

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: Happy New Year

Date: dimanche 1 janvier 2006 1:07

Thank you for your New Year's Day wishes. We had a barbeque last night (New Year's Eve) with lamb cutlets that we grow ourselves). We have an 11 acre property with sheep and we keep ourselves in lambs. Cutlets are anything up to AUD\$38 a kilo here. This is an outrageous price. It is now 10am on new years day and we are expecting 40 degrees Celsius today. It is about 34 degrees. The beaches are packed already. I sometimes miss the snow of Tsingtao my home town but I truly love Sydney's summer.

----- Original Message -----

From: rod miller

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Saturday, December 31, 2005 3:30 PM

Subject: Re: Happy New Year

At 12:54 PM 12/31/2005, you wrote:

Happy New Year, everyone.

Here in the USA, our television WEATHER CHANNEL shows folks sunbathing near Sydney, Australia. I'm envious, Joyce. Here in New Jersey, I'm wearing long underwear.

It's 45.3 outside at the moment. Good Beach weather ;-)

R

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: Happy New Year

Date: dimanche 1 janvier 2006 1:19

Dear Mary. Thanks for your greetings and the same to you and everybody. Yes the weather in Sydney is hot but very nice indeed. Our beaches are very popular with lots of tourists and locals. We are having quiet New Years Day at the present. It is 10.15am and temperature about 34 degrees Celsius rising to an expected 40 degrees later today. I endorse your comments about Natasha, Leopold and Donald. We have very much enjoyed Donald's walking tour disc. Best wishes. Joyce.

De: "David Birch" <gdavidbirch@yahoo.com>

À: "Weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Thanks Mary, Rod and Joyce for the New Year's greetings!

Date: dimanche 1 janvier 2006 1:45

I'm still living in the "afterglow" of the wonderful 60th Anniversary of Weih sien Liberation. I had the privilege of spending nearly ten days in Shandong this past August and met a number of you there! I even went wading in the ocean at Yantai/Chefoo where I used to swim as a little boy eons

ago!

Let's take a few moments to send our heartiest Best Wishes to James Broughton and his lovely new bride Carolyn (Christenson) Broughton. They are being married TODAY in the Church in West Palm Beach, Florida, where Carolyn's father is the minister. You will very likely recall that both James and Carolyn were with James's mother, Mary (Hoyte) Broughton, at the Weih sien Celebration in August. They then journeyed on to Chefoo (Yantai) where Mary was one of my schoolmates years ago! Congratulations and best wishes James and Carolyn!!! And God bless you too Mary as this outstanding young man, your beautiful son takes this big new step in his life!

David

De: "Joyce Cook" <bojjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Thanks Mary, Rod and Joyce for the New Year's greetings!**

Date: dimanche 1 janvier 2006 9:38

All our best wishes for a Happy New year to everybody on the Weih sien site. Particularly to James and Carolyn on their wedding day in Florida. Well do I remember sitting alongside James' mother in the bus and reminiscing about the camp. Congratulations. Joyce.

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Thanks Mary, Rod and Joyce for the New Year's greetings!**

Date: lundi 2 janvier 2006 2:30

James and Carolyn,

Congratulations on your wedding!!!! I remember greeting you two in the Qingdao airport with, "You are too young for the reunion!" You parted and there was your Mother, James. What a wonderful ongoing China heritage - to have met there and getting married.

Without you, James, I would not have the pictures I have. And just wish that I had had more time with your mother to reminisce more and talk about you!

James and Carolyn, may our Lord continue to bless you as you start out together to enrich the world in His name.

Mary, I am so happy for you also. Wish you could come visit me in PA I get home from family Christmas on the 3rd. IF any chance that you could fly to Harrisburg, PA I would love to spend time with you and I have the greatest B&B in town - for friends. I know probably impossible, but would be thrilled. Lots of America to see here. And not too far from Mary Previte??? With love and prayers, Georgie PHONE 1-717-432-5802 as soon as I get home about midaft on the 3rd!!!

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **2006**

Date: mercredi 4 janvier 2006 12:34

Dear Weih sien friends,

Our very best wishes for the New Year --- health and happiness all along the next 365 days and far beyond ---

Tomorrow morning we will be on our way to China !! :-)) --- Where I hope to take many more photos of Weifang "in the Winter".

Best regards,

Nicky and Leopold

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: 2006**

Date: mercredi 4 janvier 2006 20:26

We'll look forward to seeing your pictures and getting a report of your adventure, Leopold. Please wish HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of our friends and hosts in Weifang.

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Philip McLorn of Weih sien**

Date: lundi 9 janvier 2006 9:47

Hello, Everbody:

Philip McLorn, age 72, contacted me today -- a wonderful surprise. Thank you, Internet. Philip was interned in Weih sien -- part of the Tientsin group, but was also a student at Chefoo.

Any of you who were room mates or classmates with Philip may want to connect with him at _jpmclorn@golden.net (mailto:jpmclorn@golden.net) He and his wife live at 10 Water Street, Ayr, Ontario, NOB 1E0.

Weih sien liberator TAD NAGAKI will celebrate his birthday on January 25.

If you'd like to send him a card, his address is 5851 Logan Road, Alliance, NE 69301 USA He continues to farm in Alliance.

Mary Previte

De: "Sui Shude - Weifang China" <suishude@sohu.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **News From Sui Shude of Weih sien**

Date: lundi 9 janvier 2006 16:52

News From Sui Shude - Weifang (Weih sien) 22:49 January 9th, 2006

"LEOPOLD PANDER AND HIS FAMILY FROM BELGIUM ARE VISITING IN WEIFANG (WEIHSIEN)"

Today, Mr. Leopold Pander, his wife and relatives, came specially from Belgium to Weifang (Weihsien) for special visit to the Weihsien Camp. They arrived in Qingdao Airport at 10:50 am, and Sui Shude came to the airport to pick them up and transferred to Weifang Hotel.

In the afternoon, the group visited the Kite Village to appreciated the Weifang Kites and Paper-cuts, which are the most famous handicraft works of Weifang.

In the evening, the group were invited to a special welcome banquet dinner hosted by officials of Weifang People's Government.

Tomorrow, the group will explore the Weihsien Camp site in details the whole morning. They will pay a visit to the school-master of the Secondary Middle School, and meet and talk with government officials in the city hall.

Also, they will have time to visit the Weifang Kite Museum, the City Square, the Qing Dynasty Garden and other places they are interested in Weifang.

They will leave Weifang after dinner tomorrow.

Sui Shude arranged all of their itinerary and visits in Weifang.

The name list of the group is:

- 1.Mr. Leopold Pander
- 2.Mrs. Nicky Pander
- 3.Mr. Keyen - Depadt
- 4.Mrs. Keyen - Depadt

Leopold Pander was born in Tientsin (Tianjin) of China. His father worked as a banker there at the time. During World War II, his whole family were sent to prison in Weihsien by the Japanese occupant and were kept in the camp for 873 days.

Sui Shude

suishude@sohu.com
emailshude@yahoo.com.cn
weihsientravel@tom.com

De: "David Allen" <dandya@fidalgo.net>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Philip McLorn of Weihsien**

Date: lundi 9 janvier 2006 23:21

Thank you Mary:

I have several references to Philip McLorn in my letters sent home to my folks from the Chefoo and Temple Hill days.

I don't have any reference of Philip being in Weih sien.

I will send him the info I have on Chefoo and I think he would be interested.

David Allen

----- Original Message -----

From: Mary Previte

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Sunday, January 08, 2006 11:46 PM

Subject: **Philip McLorn of Weih sien**

Hello, Everbody:

Philip McLorn, age 72, contacted me today -- a wonderful surprise. Thank you, Internet. Philip was interned in Weih sien -- part of the Tientsin group, but was also a student at Chefoo.

Any of you who were room mates or classmates with Philip may want to connect with him at jpmclorn@golden.net He and his wife live at 10 Water Street, Ayr, Ontario, NOB 1E0.

Weih sien liberator TAD NAGAKI will celebrate his birthday on January 25. If you'd like to send him a card, his address is 5851 Logan Road, Alliance, NE 69301 USA He continues to farm in Alliance.

Mary Previte

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jkknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **News From Sui Shude of Weih sien**

Date: mardi 10 janvier 2006 3:47

Sui Shude,

You are truly a marvellous host to us old Weih sien internees. Our visit with you in August was overwhelming. A marvelous time and welcome from you and Weifang government and school and people!

And now you are doing the same thing for Leopold and his wife, who are keeping all of us up to date and in pictures. Thank you for us, once again and for taking care of them.

With great appreciation Georghie Reinbrecht Knisely

De: "Mary Broughton" <wilmar@clear.net.nz>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: re **many thanks to David, Joyce and Georgie**

Date: mercredi 11 janvier 2006 6:13

Many thanks for your good wishes for James and Carolyn's Wedding. We are just back from Florida. We had a wonderful time, beautiful wedding, great welcome from Carolyn's family. I went with my son Chris and daughter Helene and their families all together to Florida and stopped at Disneyland on the way home to NZ. What was so good too was that my brothers Eric and John Hoyte were there too with Luci (Shaw), John's wife and Eric's daughter Helena and John and 2 boys.

I totally agree the Weih sien Liberation Celebration was an amazing, wonderful experience and quite emotional. If only we had stayed another few hours together to share experiences and feelings. So many thanks to Sui Shude, Weifang city and all who helped and of course those who attended it.

Mary (Hoyte) Broughton

----- Original Message -----

From: [Ian Grant](#)

To: [Chefusians](#)

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2006 8:12 PM

Subject: **Tony Railton in New Zealand**

I received this news from Tony Railton in New Zealand. If any of you can assist him with information about his grandparents, who were business people at Chefoo, he would be delighted to hear from you.

