp, South Africa. Wikimedia Commons 34 of

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Chapter 4 : Prisoner of War and Concentration Camp Money

POW Camp Money. Posted on 8/21/ To accommodate those captured during World War II, Prisoner of War camps were established all over the world.

I had often heard it said that money had no intrinsic value itself - it was only a means of exchange. It was what money could buy that was important and in a P. Camp Pounds, shillings and pence; Dollars; Francs and Guilders could buy very little. BUT there was "money" in the camp, which could purchase many things. There were a few wealthy men in the Camps - these were the cigarette "Barons". Men who accumulated thousands of cigarettes. I never found out how they did this - there was talk of con men and cardsharps. No doubt there was a sprinkling of such characters, as card games involving gambling went on at every possible occasion. Gambling schools took place in many parts of the huts - I often watched, but never played for "money". The cigarette "Barons" could buy many things inside the camp - and it was said even outside the camp. Dealings with various camp guards went on all the time. The "Barons" purchased extra rations of Red Cross food from prisoners who had run out of their supply of cigarettes. Articles of clothing were also exchanged for cigarettes. Some of my comrades considered that I was "wealthy". I had a great advantage over them - I was a non-smoker. BUT accumulation of "wealth" took time, for like the others I started with nothing - and the ration of cigarettes on one occasion was only six. Once, I received a whole tin of cigarettes - it contained I purchased a notebook from the "swop shop". This cost me 10 cigarettes - but it was well worth it. I could now write up my notes in the form of a diary. I still have that notebook after so many years. It lies in front of me now - rather faded, but still legible. The diary was written in pencil. The latter also bought with cigarettes. I spent my "money" on other things - haircuts, having my boots repaired, and with the help of a friendly "postern" camp guard obtaining bread from outside the camp. I believe I paid 11 cigarettes for a loaf. So my "wealth" steadily diminished. The German Corporal, with whom I had dealings was a split personality. He revealed to me once, that underneath his German uniform, he was wearing a complete British Army uniform - battledress etc. He never revealed how he had obtained these articles. He did not want to take any chances of being shot in any confusion - he was ready and willing to surrender. Unfortunately, neither he or I were given the chance of seeing this much looked to performance - when the camp was eventually over-run it was like the "Marie Celeste" - the whole crew had disappeared. But that is another story - which I will explain later. Find out how you can use this. This story has been placed in the following categories. Story with photo Most of the content on this site is created by our users, who are members of the public. The views expressed are theirs and unless specifically stated are not those of the BBC. The BBC is not responsible for the content of any external sites referenced. For any other comments, please Contact Us.

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Chapter 5 : BBC - WW2 People's War - Life in a Prisoner of War Camp."MONEY"

This very scarce specialist publication will be of huge interest for historians and collectors. It catalogues not only prisoner of war and concentration camp money, both paper issues, and where applicable, metal issues, but also currency of ghettos, displaced person camps and internment camps from across the world.

