

ORDEALS IN ORIENT MARK REPATRIATES

Americans and Others on Ship at Mormugao Suffered in Concentration Camps

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By Wireless to The New York Times.

MORMUGAO, Portuguese India, Oct. 16 (Delayed)—

The slow complicated process of unloading passengers and baggage from the Japanese liner Teia Maru was fairly well advanced by noon today as Mormugao awaited the arrival of the Gripsholm.

The Teia Maru, with 1,200 Americans, 250 Canadians and a small number of Britons and Latin Americans being repatriated from Japanese-controlled territories in the Far East, had been in port more than twenty-four hours at noon. The Gripsholm, with 1,500 Japanese, brought from internment in the United States for repatriation to Japan, arrived thirty hours after the Teia Maru.

Several hundred Americans from the Teia Maru were allowed to leave the ship and remain within a restricted area along the water-front yesterday afternoon and this morning in connection with the unloading of baggage and negotiations between the passengers' committees and American, Portuguese and neutral officials.

Show Effects of Ordeals

Newspaper men were permitted to mingle with the passengers in the dock area but were barred from going aboard the Japanese ship. The writer talked with scores of friends of pre-war years in China and other Far Eastern countries. All showed the strain of nearly two years in enemy hands, much of the time spent in internment camps. Many had lost thirty pounds or more, some had developed prematurely gray hair and the faces of all were lined with evidences of ordeals.

Still subdued by many months of repressed, regimented living, the passengers could not conceal a glow of happiness at being released here into a new life among their own people. They talked about themselves at first a bit reluctantly and then, as the feeling that they were actually free again gained power, they poured out stories of their adventures.

Most of the Americans were from camps in Shanghai. A few from north China, a few from Hong Kong and some from the Philippines had been in concentration centres since a few weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Most of the Shanghai Americans were free to go where they pleased under supervision until November, 1942, when many were interned as "political prisoners."

The Teia Maru was more crowded than the concentration camps. She brought 1,503 passengers, who were crowded into public rooms and bedded down in nearly every cranny that could be found.

Baggage. Was Limited

When the Americans left the Shanghai camps for the ship they were allowed to take 200 pounds of baggage in three bags and 1,000 yen, which was exchangeable into 5,500 Chinese puppet Government dollars.

After the Gripsholm docked, a group of American seamen who had been recruited at the last minute in New York to fill vacancies in the Swedish crew gathered on the afterdeck facing the Teia Maru and sang "God Bless America" and "The Star-Spangled Banner". They drew cheers from the Teia Maru. The Japanese on the Gripsholm waved many flags but remained quiet.

Baron Hayashi, Tokyo Foreign Office representative on the Teia Maru was one of the first aboard the Gripsholm. On leaving he told newspaper men there had been two suicides and three births on the Gripsholm during the six-week voyage from New York.

Americans on the Teia Maru cheered when an American news paper man brought reports that the Gripsholm had plenty of ham, eggs, steaks and butter.

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