Tony wrote: "I attended Chefoo School from 1929-38. My grandparents and parents were business folk in Chefoo, and my grandfather had his own firm H.E. Railton and Co. I lost my father and young brother in a drowning accident in 1936 and along with my mother, left Chefoo in 1938 for England. My grandparents, however, remained and along with other business folk and teachers and children of the Chefoo School, were interned in Temple Hill and Weih sien for the full period of internment.

"I am 81 now, and would be interested if any of those interned with my grandparents have any memories or recollections of them. I never had the chance to meet up with them after they returned to England, and would love to hear any news or memories of them."

Sincerely, Ian

Ian Grant
22 Cloughley Drive
Barrie ON L4N 7Y3
705-726-9677
705-726-4386 (fax)
iangrant@rogers.com

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Cc: "Janette & Pierre @ home" <pierre.ley@pandora.be>; "Colette & Yves @ home" <keyenyco@hotmail.com>

Objet: **Weifang visit,**

Date: lundi 16 janvier 2006 11:42

Dear Mr. Shude,

Dear Weih sien friends,

We are now back in Belgium after our very short visit to Shanghai and Weifang. First thing I did when returning home was (of course) to have a look at my mail-box --- and after having read Georgeana's message, I agree a hundred percent with her. Thanks again for Mr. Shude's kindness and competence. The four of us were treated as V.I.P.s. We had the best of everything. We were greeted at Quindao airport by Mr. Shude and his chauffeur --- we had the best Hotel --- we had four complete and Gargantuesque meals of excellent Shandung food (the best in China said Mr. Shude) --- in four different restaurants and a Chinese breakfast at the Hotel to begin our second day --- !

Most important of all: we visited No.2 Middle Class School and what remains of our old compound, the hospital, the villas, the museum, the garden, the monuments, the bell, ----- and I was free to take all the pictures I wished. Which I did! We visited the kite museum and the kite fabric. We

walked in the gardens facing the government building and I can assure you that when we were driven back to Quindao at the very end of the second day, we were all 4 of us: on our knees.

Happily exhausted --- We were back in Shanghai at past midnight!

Again, thank you Mr. Shude.

If any of you are planning to visit Weifang and Weih sien, --- I heartily recommend you to write to Mr. Shude first.

Best regards,

Leopold

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **China adventure**,

Date: samedi 21 janvier 2006 9:30

Hello

Since we are back from China, Nicky and I are having difficulties in catching the good meridian.

We are still on the Shanghai time-zone and getting up too early in the morning. That gives me more time to work on my web site --- sorting all the photos for you to see ---

I just finished my Weih sien-chapter last night. Could you have a look? --- and also suggest any corrections.

It was all a most unexpected and fantastic adventure --

Best regards,

Leopold

P.S. I just got a very nice message from Mr. Sui Shude with the corrections for the "group-picture". I'll try and fix that ASAP.

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **new link**:

Date: dimanche 22 janvier 2006 12:12

http://www.weih sien-paintings.org/pander/Weifang2006/Slide_Show/01_KiteFabric/p_Kite_01.htm

Hello,

New photos --- just click on the (above) link --- :-))

Best regards,

Leopold

De: "Pamela Masters" <pamela@hendersonhouse.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **new link**:

Date: lundi 23 janvier 2006 20:06

Dear Leopold and Nicky --

Thank you so much for that fabulous layout and all the pictures! Sometimes it was hard to recognize the old camp within the scope of all your photos.

One in particular stood out: the "spooky" corridor under the hospital wing. The first door, or rather opening, in the right wall led to the boiler room where I found Lloyd Francke when his legs gave out and he fell against the blistering boiler. I'm sure, all of you who have read "The Mushroom Years" recognized my character Dan as Lloyd -- he was such a special friend...

Thank you again for bringing so many memories back -- Pamela

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **ReNicky amd Leopold**

Date: mercredi 25 janvier 2006 17:27

Nicky and Leopold,

What a lovely trip for us, with you, again to Weih sien/Weifang and the Camp. Thank you again for sharing your trip. But best of all, it was a pleasure to meet you two at the end. Now we can see who we are corresponding with.

Thank you and thank you. I go back and back to your website. And I am not a person to live in the past, but what fun.

So happy you two were able to go!!!!

Blessings, Georgie Reinbrecht Knisely

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **map**

Date: vendredi 27 janvier 2006 9:54

Hello,

Hope you get the picture ---

The No.2 Middle Class School map has a slight parallax error but it comes from a picture I took in the museum in one of the two Japanese villas. I superposed Father Verhoeven's map of Weih sien and made a rotation to put the North upwards. I resized it so the two existing Japanese villas coincide and the old block-23 to match the new administrative building.

Any remarks?

Now I will transfer all this on a street map of Weifang I got at the Hotel ---

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **map**

Date: vendredi 27 janvier 2006 12:18

Très intéressant.

Aussi, le jardin au nord de bloc 1

Bien amicalement

Ron

----- Original Message -----

From: [Donald](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2006 9:27 PM

Subject: Re: **map**

Leopold (and Nicky),

A great map and overlay, but shouldn't the three low buildings in the NE corner that are being restored also be outlined in red?

Also, can you provide a map of Weifang that shows precisely where in the present city the camp is located? That would be helpful in targeting it on Google Earth.

Donald

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald

To: weihsien@topica.com

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2006 2:04 AM

Subject: Re: **map**

Leopold & Nicky,

A second glance makes it look like the Verhoevan map should be "stretched" a little in the E-W direction so that the diagonal lines in the SW corner of both maps are aligned.

Donald

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **map**

Date: samedi 28 janvier 2006 10:50

Dear Donald,

Just did that !

http://www.weihsien-paintings.org/pander/Weifang2006/Slide_Show/02_Weihsien/p_01.htm

click on this link ---

--- then click on the second picture ---

It is the cover of the map we got at the hotel.

- first is the whole city of Weifang

- then, a ZOOM on the Weihhsien-camp area

- third, the location of No.2 Middle Class School and the Hospital. Mr. Shude helped me for that -

--

- 4; a copy/paste of the satellite map found on Google-Earth,

- 5; The 2-map combination of No.2-M-C-S and Father Verhoeven's map. I corrected the red outlines and pointed Eric Liddell's monument.

- 6; A 3-map combination with the actual streets of Weifang. Of course, owing to slight parallax errors --- these combinations are not 100% correct.

When we were driving in Weifang city, at a road crossing, (?), Mr. Shude pointed an old wall visible in the background and said that it was a piece of the Camp's Wall. We didn't see it again later and

I didn't take a picture of it. Definitely --- I must go back to investigate --- P.S. Who's next?

All the best,

Leopold

Happy (Chinese) New Year :-))

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **map**

Date: samedi 28 janvier 2006 12:25

Dear Donald,

If I stretch in the E-W axis the outlines of the Japanese villas will mismatch.

When I took the picture --- it was not (at the moment) with the idea of combining the two maps. Maybe the next one of us to go there will take a picture of No2-M-C-S-map --- directly in front of the frame (to avoid the parallax error) --- and, if possible: no flash! The best would be for Mr. Shude to send me a good copy of NO.2 Middle Class School's map. I'm sure that he will read this message and send me one.

Best regards,

Leopold

PS. As for the "Eric-Liddell-Sport-Field" there is a much better picture in Joyce Bradbury's photos. It was taken from a much higher level. I would have liked to go on the roof of the administrative building and take a series of pictures with a 360°-sweep. Maybe next time :-))

Best regards,

Leopold

De: "Dwight W. Whipple" <thewhipples@comcast.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **map**

Date: samedi 28 janvier 2006 19:20

Dear Leopold~

Thanks for the masterful pictures of your trip and your work in getting them into such readable form. The superimposed yesteryear map with today's is very helpful. One question about the remembrance wall: does it contain only the names of those who were in the camp at liberation -- and not those who were repatriated in 1943? Couldn't find our names but did find those we knew who remained at the end. Thanks again for your good work.

~Dwight W. Whipple [Block 1, March, 1943 - September, 1943]

----- Original Message -----

From: [Donald](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2006 11:16 PM

Subject: Re: **map**

Dwight,

I also did not find the Wilders, and drew the same inference - that it contained only those who were there to the end. I wonder if there is any way that those who were expatriated could be added, if there is room.

Perhaps, Mary, as our rep on the Executive Committee, you could bring that up at some time.

Donald

----- Original Message -----

From: [Mary Previte](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2006 2:50 AM

Subject: **Names on the memorial monument**

I'll be happy to ask the Friendship Committee if it is possible to add names of those who spent any time in Weih sien.

Who has this list?

Mary Previte

De: "Tracy Strong" <tstrong@weber.ucsd.edu>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **Names on the memorial monument**

Date: dimanche 29 janvier 2006 8:16

Not on the list, as far as I can tell, are Robbins and Katherine Strong, missionaries, USA and Tracy B. Strong (child)

Tracy B. Strong

ucsd distinguished professor

Department of Political Science - 0521

University of California, San Diego

La Jolla, CA 92093-0521 USA

Tel.: 858 534 7081/3548

Fax: 858 534 7130

Cell: 619 723 4161

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Names on the memorial monument**

Date: dimanche 29 janvier 2006 10:28

Hello, :-))

The Remembrance Wall:

Picture No.358: there is the name "Steven" and the next is: "Talati". That makes 20 missing names.

The full list is on the web-site --- click on this link:

<http://www.weih sien-paintings.org/RonBridge/habitants/weih sien02.xls>

(You need to have Microsoft Excel to read this file --- hope it works!)

Best regards

Leopold

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **map**
Date: mardi 31 janvier 2006 5:44

Donald:

I'm working on the problem of names missing from the monument. My brother James has discussed it with Mr. Sui.

Our Chinese hosts seem willing to add names, but want these names to be documented on "official" lists. This is understandable. Greg Leck, who will release in the next few weeks his new book on Japanese internment camps in China, has told me that he knows of at least one person who claims to have been interned in Weih sien -- a claim disputed by several others. I can't imagine why someone would do such as thing -- maybe reparations, maybe a fascinating resume. Greg says he may have as many as 200 names that are not currently on the monument.