Finale Emilia was a concentration camp for Jews near Modena in northern Italy. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of three postcards. The first is a postcard from San Marino, postmarked September 30, , to an inmate at Finale Emilia. Lipari was a concentration camp located on the Island of Lipari off the Sicilian coast. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of two covers from Lipari postmarked March 29 and 31, , respectively, to Spalato, Dalmatia today Split, Croatia. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Lipari" in the left frame to return. Malo is a town northwest of Venice which was the site of a civil internment camp during the war. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of a cover from Malo postmarked October 31, , to Krakau. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Malo" in the left frame to return. Montechiarugolo was an Italian internment camp near Parma. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of a cover postmarked July 30, , from the camp at Montechiarugolo to the Red Cross in Geneva. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Montechiarugolo" in the left frame to return. Ponza was a concentration camp located on the Island of Ponza off the coast of Naples. The first is dated February 25, ; the second is dated April 8, ; and the third is dated July 10, . Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Ponza" in the left frame to return. Potenza is a town in southern Italy which was the site of a concentration camp. The first card is postmarked April 30, . This postcard is part of a set of 13 postcards mailed between January 22, , and August 22, , from Berlin by Alex Israel Seelig to Federico Wahl, an inmate at the camp at Potenza, Italy. Each card bears Berlin postmarks, censor markings and the double-ring camp cancel with coat of arms of Potenza. Rhodes Island was under the control of Italy from until the German occupation in September, . It appears that most of the internees on Rhodes were survivors of the shipwreck of the the Pentcho. The Pentcho was a paddle steamer which was purchased by Betar, the Zionist youth movement. The ship arrived in Bratislava in May, . On May 16, , it was boarded by some Czechoslovakian young men and women. Finally, the Yugoslavian authorities provided an escort to accompany to Vidin, Bulgaria. After a journey of four months, the ship reached the Black Sea. After being denied access to Turkish waters, the ship sailed to the Greek port of Piraeus. After leaving Piraeus, the ship, on October 9, , suffered a burst in the boiler and was shipwrecked on the uninhabited Island of Kamila which was under Italian control. After lighting fires for a week, the survivors were discovered by a low flying plane, and shortly thereafter a ship arrived and took the survivors to the Island of Rhodes. They were interned there until early and then transferred to Camp Ferramonti see above. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of three postcards to survivors of the Pentcho and an official document from the camp at Rhodes. The postcard is from S. Steiner and is postmarked December 30, . The card is from her mother and is postmarked May 2, . The card was readdressed to Camp Ferramonti see above. The card is from his mother and is postmarked January 31, . The last item is a certificate signed by the Camp Commander certifying that E. Grunbaunz, born on April 8, , in Czechoslovakia, has been at the Rhodes internment camp from October 21, , after being captured by the Italian Navy. This certificate was to help him receive an exit permit. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Rhodes" in the left frame to return. Sepino was an Italian internment camp near Campobasso. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of a postcard dated June 29, , from an inmate at Sepino, Izzy Kahzberger, addressed to a Jewish old age home in Vienna. The card bears Italian and German censor markings. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Sepino" in the left frame to return. Treviso, a town in northern Italy, was the site of an Italian internment camp. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of a postcard dated July 16, , from the province

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of Lubiana to an inmate at Treviso. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Treviso" in the left frame to return. Urbisaglia was one of the concentration camps established by the Fascist regime. Below are thumbnails of two items from this camp. The first is the front and back of a cover postmarked May 20, , from Urbisaglia to Vienna. The second is the front and back of a postcard from Urbisaglia to the Judenrat in Litzmannstadt dated March 27, . Vestone, a town in northern Italy, was the site of an Italian internment camp. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of a postcard dated May 4, , to an inmate at Vestone. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Vestone" in the left frame to return. Vinchiatturo was an Italian internment camp near Campobasso. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of a postcard postmarked January 1, , to an inmate at Vinchiatturo. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Vinchiatturo" in the left frame to return. Visco, a town between Treviso and Trieste, was the site of an Italian internment camp. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of a postcard dated April 20, , from an inmate at Visco to Grosuplje near Ljubljana. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "Visco" in the left frame to return. There were four different air routes: Letters to prisoners of war had to bear the name of the air route. Most mail was sent via the routes originating in Chiasso which is a small town on the Swiss-Italian border. The prisoner mail received in Italian Chiasso would be transferred to Swiss Chiasso. From there, the mail would go by train to Sofia, air to Istanbul, train to Jerusalem, and BOAC air to Cairo for forwarding to the various destinations. By December, , the British postal authorities recommended that it would be more efficient to have the exchange take place at Adana, Turkey, and then by BOAC air to Cairo. This route was labeled as the Sofia-Istanbul route. Below are thumbnails of the front and back of five items pertaining to the Chiasso-Sofia-Jerusalem route. This is the earliest date known. The cover is addressed to a POW interned at a camp in south Africa. It was common for both Italian and British censors to remove stamps to protect against secret messages hidden under them. The third item is a cover postmarked September 3, , with a hand written route instruction. The card bears a hand written route instruction. The cover is postmarked June 30, , and has a hand written route instruction. This cover is proof that the Chiasso-Sofia-Jerusalem route was closed as of this date. Please click on the thumbnail to see the full image, and then click your back key or "POW Mail" in the left frame to return.