Mary Previte

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: Re: **map**
Date: mercredi 1 février 2006 2:56

Mary,
What is the name of Greg Leck's book on Concentration Camps? Thanks, Georgie

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **Captives of the Empire**
Date: mercredi 1 février 2006 3:22

Hello, Georgie:

Greg tells me his book will go by the title, Captives of the Empire. He thinks it will be out within the next few weeks. His years of research have taken him to the National Archives in Japan, in England, in the USA.
Extraordinary research!

I think Greg told me the book is 700 pages with lots of photographs -- but I may have got that figure wrong. It includes all the Japanese internment camps in China during World War II.

His telephone number is 610-588-2474. He lives in Bangor, PA, near Allentown.

Mary

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Cc: "Janette & Pierre @ home" <pierre.ley@pandora.be>
Objet: Re: **Captives of the Empire**
Date: mercredi 1 février 2006 10:03

hello,
try this link:
<http://www.captives-of-empire.com/>
super interesting ---
Best regards,
Leopold

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Date: jeudi 2 février 2006 13:29

Thank you, Mary! Still hoping you might come my way and we could have lunch. Do you ever get to my area and need an overnite. Dilsburg is right off of rt 15 between Harrisburg and Gettysburg. Or meet somewhere near Lancaster. Hopefully, Blessings, Georgie

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>
À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **topica**
Date: vendredi 3 février 2006 17:58

Dear Zandy,

Now, I am having trouble accessing the website. Something about cookies. My son who is in Knoxville, has tried to help - but to no avail! He has written to them, and I am hoping that this will be worked out.

In order to subscribe -----send a blank email to Weih sien-subscribe@topica

This will work if you are "off" on the listing. I cannot access it at the present time to check.

I am sending this to the whole list. Zandy let me know if and when you get this message.

Natasha

De: "Edmund Pearson" <tedp@videotron.ca>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **lost data**
Date: mardi 7 février 2006 17:25

Hi, I had a hard drive crash and lost all the email addresses of those with whom I was in email contact. If any of you still want to keep that connection, please email me at your convenience.
Teddy Pearson

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>
À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **information**
Date: mardi 7 février 2006 20:41

For your information - Please keep

If you find you no longer are getting messages from the Weih sien listing, do the following:

Send a blank email to:

Weih sien-subscribe@topica.com

Follow directions that you should receive. At present I am unable to access our website. I, therefore, do not know who is "off", and I have no way to change this to "on".

Natasha

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **verb tense**

Date: mercredi 8 février 2006 2:22

The line should read:

When you find that you are no longer receiving Weih sien messages.....

Natasha

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **verb tense**

Date: mercredi 8 février 2006 11:03

Natasha,

Nice to know the purities of the English language are still being upheld west of the Rockies. I suspect the product of the present UK Schools would not know the difference.

rgds

Ron

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **lost data**

Date: mercredi 8 février 2006 13:19

Edmund,

A real pain when that happens, I had Norton Anti virus problems as when I upgraded in November they sent a faulty disc thankfully it is all solved now.

Rgds

Ron Bridge

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **test**

Date: samedi 11 février 2006 15:31

Zandy,

This is a test message for you. I will send another email to your email address. Let me know whether you receive both email messages.

Natasha

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: "weihhsien" <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: **test**

Date: samedi 25 février 2006 16:04

I have not been getting any messages for about five weeks. I am unable to access Topica website, and have not been able to get a person at Topica to respond to my email requests of help.

Natasha

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **test**

Date: samedi 25 février 2006 16:47

Hello,
Got your message loud and clear ----- :-))
Just checked on Topica at: <http://lists.topica.com/lists/weihhsien/read> and the last message is from Ron Bridge, dated Feb 8 ----
Real quiet !! for the moment
Leopold

De: "Pamela Masters" <pamela@hendersonhouse.com>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **test**

Date: lundi 27 février 2006 2:58

Hi Natasha -- You always come in loud and clear, so does Weihhsien Topica. Can't think what's holding up your messages, unless, God forbid, you've got a sneaky little virus having fun with you. Have you had a virus check lately? I've got Norton working overtime, so I feel pretty safe nowadays.

Best love -- Pamela

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: **the web-site-map**

Date: lundi 27 février 2006 17:14

Hello,
Do you remember the discussion we had about the Japanese's uniform? The Consular Police's uniform. Well, --- there is "one" picture in Norman's chapter on the Weihhsien-picture-gallery web site.

Have a look at this link:

<http://www.weihhsien-paintings.org/NormanCliff/epilogue/JapGuard/p-JapGuard.htm>

--- and there is another picture -- certainly a "big shot" -- also found in Norman's documents:

<http://www.weihhsien-paintings.org/NormanCliff/liberationDay/p-group2.htm>

The colour --- seems to be dark-blue or black.

One question however:

When re-reading the Topica-messages (I print them for Father Hanquet, so I read them twice !!) many of you describe our Japanese captors as nice & helpful guys! Are they not an infinite exception amidst a bunch of -----
???

Best regards,
Leopold

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **access**

Date: lundi 27 février 2006 18:17

I was receiving email sent to Weih sien. I was not able to access the website in order to check who was "on" and who was "off" The problem was solved by my number one son. The pop-up accepting or not the cookie named..... When the one for Topica popped up, I clicked "Do not accept". My Security System decided that therefore access to the site should be blocked. Apparently, one has to be careful in "not accepting".

Zandy, I am very glad that you are back on the list.

I had wanted to clean up the listing, but I am afraid to do that at this time.

Does anyone remember snow at Weih sien? I remember the bitter cold.

Natasha

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: the web-site-map

Date: lundi 27 février 2006 21:43

Hello, Leopold:

The second photograph doesn't show a Weih sien guard. This photo was given to me by Weih sien liberator, Tad Nagaki. It was taken in Tsingtao. It includes a Japanese officer with Tad Nagaki and Jim Moore.

Several members of our liberation team left Weih sien in late August 1945 to start an Office of Strategic Services (OSS) office in Tsingtao. This group included Major Stanley Staiger, Ensign Jim Moore, Sgt. Tad Nagaki, T/4. Raymond Hanchulak, and T/5 Peter Orlich.

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **One man show about Eric Liddell in New York City**

Date: lundi 27 février 2006 21:54

Hello, Everybody:

A one-man show about Eric Liddell will open Off Broadway in New York City in April. The actor is Rich Swingle. I understand that one of Eric Liddell's daughters will be present and speak after

one of the performances.
I'll update you as more information becomes available.

Mary Previte

----- Original Message -----

From: [Donald](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2006 9:12 PM

Subject: Re: **the web-site-map**

Leopold,

Thanks for the pictures. They're a good addition to the archives.

I don't think there was ever any question that most, if not all, Weih sien guards wore dark blue or black uniforms. This is what one would expect, since all the written texts that discuss it agree that it was consular guards, not regular army, made up the compound's police force.

The Smith sketch of a sentry was done after liberation, and it's possible that things had changed (you know, "the changing of the guard" - hah, hah), though his article states that the agreement between the American and Japanese was that they Japanese would "continue" to provide security to protect the compound from attack. Everything we know about Smith indicates that he was an accurate observer and reporter, but he doesn't deal with the question of whether the same guards were being used as before. Army troops may have replaced the consular guards under the new regime.

Several people who were there are certain that at some time least some of the sentry/guards had the kind of "green" uniform shown in Smith's sketch, and I for one am not willing to attribute that entirely to false memory. Several plausible explanations for the different memories have been offered. Possibly it was the post-liberation guards that are remembered by some. As you know, I used the Smith sketch in my "slide show" but also included a note at the end explaining its provenance and the referring to the dispute over whether it was representative of conditions before liberation or not.

Thanks again,
Donald

De: "David Birch" <g david birch@yahoo.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: lundi 27 février 2006 22:36

Donald and Leopold,

I know for certain that the man we children called "King Kong" at Weih sien, the Chief of Police, or as some say 'commandant,' remained at Weih sien Camp during the weeks following the end of the war. I'm pretty sure that he still retained some authority (under the American troops) for making sure things were orderly.

The time I clearly recall this man, after the war was over, was a time when he was engaged in breaking up a commercial transaction (black market) that was taking place over the camp wall between camp residents and local Chinese people.

I was thirteen years old at the time.

David

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **the web-site-map**

Date: mardi 28 février 2006 1:28

I spoke to Ferol Smith, the widow of the artist who painted the picture of the guard in the guard tower.

After I looked at the original print of the painting in the journal, it was apparent to me that the image on Leopold's website had been altered somewhat, perhaps by scanning, fading, or running it through a program such as Photoshop. The "color" of the uniform (this was a black and white image, remember) is definitely darker in the journal version than it appears in the version seen on Leopold's site.

I asked Ferol about this. She told me the original painting, which she has, was done in color, and the uniform is a "very dark blue color."

Greg

De: "Pamela Masters" <pamela@hendersonhouse.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: mardi 28 février 2006 3:47

Dear David --

I don't doubt you saw King Kong breaking up a black market transaction, but it would not have been after the camp was liberated because we didn't have a black market then. It wasn't necessary, as we could openly deal with our Chinese friends on the outside. And incidentally, King Kong was never referred to as the commandant as the latter gentleman was a Japanese civilian.

Funny how memory plays tricks on us every once in a while; mine lets me down quite often nowadays -- Pamela

----- Original Message -----

From: [Donald](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2006 8:05 PM

Subject: RE: **the web-site-map**

Great work, Greg!

That pretty much answers the question about Smith's portrait being representative of pre-liberation conditions. As for the questions about the helmet and rifle, one would hardly expect a sentry posted in a watchtower to defend

against a possible enemy attack to be put there without a helmet and rifle, would one?

How did you manage to get in touch with Smith's widow? Do you live near her?

I don't know what she plans to do with the original, but that is the sort of thing that the people in the Weifang government who set up the Weih sien historical museum on the compound site would love to add to their collection for display. I'm sure that is a prized possession for her, but if you are going to see her again you might ask if that could be some day be possible.

Donald

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Fw: **One man show about Eric Liddell in New York City**

Date: mercredi 1 mars 2006 4:05

I remember the snow on the trees as icicles which tingled in the breeze. I also remember it was very cold despite the coal balls. I had no blankets because they were left at home and slept under overcoats and anything else we could find.

It is lovely to think there is a show about Eric Liddell. I have often wondered what happened to his wife and three (three) children. Joyce Bradbury-----

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **the web-site-map**

Date: mercredi 1 mars 2006 18:39

Ferol Smith lives in the next county over. She has already promised her husband's papers and works to a university but I will ask her.

De: "Albert Dezutter" <albertdezutter@worldnet.att.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: mercredi 1 mars 2006 22:44

To Leopold and other Topica members:

Try as I might to picture our guards at the Weih sien camp in blue and black, my mind refuses the image. So, on behalf of myself and all the others who remembered khaki and olive drab, I paraphrase the words of the little boy in "The Emperor's New Clothes": The empire (in Weih sien) had no (blue-black) clothes!

I notice that those who insist our guards were "consular police" and that they had black or blue uniforms tend to be from Chefoo. It may be that in Chefoo when people were first interned there (if that's what happened) their guards were "consular police" with blue-black uniforms. However, that was not the case in the Tsingtao compound where the allies were interned in October (not November, as is stated on Greg Leck's site) of 1942, and the Tsingtao group was also the first to arrive in Weih sien, early in March 1943.

During our stay in the Weih sien compound, I had a close encounter with "Sgt. Bushindi," and if anyone should remember him wearing a villainous black outfit, it ought to be me. However, he just looked like an ordinary Japanese Imperial Army sergeant to me.

Another message said "written accounts" refer to consular police, but I have yet to see any such credible accounts with regard to Weih sien. If they exist, I would like to be directed to them. I notice in the letter accompanying Norman Cliff's picture that the man refers to himself as a Japanese "soldier," not a policeman. Also, the letter is not dated, nor is there any information as to when and where the photograph was made.

I had never heard or seen the phrase "consular police" in relation to Weih sien before it cropped up in these e-mails several years ago. But regardless of which branch our guards belonged to, my memory does not include blue or black uniforms.

I won't argue the point any more. Peace to all.

Albert de Zutter

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 5:30

Dear Leopold, Alby and other ex-inmates.

I for one have never described the guards either at Tsingtao or WeiH sien as "Nice and helpful guys" They were our captors from start to finish and acted accordingly. I acknowledge they may not have been as bad as other camps, particularly military prisoners of war camps. However at Tsingtao civilian assembly centre I saw them force a hotel servant to hold a container of very hot water hot water balanced on a chair over his head for an extended period and also saw them torture a Chinese boy, not a prisoner, aged about 8 years by chaining him to a tree and then assailing him with bamboo rods, aiming for the target of orange peel forced into his mouth. His copious tears were a sight I will always remember and ample evidence of his suffering.

At Tsingtao and WeiH sien assembly centre the Japs badly beat up one internee, an Armenian who spoke fluent Japanese. At Tsingtao the Japanese guards demanded to know the whereabouts of his money but despite the beating he refused to tell them. He was returned to his wife 'beaten so badly that he bled from neck to legs'.

At WeiH sien whilst his wife was actually giving birth to their child "the Japanese guards barged right into delivery room and demanded the name of the child to transmit to Tokyo. (He) replied that until the child was actually born he couldn't tell whether it was a boy or a girl.....(he) told them that if it was a boy , he would name him Arthur in honor of General McArthur. This enraged the guards and they beat him in front of my eyes...."

They beat him up three times.

According to his wife he never recovered from his mistreatment and died some years later. I have her letter setting out these facts.

The son was in fact referred to as "Artie" and years later was killed in a motor cycle accident.

Joyce Bradbury.

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 5:31

My memory tells me that Sergeant Bushindi was so called because it means "no can do" which was his constant answer to every request. Joyce.

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 12:31

The guards in Tsingtao were regular Japanese Army, Navy or Marines not Consular Police
Rgds Ron Bridge

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 12:41

CAN CONFIRM PAMELAS RECOLLECTIONS.
RGDS RON

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 12:46

The situation in Weihhsien after the war was that the US Army did not have the man power to protect the camp against the possibility of armed attack from the guerrillas and that the Japanese guards retained their rifles to patrol the perimeter, this ploy was common also in the Netherlands East I dies where the British Army kept Japanese other ranks to guard camps from guerrilla attacks.

The authority for this was both memory and is substantiated by the reports issued by the US authorities at the time and now in NARA.

Rgds

Ron

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 13:47

Dear Joyce, and Weihhsien-friends,
Many thanks for your message, ---

The letter you mentioned can also be found with Norman Cliff's documents in the picture-web-site. Go to Norman Cliff/Diary ----

There is another news article in the same chapter I'd like to mention. Written in May, 1946 by a Lieutenant who finally ends his article by writing that we were delivered by an unarmed Australian group on a humanitarian mission. Of course we all know that this is not correct.

http://www.weih sien-paintings.org/NormanCliff/Aftermath/TheNorthChinaMarine/txt_TheNorthChinaMarine.htm

--- ???

Best regards,

Leopold

De: "Albert Dezutter" <albertdezutter@worldnet.att.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 18:23

Dear Joyce, Leopold and all Weih sien friends,

I too have never described the guards as "nice and friendly guys." I too witnessed the torture in the Tsingtao compound where the poor man was forced to hold a basin of scalding water above his head while his arms turned blue, and I knew about the beatings that Joyce recounts. I can remember some friendly gestures by occupying Japanese troops in Tsingtao before the attack on Pearl Harbor, but I also vividly remember four laughing Japanese soldiers in a car trying to run me down as I was crossing an intersection in Tsingtao walking home from school. Also, their treatment of the Chinese was generally atrocious.

Albert ("Alby" in the camp) de Zutter

De: "Albert Dezutter" <albertdezutter@worldnet.att.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 19:37

Joyce, That's what I remember too.

Albert

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **the web-site-map**

Date: jeudi 2 mars 2006 20:00

First, Sgt Bushindi was called just that as it was the only Chinese words that he knew and not quite as Joyce says it means "No do " ie "Stop it".

The guards in Weih sien were definitely consular police who had blue black uniforms but also wore Khaki as a summer hot weather uniform. The main army of occupation in China was the Japanese Army who only wore Khaki/Olive drab which is what most films think. For those of you that do not know just as the US employ US Marines to guard embassies abroad and the British very

occasionally Royal Marines the Japanese had their own corps for such duties called Consular police. The Commandant at Weih sien had been the Japanese Consul in Honolulu before he was exchanged in the August 1942 exchanges.

The Camp at Weih sien was not under the control of the Japanese Army but under the control of the Greater South East Asia Co prosperity Sphere Ministry.(See Japanese surrender documents at the NARA or at UK Records)

The guards that we started with had been regular Consular police (some of whom had been "exchanged in 1942 as they came under diplomatic protocols) but by 1944 they were conscripted into the Army and moved and the unfit for active service were employed by the Consular Police. I hope that this clarifies the issue once and for all.

Rgds
Ron Bridge

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Who has a picture of Hugh Hubbard? in the USA**

Date: vendredi 10 mars 2006 22:36

Hello, Everyone,

Does anyone have a photo of ornithologist HUGH HUBBARD? Hugh was one of our Weih sien heroes who inspired many of the boys with his bird walks, bird watching, and guiding their bird watching diaries.

Please read the request below from Bill Einreinhofer, whose documentary, "SO VERY FAR FROM HOME," on Weih sien and other Japanese-held civilian camps in China will be released in the USA by Public Broadcasting System later this year.

Bill writes: "Back in February I was interviewed by CCTV-9 about "So Very Far From Home." The producer, Xu Yanqiu, is looking for a picture of Hugh Hubbard for inclusion in his program."

Please contact me if you can help.

Mary Previte

De: "C. Wayne Mayhall" <solomon110@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Who has a picture of Hugh Hubbard? in the USA**

Date: samedi 11 mars 2006 3:10

Mary,

Go to www.google.com --- Punch in "Hugh Hubbard" into the search engine. Then click "images". Then click "search". You will see a photo of a veteran Hugh Hubbard at a podium. Is this the Hubbard you are looking for?

Wayne

----- Original Message -----

From: [Donald](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Cc: [Gladys](#)

Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2006 4:23 AM

Subject: Re: **Who has a picture of Hugh Hubbard? in the USA**

Hugh's daughter, Gladys Swift, will certainly have a photo of her father.

Donald

----- Original Message -----

From: [Donald](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2006 4:28 AM

Subject: Re: **Who has a picture of Hugh Hubbard? in the USA**

Wayne,

Nice process, but the wrong Hubbard, I'm sure.

Donald

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Who has a picture of Hugh Hubbard? in the USA**

Date: samedi 11 mars 2006 10:04

Dear Mary,

I had a look on my web-site's search engine and found the word "Hubbard" 21 times --- but unfortunately, no pictures. Maybe you could find a clue for a further research through the 21 answers ---

Best regards,
Leopold

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Who has a picture of Hugh Hubbard? in the USA**

Date: samedi 11 mars 2006 10:24

Wrong Hugh Hubbard, I'm afraid.

But I'm delighted you suggested that I look up Hugh Hubbard on a google search. To my delight, I found the speech I gave in Weifang last August, mentioning Hugh Hubbard as one of the heroes of Weih sien.

What a thrill to have Hugh's grand daughter there to hear that tribute to her grandfather!

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Who has a picture of Hugh Hubbard? in the USA**

Date: dimanche 12 mars 2006 11:08

Thank you, Leopold. I'm hoping that Hugh Hubbard's grand daughter may have a photo. She attended last year's reunion in Weifang.