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Chapter 6 : Theresienstadt concentration camp - Wikipedia

This book is a must have for anyone who is interested in Prisoner of War and Concentration Camp Money. It covers POW camp money from the Boer War, World War I, World War II, the Vietnam War, and periods in between wars.

In an especially cunning plan, Monopoly boards were used by fake charities to send the maps and related messages to prison camps in Nazi-occupied Europe. Equipped with the information, numbers of shot-down pilots and other captured servicemen managed to break out and some made their way to neutral countries and back home. The system was set in place by MI9, a secret government department responsible for helping prisoners of war and liaising with resistance movements in continental Europe. Section Nine of the British Directorate of Military Intelligence in the War Office, to give it its full name, carried out trials of maps printed by Waddingtons on silk, rayon and tissue paper as early as 1941. Debbie Hall, formerly of the British Library and now at the Bodleian Library in Oxford, has studied the secret history of the silk maps, and the involvement of the famous Yorkshire firm. In December 1941, MI9, the branch of the secret service responsible for escape and evasion, was set up. It was made clear that it was the duty of all those captured to escape if possible. They began by printing silk maps for supply to air crews, British and later American, and went on to conceal maps inside Monopoly boards, chess sets and packs of cards which could be sent into the prison camps. Prisoners of war were allowed to receive parcels from their families and from relief organisations such as the Red Cross. The spooks did not want to compromise the latter and so set up a range of fictitious charitable organisations, often based at fake addresses or bombed buildings, to send games, warm clothing and other small comforts to the prisoners. One of the major problems of captivity was boredom and games and entertainments were permitted as the guards recognised that if the prisoners were allowed some diversions they would be less troublesome. Once several Monopoly boards had got safely through, MI9 and Waddingtons developed a code to show which map was hidden in the set. A special code was even used to indicate to the ministry which map was concealed inside a particular game so that it would be sent to a prisoner of war camp in the appropriate area. Present day North Yorkshire county councillor John Watson, from Wetherby, whose father Norman Watson was instrumental in turning Waddingtons into a household name, says: My father was fond of telling tales about Waddingtons part in the war effort. The silk maps were a major feature of such recollections. The Monopoly ones were laminated within the boards. He also said that several Monopoly sets were sent out containing tokens made of pure gold to be used by prisoners to pay for assistance with their escapes. One other tale was that, once it was discovered the German guards were not searching the Monopoly sets themselves, real German currency was included in some of the packs of Monopoly banknotes. Another researcher into the subject is Barbara Bond, a graduate of Leeds University and former civilian researcher at the Ministry of Defence who is now pro-chancellor of Plymouth University and past president of the British Cartographic Society. Initially the escape kits were in the form of small cigarette tins which contained concentrated food, tape, thread, tiny saws and compasses. The methods of getting the maps through to the prisoners of war were very ingenious. They were hidden in playing cards, pens, pencils, gramophone records, and game boards. It was a cardinal rule in MI9 that they never used Red Cross parcels. These dispatched both ordinary parcels containing clothes and the special ones containing escape aids. It is published by Jeremy Mills Publishing.

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Chapter 7 : Classification of prisoners at Dachau - Jews, homosexuals, common criminals, etc.

This book is a MUST HAVE for anyone who is interested in Prisoner of War and Concentration Camp Money. It covers POW camp money from the Boer War, World War 1, World War 2, the Vietnam War, and periods in between wars.

By Matthew Berg 1. Just six months after being liberated by the U. Army, former POW R. But as we will see below, there are some significant problems with the notion that cigarettes were really a form of commodity money which developed spontaneously in the way commodity money theorists suggest. For example, in the view of prominent Austrian economist Robert P. The trouble is that the fairy tale is not terribly convincing on its own terms, as we shall see in the next paragraph. The traditional fairy tale goes something vaguely like this: First, it was uniform; second, it was transportable; third, it was divisible; fourth, and perhaps most importantly, it was shiny. The princess, of course, as the issuer of the locks of hair, became very wealthy. And that is how we got castles and expensive towers. But eventually the princess could not re-grow locks of hair quickly enough to cut them and package them into a sufficient number of locks to meet demand from the peasants and the frog, and so everyone began using gold instead. And then everyone lived happily ever after – especially the princess, who was as we have mentioned very wealthy. The princess and the hair 2. The Functions of Cigarette-Money Although cigarettes are not really durable, they had some other characteristics necessary for a usable exchange currency, such as relative uniformity, desirability, and light weight. Non-smoking soldiers would likewise be willing to accept cigarette-money, because they knew that their addicted confederates would want cigarettes. Similarly, citizens of modern democratic countries need the state-issued currency in order to pay taxes, and so they will always be willing to accept at the very least a sufficient amount of state-issued currency in order to fulfill their tax obligation. In addition, cigarette-money had an additional feature to make it attractive to those who spend their days worrying about the ever-present phantom of hyperinflation: Similarly to Bitcoin, cigarettes were thus a naturally deflationary currency. After all, the case of a band of brothers – who periodically receive cigarettes and other commodities which rain down exogenously like manna from heaven – is not exactly the most typical way that human beings have lived throughout history not to mention the fact that they were locked up together in the midst of the most deadly and destructive war of all time. But in another sense, it is not so strange at all. The artificial situation of a prisoner of war camp actually resembles a theoretical Walrasian exchange economy much more clearly than does the real world economy. In a prisoner of war camp, as in the theory of a pure exchange economy, there is absolutely no production of goods at least for those fortunate enough to be incarcerated in genuine POW camps, as opposed to work camps or concentration camps. Goods are simply given to the prisoners by their benevolent or not-so-benevolent warden overlord, and then the prisoners must confront the problem of how to trade the goods among themselves so as to ensure that they will be as satisfied as they can possibly be with the set of goods that they will eventually consume. Some preferred chocolate; others preferred jam. And so they traded! So even if we are skeptical of the idea that the actual real world economy resembles a pure exchange economy in which people use money only because it is a bit more convenient than outright barter, it might seem that we must admit that the resemblance between commodity money theory and observation is much clearer in the case of the POW camp than in the standard commodity money creation myth. Furthermore, all of this involved no government intervention, but rather a market emerged as the result of spontaneous self-organization by the POWs! Or so it might seem! 4. That this story was a chimera seems somehow to be outweighed by the fact that it was a shared daydream – common among apparently almost everyone from Menger to Marx. As Desan reminds us: And that is not something we should allow ourselves to easily forget. Cigarettes and other commodities were – because of decisions by the Red Cross and the Germans which lay entirely outside of the control of the prisoners – delivered from a distant and utterly disconnected external world: The condition for the function of its market and its money was a situation in which governance and all the functions of the collective had been externalized and determined by an alien power. Note that centralized

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authority was not absent; rather, it was omnipresent, fixed, and definitive. Those issues range from the profound to the apparently mundane. For one, the American POWs had all grown up in a money-using society. They thus did not invent money from scratch, but rather attempted to re-create what they already knew – a much different challenge than the one of creating money in the first place that would have confronted a hypothetical tribe of Lockean noble savages, according to the commodity money fairy tale. No doubt commodity money theorists do not advocate locking everyone up in prison camps nor do I! However, commodity money theorists are presented with an awkward and unforgiving realization: The alternative option would be as unlikely as it is unthinkable: Thank you to Dr. Randy Wray for mentioning and to Dr.

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Chapter 8 : Prisoner-of-war and concentration camp money of the twentieth century (Book,) [racedaydvl.co

In a prisoner of war camp, as in the theory of a pure exchange economy, there is absolutely no production of goods (at least for those fortunate enough to be incarcerated in genuine POW camps, as opposed to work camps or concentration camps).