Mary

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **for Ron Bridge**

Date: vendredi 17 mars 2006 17:11

Ron,

I sent you an email a few days ago rwbridge@freeuk.com

Please let me know whether you received it. Do you have another email address? My email to you should not be posted on Weih sien/topica

Sorry to bother you. I do not know which direction to go.

Natasha

np57@cox.net

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **for Ron Bridge**

Date: vendredi 17 mars 2006 20:45

Natasha,

I responded at 09:19am yesterday to your own e-mail the answer is that it is absolutely genuine over 500 have had it already.

Ron

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **A. Lambert, age 17**

Date: lundi 20 mars 2006 5:02

Can someone tell me the first name of a 17-year-old male -- A. Lambert -- listed in the 1944 Weih sien prisoner list? I'm guessing he may be a brother of Angela Lambert.

Mary Previte

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **A. Lambert, age 17**

Date: lundi 20 mars 2006 5:56

Dear Mary. A. Lambert is Anthony Lambert known as "Tony" He was half brother to Des Power. I do not remember Angela Lambert but there was a "Betty" Lambert, a dancer who was Tony's younger sister. Joyce Bradbury.

De: "Fred & Coral Dreggs" <cadreggs@optusnet.com.au>

À: "Ex Internees" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **A. Lambert age 17**

Date: lundi 20 mars 2006 7:59

Dear Mary

As Joyce has said, A. Lambert was "Tony." As a matter of interest, he, Desmond Power and I shared a flat in London after liberation for a few years. We were good friends. Sadly, he passed away a little over a year ago.

Referring to 'Betty' Lambert that was her nickname. Her given name was "Angela". I remember her well.

Regards

Alfie(aka Fred)

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **A. Lambert age 17**

Date: lundi 20 mars 2006 17:54

Anthony Lambert dob 18Mar27 and Angela" Betty" Lambert dob 17Jul30 were the children of Grace Mary Lambert b London UK 21Nov96 who worked as a Secretary at the Hong Kong Songhai Bank Victoria Road (Now Che Fang Bei Lu) Tientsin they were travelling into Weih sien on British Passport No C42106 issued at Tientsin in 1938.

Rgds

Ron

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **A. Lambert age 17**

Date: lundi 20 mars 2006 18:12

Thank you so much, Ron. You give us such amazing access to Weih sien data.

Bless you!

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **A. Lambert age 17**

Date: lundi 20 mars 2006 18:25

Thank you, Alfie.

Is he still living? And if so, where can he be contacted?

MARY PREVITE

De: "Martin Liddy" <mliddy@yahoo.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Cc: <mliddy@yahoo.com>

Objet: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: mardi 28 mars 2006 23:06

I am trying to determine the identities of "Sister Catherine," a character in John Hersey's The Call.

Sister Catherine is described on page 610 of The Call as having been born in Milwaukee, in a large German-American family; she was the third of eleven children. Her father drank and beat her mother, who died--"she was ready for a vacation"--bearing the eleventh child. Four of the six daughters became nuns "in order to get away." Sister Catherine had been in China for thirty two-years, all of them spent in the far interior in Shensi Province. Yet now she did not seem in the least dislocated; she acted at home in the internment camp.

John Hersey lists a s a primary source of The Call, the manuscript of Ruth A. Brack, a prisoner at Weih sien. I have examined a copy of this manuscript and determined that Ruth A. Brack was an American nurse with Presbyterian Mission North. There is no mention of a "Sister Catherine" in this document. However, many of the activities of camp life noted by Ruth A. brack are incorporated into the novel.

Did Sister Catherine exist? Was she a real person? Was she entirely fictional? Would anyone have any knowledge about her.

I appreciate your help in this matter.

Marty Liddy

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: mercredi 29 mars 2006 3:07

Could it be Sister Hiltrudis?

Mary Previte

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: mercredi 29 mars 2006 3:43

Sister Hiltrudis taught me maths at St Josephs Middle School for girls at Tsingtao before the war and then in WeiHsien camp. I was told by my father she was very highly qualified in mathematics. I do not think this is Sister Catherine. Joyce.

De: "Martin Liddy" <mliddy@yahoo.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: mercredi 29 mars 2006 16:30

Sister Catherine was nun-nurse. SisterHitrudis per Joyce Cooktaught math.

Marty Liddy

De: "Tracy Strong" <tstrong@weber.ucsd.edu>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: mercredi 29 mars 2006 21:16

It is of course likely that Hersey developed the Sister Catherine character as we know he did with most other characters in that wonderful book from a composite of several individuals.

Having been but a babe in arms (actually a basket) in Weih sien I am deeply grateful to all of you for providing these windows onto this time.

Best,

Tracy B. Strong

----- Original Message -----

From: "Donald" <dmenzi@earthlink.net>

To: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2006 9:17 PM

Subject: **Copies of Fr. Scanlan's book**

> Hello, all,

>

> Some months ago I emailed the group that I have two extra copies of Fr. Scanlan's biography, Stars in the Sky. You will remember that was the chief organizer of the Weih sien "black market." Two of you responded that you would like me to send you a copy, but I've lost my notes on your addresses. If the two of you who asked for copies will remind me of who you are and re-send your address I will put one in the mail to you.

>

> Donald

>

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Copies of Fr. Scanlan's book**

Date: jeudi 30 mars 2006 23:48

Donald,

I tried to get in on your generosity, Then tried to get a copy myself from Abe Books and others with no success.

If you have not got the two taken up I would very much like one.

The Address

R W Bridge
Chillies Oast
Chillies Lane
Crowborough
East Sussex
TN6 3TB
UK.

I would really like to see it thus an alternative solution is if you could mail it to me and I will then re mail it to the lucky guy(girl) that got in first.

Rgds

Ron Bridge

De: "Albert Dezutter" <albertdezutter@worldnet.att.net>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: vendredi 31 mars 2006 3:21

There is a motherhouse in Milwaukee for the Sisters of St. Joseph, which included Sister Blanda, Sister Verna, Sister Hiltrudis, Sister Eutstella and another Sister whose name I can't quite remember -- Sister Dianna (?) Donetta (?) my impression is that it starts with a "D." Perhaps someone can supply the correct name.

All of those sisters were from Tsingtao, and of the five I mentioned, Sister Hiltrudis and Eustella were the oldest. None of them, that I know of, were ever in the interior of China. Their mission was teaching school, which they did in Tsingtao and in the camp at Weihhsien.

Like Joyce, I was taught mathematics by Sister Hiltrudis -- Joyce in Tsingtao and I in the camp.

I also attended the St. Joseph School that Joyce mentions, for a year or a semester, I am not sure.

Sister Hiltrudis also taught in the Tsingtao American School after the war, starting in the fall of 1946. Having taught me in the camp, she insisted that I start as a sophomore (second year of high school) instead of as a freshman, which was my choice. She taught geometry in that school and gave me a "C," which was the lowest grade I had ever received up to that time.

Sister Verna at the St. Joseph School was my first piano teacher (1940). Sister Blanda played softball with us there, my first exposure to that game at the age of 8 (1940). The sisters served milk and cookies every school day at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph School.

I don't personally remember any nuns from the interior at the Weihhsien camp. I do remember a Sister Bede, who was from a different order of nuns than the ones I have mentioned so far. She taught 5th or 6th grade in the camp. The grades (forms you those of you familiar with the British system) apparently didn't mean a lot in the camp. With almost individual instruction, children (other than in the Chefoo school, of which I know nothing), went at their own pace. I had completed a year of high school before turning 13. Normally a person doesn't enter high school in

the American system until after 14.

I have not read John Hersey's book, but my guess is that the character he describes is a composite. There were a lot of Catholic priests during the first six months of the camp who had been in the interior, learned the Chinese language and dressed in the Chinese manner. They were American, Canadian, Dutch and Belgian. The best known priest to this company is, of course, the Belgian Emmanuel Hanquet, who was a particular friend of our family of four, the assistant Scout Master for the general population kids and the French tutor for my brother, John and myself. Our family consisted of my father Jean (French rendition of John), my mother Olga, my brother John and myself.

It was my great privilege to see Father Hanquet again during our year of residence in Belgium from September 1949 to September 1950, and again 55 years later in the spring of 2005 when Leopold and his sister hosted a get-together in a suburb of Brussels.

As we parted that night at my hotel, his last words to me were, "See you in heaven." Of course, he is not there yet, so he may yet say another word, which I hope will be equally auspicious.

Albert de Zutter
Kansas City, Missouri, USA

De: "David Birch" <gdavidbirch@yahoo.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: vendredi 31 mars 2006 3:24

I was a Chefoo boy and a Protestant so I was never close to the Roman Catholic priests and nuns. But I distinctly recall SISTER EUSTELLA! She was such a friendly person and had the sweetest smile!

David Birch
New Westminster, BC
Canada

De: "Dwight W. Whipple" <thewhipples@comcast.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: vendredi 31 mars 2006 4:06

The other sister was Sister Donatella. I was six years old when we entered Weih sien camp on March 20, 1943 and had my seventh birthday in July. I well remember both Sister Donatella and Sister Blanda who taught our age group. It was a wonderful foundation for my school years and I had no trouble integrating into both American and Canadian schools when we returned home. Seeing these names again brings back a flood of memories.

~Dwight W. Whipple

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: vendredi 31 mars 2006 5:07

Bush, Gertrude J, known as Sister Eustella, born 1899, in camp until the end of the war. School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee

Johns, Helen M, known as Sister Blanda, born 1903, repatriated to the USA in 1943. School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee

Kappes, Maria K, known as Sister Hiltrudis, born 1897, in camp until the end of the war. School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee

Lorenz, Gertrude, known as Sister Donatilla, born 1904, repatriated to the USA in 1943. School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee

Vassen, Ruth, known as Sister Mary Venna, born 1915, repatriated to the USA in 1943. School Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee

Though the sisters were apparently members of the School Sisters of St. Francis, their residences in the USA is given as St Joseph's Convent, 1501 South Layton Blvd, Milwaukee.