When the Dachau camp was liberated on April 29, 1945, the largest number of prisoners in the whole Dachau system, including the sub-camps, were classified as political prisoners, who numbered 43,000; the majority of them were Catholic. The political prisoners included Communists, Social Democrats, anarchists, spies, and anti-Fascist resistance fighters from the Nazi occupied countries such as France, Belgium, Norway, the Netherlands, and Poland. Before World War II started in 1939, the number of foreigners in the Dachau main camp was insignificant, as most of the prisoners were German or Austrian, including a few Jews. During the war, the Germans and Austrians were a minority among the Dachau prisoners; the average number of Germans at Dachau during the war was about 3,000, according to The Official Report by the U. S. Seventh Army, which was based on two days of interviews with the survivors of the camp. The Official Report states on page 10: "The Official Report by the U. S. Seventh Army listed the following statistics for the Dachau main camp after the camp was liberated: According to Paul Berben, a former prisoner, who wrote a book called "Dachau: The Official History," there were 67,000 prisoners in Dachau and its sub-camps when the last census was taken on April 26, 1945, three days before the US 7th Army arrived to liberate the camp. There was a total of 22,000 Jews in the Dachau system on April 26, 1945, and most of them were in the subcamps. Many of the sub-camps, which Berben refers to as "Kommandos," had already been evacuated and the prisoners had been brought to the main camp at Dachau before April 26, 1945. An estimated 7,000 prisoners arrived at the Dachau main camp, from other concentration camps, after the last census was taken. On April 27, 1945, a train carrying prisoners evacuated from Buchenwald had arrived at the main camp, but less than half the 4,000, mostly Jewish prisoners, who had left Buchenwald, were still alive after the day trip and able to walk into the main camp. On April 26th, approximately 3,000 Jews had been death-marched out of the main Dachau camp, headed south toward the mountains where it is believed that the Nazis intended to hold them as hostages to use in surrender negotiations with the Allies. Another 1,000 Jews had been evacuated from Dachau by train on April 26th. The prisoners were also classified by the type of crime that they had allegedly committed, which was designated by the color of a badge that each prisoner had to wear. The two major classifications of badges were red and green: The following quote is from The Official Report by the U. S. Seventh Army: "As far as the prisoners themselves are concerned, the camp was divided sharply only between two groups: There were also German soldiers who had been imprisoned in the bunker at Dachau, and common criminals, according to Paul Berben. Some of the original Dachau common criminals had been previously transferred to Buchenwald and Mauthausen to work in the building of those camps and to assist the Nazis in supervising the other prisoners. The following quote is from "Dachau: The Official History" by Paul Berben: The third main category of prisoners was the "criminals. Polizeisicherungsverwahrte were criminals who had served their prison terms, in some cases many years since, but they were considered to be dangerous and were held in the concentration camp as a preventive measure vorbeugend. The second group, the B. Befristete Vorbeugungshaft; often wrongly called Berufsverbrecher, professional criminal, was composed of men who were not released on the completion of their prison sentences but sent straight to the camp. When a prisoner arrived at Dachau, or any other concentration camp in the Nazi system, a Hollerith punch card was made for him. One line of the card had a hole punched to indicate the prisoners classification. The IBM Hollerith cards were also punched for the work skills of each prisoner, so that workers could be found for assignments in the factories. When a prisoner died in a Nazi concentration camp, his Hollerith card was punched with a code for the type of death: C-3 was for death by natural causes, D-4 was for execution, and E-5 was for suicide. F-6 was the code for Sonderbehandlung special treatment which meant "extermination, either by gas chamber or bullet," according