Ruth A. Brack was NOT interned in Weihhsien. Her report is dated 1942, before internment began. She was repatriated to the USA on the Italian liner TSS Conte Verde, which left Shanghai at the end of June, 1942.

Sister Bede was Angeline Brielmaier, an American, who was a member of the St. Francis of Assisi. She had been moved in from Tsinan.

In addition to Ruth Brack's account, I have read unpublished accounts by Sister Eustella and Sister Hiltrudis.

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **John Hersey's The Call, Sister Catherine (?), Ruth A. brack.**

Date: vendredi 31 mars 2006 11:55

Dear all,

it would be better if anyone has a query re the name of an inmate that they ask Greg Leck or myself if they are in doubt. Most of the names are on Leopold's Web site anyway thus consulting that should solve the problem before it arises.

Rgds

Ron

De: "Donald" <dmenzi@earthlink.net>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Copies of Fr. Scanlan's book**

Date: vendredi 31 mars 2006 20:42

Ron,

You are what is known in a different context as the "first responder" so you get a copy all to yourself.

It's especially interesting where he describes incidents like his imprisonment that are also reported by other people. It shows how word-of-mouth reports improve on history to make it a better or easier to remember story.

Best regards,

Donald

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Copies of Fr. Scanlan's book**

Date: vendredi 31 mars 2006 23:40

Donald,

Thanks very much. I'll look forward to the post

Rgds

Ron

PS my own e-mail rwbridge@freeuk.com

De: "Christine Talbot Sancton" <sancton@nbnet.nb.ca>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **Copies of Fr. Scanlan's book**

Date: samedi 1 avril 2006 14:13

Dear Donald: what is the title of Fr Scanlon's book? I would like to see if I can find it too.

Fr Scanlon made a deep impression on my mother, Ida Talbot, as he must have on all whom he came in contact with in Camp. I grew up with the story he told early in Camp of his life and also of his courage and humour he showed in Camp. He must have been quite a person.

It is a shame that we didn't know that he was living in the USA for all these years, dying at an advanced age. I'm sure if Ida had realised where he was, or in fact that he was still living, she would have at least corresponded with him. Ida went by Greyhound bus from Toronto, Canada to San Diego, Ca. to visit ex-Weihsien Girlie Cameron in the early 70s. She would have combined a visit to Fr Scanlon if he had been living anywhere en route!

The miracle of the internet and of this Topica site!

regards, Christine Talbot Sancton

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: "weihsien" <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: **Old China Hands**

Date: samedi 1 avril 2006 15:09

Greck Leck, I understand that you are doing a presentation in September in Portland for Old China Hands. I would like to have more info on the reunion. I am sure that Weih sieners would like to Have this information.

Thanks,
Natasha

De: "Alison Holmes" <aholmes@prescott.edu>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **Father Scanlon's book**
Date: samedi 1 avril 2006 15:30

So now we are all having our interest piqued, especially when we hear that we have re-written history and that Father Scanlon's book would be a good corrective! Is it at all possible for you to photo-copy it for those of us who are not first responders? I would be more than happy to pay for copying costs, postage and handling, to get a copy of this to add to my small Chefoo/Weih sien collection. Is that possible at all, Donald? Thanks so much for even thinking of doing it.....Alison Holmes

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: Re: **Father Scanlon's book**
Date: samedi 1 avril 2006 16:16

Hello,
The whole book is --- 348 pages written "small" !
However, you can find the Weih sien-Chapter by clicking on this link:
http://www.weih sien-paintings.org/Scanlan/Book/txt_Scanlan.htm
best regards,
Leopold

De: "Dwight W. Whipple" <thewhipples@comcast.net>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: Re: **Old China Hands**
Date: samedi 1 avril 2006 18:49

If that's Portland, Oregon we would like more information. Is this something the general public can attend? Thanks.
~Dwight W. Whipple

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: RE: **Old China Hands**
Date: samedi 1 avril 2006 22:03

Ex Shanghailander Edward Immergluck is in charge of the reunion.

It is being held in Portland, Oregon, September 10 to 13.

The general public is invited, but obviously it would be of most interest to those who lived in China or are descendants of those who did.

I attended in 1998, 2000, and 2002 and met many who were held in various camps. The most recent reunion, however, had less ex internees, though children and grandchildren of OCHers were attending in larger numbers.

You can contact Ed Immergluck at:

IMMER0808@MSN.COM

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald

To: weihsien@topica.com

Sent: Saturday, April 01, 2006 11:02 PM

Subject: Re: **Father Scanlon's book**

Alison,

Leopold has already done almost all the work for us. All you have to do is go to the Weihhsien chapter of Fr. Scanlan's book (Stars in the Sky) on his weihsien-pictures.org site, and either read it on line or download it and print it out for your collection.

Well! - I see that he has sent us all the link address in an email, so you just have to click on the link in his email to get to the chapter.

Among the most interesting differences from what was re-told are the circumstances that led to his early release from imprisonment - somewhat different in his account from what I had read in others or heard from my grandmother. The differences are in the details, not in the general "plot."

His portrait of the commandant is also interesting. He says he heard later that the commandant was a Christian, though that isn't confirmed by anyone else. Does anyone have any information on that?

Donald

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Old China Hands**

Date: samedi 1 avril 2006 23:36

Thank you Greg. I have already heard from Ed. He will be sending me a more detailed information email in a week or so. I will be forwarding it to the Weihhsien list.

Natasha

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jkknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Father Scanlon's book**

Date: dimanche 2 avril 2006 0:15

I am with Allison, I would be thrilled to death to get this. Father Scanlon is one of those legends from camp that I mention when ever I speak about stories from camp. IF it is out of print, then

it is okay.
VERY interested, Donald.
Georgie Reinbrecht Knisely

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Sunday, April 02, 2006 1:58 AM

Subject: Re: **Father Scanlon's book**

Georgianna,

I will check on additional copies available from other sources, but in the mean time, do go to Leopold's site and get the Weih sien chapter.

Donald

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **from Father Hanquet**

Date: lundi 3 avril 2006 14:49

April 3.06

MESSAGE de E. HANQUET :

"Encore un chaleureux merci pour votre accueil si aimable vendredi dernier.

Peux-tu envoyer le message suivant à Albert de zutter through internet à weihsein@topica.com :

Dear Alby (let me still call you that way) ; I must thank you for your recent communication to weihsein@topica.com, telling more about our past relations, when we were in camp. I am almost 91 now (on june 15) but still able to read and write, walk with a stick and say mass every morning for some neighbours (10. 16 people every day)

Almost every month I meet Leopold Pander who visits me to bring the up-to-date messages from weihsein@topica.com .

Yesterday, 30/03 I was their host in their nice home, around 10km from here.

Since I decided to stop driving a car, he came friendly to Louvain-la-Neuve to pick me up. Through his good car and perfect search I was kept informed about all the friends corresponding on weihsein@topica.com

Very friendly to you and freinds from Topica .

Father E. Hanquet ."

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **from Father Hanquet**

Date: mardi 4 avril 2006 21:43

Father Hanquet:

Please keep adding messages on our Weihhsien topica network.

How did life in Weihhsien affect the way you conducted religious services or activities there? How did confinement affect your faith?

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Father Scanlon's book**

Date: mardi 4 avril 2006 23:56

Thank you, Leopold, for giving us easy access to Father Scanlon's chapter about internment in Weihhsien.

What a fascinating account! I love reading Father Scanlon's exploits in his own words.

When I read Father Scanlon's and Langdon Gilkey's accounts (SHANTUNG COMPOUND) of the amazing structure Weihhsien internees established to turn chaos into order, I feel downright angry at observations that claim that this order and structure empowered the Japanese to control us.

What would Weihhsien have been like without the order and structure internee committees established inside those barrier walls topped with electrified wires?

Order and structure empower children and grownups to feel safe.

Mary Previte

De: "Dwight W. Whipple" <thewhipples@comcast.net>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Father Scanlon's book**

Date: mercredi 5 avril 2006 0:54

Yes, I echo Mary's comments re: Fr. Scanlon's and Professor Gilkey's accounts. It has been a long time since I read Langdon Gilkey's work but as I remember it he credited the business community with taking the lead in organization -- and implied that professional people sat back and let them but certainly cooperated with the emerging leadership. I know that our own family was involved, my uncle, Nathan Walton, taking a large responsibility during the six months we were there [prior to repatriation]. I suspect that each observer will have a little different perspective. We children have often remarked that the years of internment, both in Tsingtao and Weihhsien were happy years for us. We, too, felt safe.

~Dwight W. Whipple

De: "Tracy Strong" <tstrong@weber.ucsd.edu>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Cc: "'Jeanne Strong'" <strongjr@whidbey.com>; "'John Strong'" <jstrong@abacus.bates.edu>

Objet: **question about the community spirit prompted by Mary Previtte**

Date: mercredi 5 avril 2006 4:24

Dear all -

My father, Robbins Strong, once remarked to me that one of the striking things about the Weih sien camp was that when they (i.e. you) tried to enforce a version of a "if you slack off you get less" policy (as there must have been some goldbrickers) all spirit of community disappeared and that the spirit of community depended to some degree on the willingness of all to support those who did less.

Does this correspond to any or your experience?

With all best wishes,

Tracy B. Strong

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Father Scanlon's book**

Date: mercredi 5 avril 2006 14:10

Dear Mary,

Father Scanlan is often mentioned on our Topica-chat-list and also on my web-site. There is a mini-search-engine on the home page --- you can click on that. Then, you just enter "scanlan" --- and see what you get. I got 28 answers :-))

Best regards,
Leopold

From: [Raymond Moore](#)

To: [weih sien@topica.com](#)

Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2006 3:31 AM

Subject: **Chinese newspaper article**

Hello everyone!

I do enjoy the snippets and discussion on our Weih sien network.

My brother Frank has lived in China for the last six or seven years in Hanzhong, the town where I was born. He is now back in Australia for twelve months living in our small flat while he does some writing.

While in China, Frank was given an article from a newspaper in southern China somewhere which was written in Chinese. As he was working at the time in the Hanzhong Teachers College, he asked one of the women who had a desire to become a translator, to translate it for him. She did quite a bit of it, and then, when Frank was out of the country for a while, she disappeared and he hasn't seen her since. This means that he has lost his original cutting from the Chinese paper, and that he has an unfinished article. In spit of that, I found it interesting and include it below. It leaves a number of questions in my mind, and it has some information that I had not heard before. "Miss Delmay" sounds very like you, Mary! And I think "Mrs Karl" could be Miss Carr. You have to remember that the article by "Miss Delmay" was translated into Chinese, then back into English by Frank's student, and then the English has been "tidied up" by Frank. Here is the section of the article that has survived:

Freedom – August 17th, 1945

“In the memories of the more than 1500 prisoners of the Le Dao Yuan Concentration Camp in the Wei county (now Weifang City) in Shandong province today is the happiest and most unforgettable day. Japan has surrendered and the American paratroopers are coming. They are free. The planes were flying low and the parachutes were coming down and landing on the field outside the camp. The American paratroopers have come. Normally we were forbidden to pass the gate but now we see the Americans and rush out of the gate without a thought to care. The walls do not contain us now. I found myself in a crowd of people who were all sobbing and laughing. We were skin-and-bones. Among us were the British and American prisoners. We gave the paratroopers a crazy welcome. Now the Japanese guards have put down their guns and the war is over.”

This is the beginning of Miss Delmay's article entitled 'A Description of the Experience in the Wei County Concentration Camp'. In that year she was 12 years old. She had been three years in the prison with her sister and two brothers. This was the time that had elapsed from being taken into custody by the Japanese soldiers to being saved. The surrender of Japan and the coming of the American paratroopers gave her the freedom that she had been longing for. It was through her memory and the memories of other campers that the cruelties of the Japanese soldiers, the desire for freedom and the threatening experiences of the foreign people in this secret concentration camp have never been forgotten.

Brutality Concentration Camp

December 7th, 1941 the Japanese Airforce made a surprise attack on Pearl Harbour and eliminated the main power of the American Navy in the Pacific area. After that Britain and America declared war on Japan. The war of the Pacific Ocean broke out. At that time the Japanese people who lived around Pearl Harbour had been spying on the American Navy and gathering information through the bar rooms, ballrooms and brothels that they opened up. Japanese Naval personnel disguised themselves as fishermen in order to spy on the American navy. The Americans hated the Japanese for this deeply. After the attack on Pearl Harbour the American Government rounded up all Japanese, more than 60,000 of them, in the Hawaii and San Francisco area and imprisoned them near Los Angeles thus putting them out of touch with the outer world. The Japanese retaliated against the American action by imprisoning all British and Americans in the parts of China occupied by Japan. The American and British prisoners north of the Changjiang river were imprisoned in the LeDaoYuan camp. The British and Americans captured in the south were sent to Shanghai and Hong Kong. Later the Shanghai prisoners were moved to the LeDaoYuan camp.

December 8th, 1941 a small team of Japanese military police and a squadron of a puppet army lead by Captain Tang Ben surrounded LeDaoyuan and claimed it as a concentration camp. On that day an 18 year old nurse, Wei Xifang was on her way home when she saw the military police. She was frightened and turned to run away but Tang Ben saw that she was young and beautiful and he had bad thoughts and caught the girl and raped her in broad daylight. Later he forced the girl to live with him for a very long time.

An old man from Qingdao, Han Tong Wen, who is now 70 years old was at that time a student at the Guang Wen primary school in Le Dao Yuan. He remembers that when the puppet army stationed itself in LeDaoyuan they ejected the previous residents including the hospital and school workers and their families. They rounded up a lot of workers from the surrounding villages and forced them to cut down the trees near the compound wall and demolish the small walls inside the compound and use the bricks and stones to build watchtowers. In every watchtower there was a searchlight, a siren, a signal set and a machine gun. Besides there were electric nets on all the walls. Inside the compound there was a road

around the wall. The guards patrolled this with dogs all the time. There was a barbed wire fence inside the road to prevent prisoners from approaching the compound wall and the front gate.

Once the camp was set up the Japanese senior police replaced the guard of military police. They called the camp.....(C.A.C). The residents called it the Foreign People's Concentration Camp.

Groups of foreign people were sent here including Jiang Jie Shi's former adviser, the American – Lei Zhenyuan, the President of the Theological College of North China – Dr Hers, the Dean of Studies of Qi Lu University – Mr Davis, Fu Ren University's teacher Heng An Shi and the 400 metre champion of the 1924 Olympic Games – Eric Lidell. There was also 327 students who were children of foreign people from a foreign school who were confined in the compound. There were more than 1500 American and British people imprisoned in this camp.

Delmay recalls: "I remember a day in November in the year 1942. We were escorted by Japanese soldiers to a place three miles away from the city. This was where we were first kept...after 10 months had passed we were put into a ship and stuffed together like matches in a box. We got to the Wei county via the Shandong Peninsula. That was the end of our trip. Amongst the 1500 prisoners were more than 500 children. Most of the prisoners were British then people from Europe. They had been living in Tianjin, Beijing and other parts of North China."

Splendid, bitter life in Le Dao Yuan. After the concentration camp had been set up but the three words 'Le Dao Yuan' were still on the large board over the gate. The Japanese soldiers built this 'Realm of Happiness' with bayonets and dogs but the 1500 Americans and British spent 1000 days of hard life there. The Japanese called the concentration camp a living place but the rules there were just the same as a military camp. In the morning when the bell rang all the prisoners would get up quickly and wash and dress and then gather on the parade ground. We stood in six rows according to the hut we lived in. The guard would call the roll and the prisoners would answer in Japanese one by one. This was the most important event of the whole day and was never delayed by wind or rain. In the book *The Concentration Camp of Wei County*, it says:

'The morning roll call was the never-failing activity of the concentration camp. After the bell rang all the prisoners would gather on the parade ground. They lined up in six separate groups. Each group had its regular place and each person held a number board in front of him or her. Each person had to say their number in turn. The guards would check and if no one was absent the bell would be rung and the prisoners dismissed. During the day were classes and labouring activities. Everyone had to labour for the concentration camp according to his or her skills and knowledge. Everybody would do many different jobs. The students also had to labour out of class. After supper there was time for activities and evening prayers. When the bell rang for bed-time everybody had to go immediately to their room and go to bed at once. They were forbidden to stay outside or in another room. In the dormitories there was only 18 inches between beds. Snoring, hiccupping and the sounds of urinating were the music of the night. For the adults the inability to keep a secret or have a secret was the most troublesome deprivation. Most of the adults were deeply troubled that the war would never end. There were also the ones who hated the Japanese for their brutal behaviour and the humiliation and suffering they had experienced early in the war. But for the children the war was nothing but having classes and meetings and outdoor activities and games. We believed that the teachers would solve all the problems and if they couldn't – God would! Many years later Mrs Karl, who had been the Headmistress of the Primary School in the camp wrote:

"I was not afraid of the Japanese soldiers nor of being detained at that time. To worry about the future was of no benefit to oneself nor would it change the facts. I would often feel during the day as if I was facing the end of my life. Would I be forced to dig a grave for myself and be buried here? Then I would pray for the younger generation." Miss Delmay was deeply moved by Miss Karl's spirit of devotion and

belief in God.

It's said that the children never felt frightened when they saw the Japanese soldiers doing bayonet practice. Long after the children themselves couldn't understand their former attitude.

In the children's memories Uncle Eric 'Li Da' was their closest friend. It was Uncle Eric who gave them endless happiness during these hard days. It is not necessary to say that the experience of suffering and sorrow can never be fully expressed. We overcame most things by inventing activities such as on Saturday was 'Killing Flies Day'. Our weapon was a knife and we searched everywhere and tried our best to kill as many flies as possible. Too many flies made people panic because of the threat of disease. So we were organized to kill flies. Little John was the most successful with 3,500 flies to his credit. He counted them and put them all into a bottle. He won the first prize. The prize was a box of food from the Red Cross food parcels. These activities were usually organized by Uncle Eric. He also encouraged us everyday to do exercises on the parade ground to keep healthy. This surprised others. There was a question at that time – should malnourished people do exercises? Some doctors in the Shanghai and Hong Kong concentration camps said it was not good to do exercises when one was not getting enough food. But in the Wei county camp we had a different idea. We played basketball and football on Saturdays and the host of all these activities was Uncle Eric Li Da who had won a gold medal in the Olympic Games. Most of the people in the camp knew Li Da very well. He was a good speaker and actor and was often praised much too highly. Many years after he won the gold medal a film was made about his life and achievements called 'The Chariots of Fire'. His experiences were dramatized. For example it was shown how he refused to run in the Olympic Games on a Sunday because it was against his beliefs. In fact he was not such a serious man in our eyes when he was not in the public eye. He would always put his heart and soul into whatever he was doing. It was a surprise to us after associating with him for such a long time to find out that he was a prominent world figure, written up in the newspapers and famous twenty years before. We would look for Li Da when we broke a hockey stick. He would tear up a sheet from his bed and bind the hockey stick up. After he had fixed it no one would think of that hockey stick as old anymore. Because of the interminable boredom of the life in the camp some of the young people carried on secret love affairs to satisfy their sexual desires. Li Da understood the situation and arranged games and other activities with the help of some of the missionaries. In order that the students from Tianjing could catch up with others in the class Li Da volunteered to be their teacher. There were three kitchens in the camp and Li Da's kitchen No 1 was the best. Who could not help but like Li Da?