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to Edwin Black who wrote "IBM and the Holocaust. Dachau was the camp where Catholic priests, mostly from Poland, were imprisoned. There were 2, priests sent to Dachau; most had been arrested as resistance fighters after the invasion of Poland by the Nazis on Sept. There were also German priests incarcerated at Dachau and at least one of them, Father Leonard Roth, was there because he had been arrested as a pedophile. Father Roth redeemed himself by volunteering to take care of the sick prisoners in the camp and after the camp was liberated, he stayed on to serve as the priest for the German soldiers who were imprisoned at Dachau. The street that borders the camp on the south side has been named after him. They worked as servants in the homes of the SS officers. There was at least one Dachau prisoner who had African Ancestry: Johnny Voste, a Belgian resistance fighter who was arrested in for alleged sabotage, was one of the survivors of Dachau. Johnny Voste is on the right Dachau was mainly a camp for adult men, but there were a few children there according to Berben who was himself a member of the International Committee at Dachau, which controlled the camp near the end. He wrote the following in his book: As has already been mentioned, there were times when even children were imprisoned in Dachau. The International Committee saw to it that they were not abandoned. A school was organized for Russian children under a Yugoslavian teacher, and the older ones were placed in Kommandos [subsidiary work camps of Dachau] where they were looked after by prisoners who tried not only to keep them in good health but to teach them the rudiments of a trade as well. In the early days of the Dachau camp, many Jews were brought there as prisoners, although they were always classified as political prisoners or criminals who had broken the law. For example, on June 12, , a number of Jews accused of "race defilement" were brought to Dachau, according to Martin Gilbert, author of the book "Holocaust," who wrote that there were "some three hundred Jews being held" at Dachau by Gilbert wrote about how of these Jews were released in the Fall of after negotiations between the Gestapo and David Glick, a Jewish lawyer in Pittsburgh, who was a representative of the American Joint Distribution Committee. The Gestapo agreed to release them on condition that the Jews emigrated immediately to a country beyond Europe. The Joint agreed and paid the money. The Jews were released. He wrote that the last prisoner number at the end of was By the end of , the last prisoner number was The last prisoner numbers registered at Dachau were around It was at this point that life in the Dachau concentration camp began to deteriorate. The organization of the Dachau concentration camp was based on the system of indirect rule, according to The Official Report by the U. There were two separate spheres of control: The Political Department was in charge of camp security, discipline and punishment. The three top SS officers at Dachau, and at all the other camps in the Nazi system, did not exercise direct control over the prisoners, but rather used the internal organization of the camp which was in the hands of the prisoners themselves. Reporting to the camp senior were 1. The camp secretary or Lagerschreiber and his staff, who were in charge of camp records. The chief of the Labor Allocation Office, which was called the Arbeitseinsatz, and his staff members who were in charge of the work performed outside the camp. The Labor Office sent out the work details for the Arbeits Kommandos, of which there were around , each headed by a foreman or Kapo. With the prisoners in charge of the camp records, it would have been easy for them to change or destroy records. According to The Official Report, which was based on information given by the prisoners at Dachau, some of the Dachau records were destroyed by the SS three weeks before they abandoned the camp. The SS issued general orders and the orders were carried out by the internal organization of the prisoners. He was also a member of the International Committee of Dachau, a prisoners group that took over the administration of the camp about six months before it was liberated. According to The Official Report, "Melazarian had so completely sold out to the SS and was so generally hated by all the inmates of the camp that he was almost beaten to death after occupation and finally executed by American troops. The same fate befell the German chief of the camp police, a certain Wernicke. These agents of the SS were usually German criminals; sometimes they were disguised as political prisoners with a red badge instead of the green badge of a criminal. When the American liberators arrived, some of these informants were beaten to death by the prisoners. The prisoners, who were part of the camp administration, and the Kapos enjoyed privileges such as better food, clothing and living conditions. They were allowed to use the swimming pool in

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the SS camp next to the prison camp. According to The Official Report by the U. There were numerous reports about thefts, beatings, and killings by political Capos in different positions. When this stage was reached where prisoners persecuted fellow prisoners instead of preserving a sense of common solidarity, the success of the SS method of control was, of course, complete.

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Chapter 9 : Prisoner-of-war camp - Wikipedia

This book is a MUST HAVE for anyone who is interested in Prisoner of War and Concentration Camp Money. It covers POW camp money from the Boer War, World War 1, World War 2, the Vietnam War, and periods in between wars.

On the other hand, enlisted men were required to do so if asked by their captors. From the parent camp, they were assigned to Arbeitskommandos Labor detachments in agriculture or industry. Detachment strength ranged from 10 to 2, men. Prisoners worked on government-funded projects such as road and bridge construction, railway track maintenance and renewal, and land reclamation work. Large industrial companies in Germany hired British and Allied PoWs from the regional Army Corps Commands to work in steel factories, quarries and coalmines. Smaller employers hired them as stevedores, garbage collectors, foresters and in small groups as farm hands. Prisoners usually lived near the place of their employment. James Gerard said, "There were in Germany about one hundred central camps and perhaps 10, or more so-called working camps in summertime throughout the country. They were returning to Doberitz camp. There were 78 cards in this official Red Cross series, and PoWs from several different countries were represented. The scenes included general views of the camps. Photographs of prisoners at work, recreation, roll-calls, hospitals and even camp cemeteries. The German state bank gave permission to towns and villages to issue their own currency from until about Notgeld, were also issued in prisoner of war camps. Those who did work were paid not with official German currency but in prison lagergeld. Cottbus camp This 1 mark note was issued in Cottbus camp. It was situated on the outskirts of the busy town of the same name located on the river Spree. The town had 48, inhabitants. There were wool, linen and yarn factories there. The camp was on rising ground with the buildings radiating out from a central guard tower. It was also a coal-mining district and under the command of the 3rd Army Corps. The prisoners worked in the factories and mines in the area. Prisoners were paid at a rate, determined by their level of skill and agreement between government or private employer and Army Corps Commands. The lowest paid were farm workers, from 16 to 35 Pfennigs a day. Small industries paid 30 to 50 Pfennigs a day, while those in heavy industry received from 75 Pfennigs to 1 Mark a day. For the highly skilled and professional PoW the rate was between 2 and 3 marks a day. Dobeln camp This 10 mark note was issued to officers at Dobeln camp. The town was small with a population of 19, and the camp was established in barracks built of brick and about a mile from the railway station. The area was under the command of 19th Army Corps. The money often supplemented their food rations until food parcels arrived. Although some prisoners complained about working in heavy industry, where cruelty was sometimes inflicted on them, those working on the land and on farms often ate at the same table as their employer and slept in his house and became part of the family. They were often better fed than many city dwelling Germans. A German officer and two soldiers pose with them for the picture. They are overlooked by an elderly German guard. Working prisoners did not receive their pay in official currency, as it was feared that if they could accumulate large sums of money through working, they could bribe guards to help them escape and then pay their way through Germany - to freedom. Instead, prisoners were paid in Lagergeld camp money. This was paper money often specially printed for individual camps which could only be used to purchase goods at the camp store or credited to a prison bank account. Graudenz camp This 5Pf note from Graudenz camp carries an official hand-stamp of the camp and was one of the less attractive of the 3, or so varieties of PoW camp money issued during the war. Graudenz was a strong fortress town of over 40, people on the Polish frontier and situated on the right bank of the Vistula. British officers were sent there from March This note was issued just 9 weeks before the end of the war. In France they work, and in public By summer, a PoW labor army of 70, men had been formed. A message from General Ludendorff In , an extraordinary document signed by General Ludendorff, was said to have fallen into British hands. In September of that year it was published in the Morning Post and part of it read, "Capture at the hands of our inhuman foes, in view of their unexampled

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brutality of treatment, which is now proved beyond question in so large a number of cases, merely means being slowly tortured to death. Many German soldiers were found to be in absolute terror as to what would happen to them in captivity. A German officer in Colsterdale Camp in Yorkshire wrote, "If the postcard which I wrote has not relieved your deep anxiety, this letter shall do so. There is not the slightest cause for complaint regarding our treatment. A prisoner in Shrewsbury camp in the UK, had relatives in Kiel, who still managed to send him a food parcel. He wrote back to them, "Send me nothing more, for I live ten times better than you do! This French postcard shows German prisoners clearing debris from the streets of a French town and guarded by British soldiers. No release for German prisoners While Allied prisoners of war in German camps were released very soon after the Armistice and most were home by Christmas, the same could not be said for prisoners held by the Allies. And even then, they were only released after "many approaches by the I. This card was mailed from Berlin on 15th February , to a prisoner in the "Augusta G. Notice also the date - 25th September Ten months after the war had finished, this PoW labor company was still in existence and presumably its charges still working as prisoners of war.