In February, 1945 in cold and snowy weather Li Da died of a tumour. The campers were very sad especially the children. A lot of people were choked up with sobbing and tears. A guard of honour was organized to show respect and sorrow. His good friends carried him to the small graveyard set aside by the Japanese soldiers and buried him.

'They shall mount up with wings as eagles,
They shall run and not be weary.'

There is a small plot of land with thick grass near the north wall of the No 2 Middle School in Weifang city of Shandong province. In the middle there stands a stone monument engraved with these golden words. All the teachers and students know that it is for Uncle Eric Li Da who died in the Le Dao Concentration Camp in February, 1945.

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

A: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: Chinese newspaper article

Date: jeudi 6 avril 2006 14:24

Hello, Everyone:

I'm responding to Ray's contribution of a translation of a story about Weihhsien that appeared in a newspaper somewhere in China.

Portions of this story attributed to "Miss Delmay" seem to come from my magazine article, "SONG OF SALVATION AT WEIHSIEN OPRISON CAMP." That account appeared as the cover story of The Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine, August 25, 1985, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the ending of World War II. By the way, that story is available on Leopold's wonderful Weihhsien web site.

The story is also available in China. It has been translated into Chinese and published in a Chinese/English booklet by Moses Chu, a Chinese businessman who attended missionary schools in Chefoo (Yantai). Mr. Chu, now 90, is a prolific writer who lives in Tempe, Arizona.

But huge portions attributed to Miss Delmay in this translation have no resemblance to my account. It is wildly embellished with "facts" I know nothing about.

"Miss Karl" definitely refers to Miss Carr, the principal of the Chefoo Prep School. Material quoted from "Miss Karl" comes from comments she made to me when I interviewed her on a visit to England in 1985 as I was preparing to write my story for The Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine.

My Chinese name is Dai Ai Mai -- perhaps a tiny resemblance to Delmay.

Did you play the game of "gossip" or "telephone" when you were a child? Someone starts a whispered sentence which passes from person to person around a circle. By the time the sentence gets around the circle, it has little resemblance to the original. Reading this account from Ray reminded me of that game.

Mary Taylor Previte

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Copies of Fr. Scanlan's book**

Date: vendredi 7 avril 2006 12:46

Donald,

Many thanks for Fr Scanlon's book which arrived today, I am gong to read it with pleasure I am sure.

Do I owe you anything?

Rgds

Ron

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: **New York OFF BROADWAY show about Eric Liddell**

Date: samedi 8 avril 2006 10:45

Go to [_http://fireoffbroadway.com/_](http://fireoffbroadway.com/) (<http://fireoffbroadway.com/>) for a full outline of performances for the OFF BROADWAY show about Eric Liddell.

BEYOND THE CHARIOTS starts next week in New York.

Mary Previte

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Saturday, April 08, 2006 5:57 PM

Subject: Re: **New York OFF BROADWAY show about Eric Liddell**

Thanks, Mary. We'll be sure to see it.

Donald and Jane

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **New York OFF BROADWAY show about Eric Liddell**

Date: dimanche 9 avril 2006 13:40

Donald and Jane,

I am looking forward to reading your review on the Off Broadway show about Eric Liddell.

Natasha

De: "Donald" <dmenzi@earthlink.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **A letter from Hugh Hubbard**

Date: lundi 10 avril 2006 2:48

Hello, all,

Since many of you remember Hugh Hubbard from Weih sien, I thought you might be interested in reading a journal-letter that he wrote during the six months after the 1937 Japanese invasion of North China, which I just copied from a page in the Oberlin Times that my mother had saved.

This is a good reminder of the kind of thing that happens in wartime to the civilians in occupied territory. There are hints of the difficulty of controlling soldiers by civilian occupying authorities and officers, who may themselves be decent people and disapprove of murder, looting, rape, etc.

Donald

THE OBERLIN TIMES

Hugh Hubbard Writes Of Chinese Conditions

A second letter, in diary form, written by Hugh W. Hubbard, who is now in Paotingfu, China, has been received by his wife, Mrs. Mabel Hubbard of North Park street. The letter is of great interest due to Mr. Hubbard's first-hand knowledge concerning the Chinese crisis. He tells of the havoc wrought in a war torn country, of his work of organizing schools and of conditions in general.

Following are excerpts from the letter:

Oct. 13.

One deep impression is that of the complete evacuation of all teachers and students. Every teacher gone from Tunghsen (our mission school) except one teacher of classical Chinese. The same is apparently true of every school in town, and this is a great educational center with a student population of about 7,000, in middle schools and higher. How in the world will we get on without these intellectual leaders? In church and reconstruction it means that the need and value of missionaries will be greater than it has been at any time in my day.

Yesterday and today the airplanes went back and forth to the front in almost ceaseless procession, apparently coming from Tienstsin and going towards Shih C'hia Chuang. There is a rumor abroad that Shih C'hia Chuang has been taken and it seems likely. One retreating Chinese soldier stopped to talk to our evangelist Wang Tzu Ming. "What can we do?" he said. "First they come with bombers and bomb us. Then more airplanes machine-gun us. Then an army of tanks run over us. Then comes the cavalry and back of them the infantry, which we seldom get a shot at with our only, weapons, our rifles."

Our church is full of soldiers and as I wrote the above, I was asked to go over with them and ask the commanding officer to get the soldiers out of the people's homes around here so that they could go home. Also to try to get them to go easy on our furniture. One band of soldiers who occupied the church started to burn benches, smashed pictures and made a general mess of things. Another earlier bunch behaved very well, never went into the church, sealed it up, cleaned up the yard before leaving and went out of their way to be friendly, even making a contribution to the refugees here. The present commander did not invite us to sit, but assured us that he would keep order and would not allow his soldiers to harm the people.

The Romanist cathedral was bombed and has daylight through its roof. The premises were hit a number of times.

Went over the Presbyterian residences with Bill Cochran and studied the effect of shell fire. Merwin's house was the worst, the roof having been hit at the cross-section of the ridge and smashing a huge hole through, fragments of the shell going through the upper story down into the living and dining rooms into the floors and furniture. The dining room table has a neat hole as a souvenir. The Leete's piano loaned them was untouched. I later saw that a smaller shell had exploded in Cochran's kitchen, pitting up walls and ceiling badly. Three others hit his servants' quarters. Every window broken. Shells missed the Cochran and Mackey house by about six feet, but tore up the sides badly. One struck Whallon's study. Another exploded in the women's hospital hostel and killed and wounded several refugees. One of the wounded was the faithful fellow with the big goiter who had I been their postman so long. The shell that went through the church wall near the pulpit would have killed scores of the 40 refugees inside had it ex hospital seemed untouched. Many of the fine trees in the compound have great branches lopped off. Three Chinese soldiers came running thru a hole in the back wall and were killed by an exploding shell just back of the Cunningham house.

In a village to the north of the city a general massacre occurred in which, it was variously estimated, from 300 to 700 civilians were killed.

On Sept. 22nd I took the boat at Kobe and the morning papers had heavy headlines across the pages saying 'PAOTINGFU NINE TENTHS DESTROYED' and that 10,000 of the enemy had been killed. Paoting may be one-thirtieth destroyed and that is bad enough, but there is no evidence whatever to support any claims that even 100 Chinese soldiers were killed here. The greatest loss was probably in the systematic looting indulged in by high and low. The Japanese command was seen by foreigners to send out several truck-loads of furniture and boxes from the house they occupied. Almost every store shows signs of having been broken into and it is doubtful if any

were overlooked. Elmer says that our compound was entered over the wall at night by Japanese soldiers from a dozen to fifteen times. They wear no identifying insignia whereby they may be reported, even today.

Our house still has refugees in it, the Niehs occupying our parlor, Chang Ch'unho's mother in the dining room and a family in the cellar. The Su Chieh-ch'en's were in this office, but left for the south and I have moved out their bedding and occupied it myself.

Chiang Kai Shek broadcast Saturday night, saying that great sacrifices were being made for the nation, but they were not a tenth of what must be made before we are through. He then said that what we all need is the sacrificial spirit of Jesus.

As a missionary, I have a great sense of defeat. It seemed that we were so near to making of China something of a great Christian democracy, to take her place as a peaceful and cooperative member of the family of nations. Her leaders were asking for the help of Christian friends and many of them were Christians. Now China will be rapidly pushed in the direction of Russia and will naturally be deeply influenced by her, or will become thoroughly militarized, either by Japan or against Japan. Armed force and bitter hatred will be rampant for long years. Is China's fate of no moment to the rest of the world?

Oct. 15.

Today there seem to be more people daring to appear in the city. There are always some straggling in from the South. They are carefully searched at the city gates. Mostly old men and women and children. Young men and women are conspicuous by their absence.

First mail delivery yesterday! It comes by carrier down the railroad and takes five days. I called at the P. O. and found a subordinate in charge, gradually beginning to reorganize. Five cent stamps on sale in small quantity.

A section of the city at the crossroads of the West and North streets was burnt out. Some of the firemen put it out, but were mistaken by the Japs for soldiers and when they took refuge in the Commercial Guild, they and all the staff of the guild, were shot or bayoneted, including one or two prominent merchants. This is the origin of the report I gave about the chamber of commerce. Actually over 20 were killed there. About 25 shops seemed to have burned.

Two babies were born on the compound last night and one tonight making a total of 10 among our refugees.

Oct. 17.

Up at six today to see some refugees off to Peiping, the second batch we have sent through the authorities. Got two letters off by one of them. Then armed myself with the pass I got from the Emergency Bureau and started for Fan Village with Mr. Huan, who arrived from his home in the country only yesterday. We went past the airfield and found it considerably enlarged at the expense of the farmers' fields in the vicinity. It runs over and obliterates the motor road at one point.

Fan Village was largely deserted, none of the important leaders daring to stay. Only a few men and two old women were around. Every house and room was said to be thoroughly looted and this was certainly true of the half dozen we went through. The restaurant where we usually eat was cleared out. I met the owner as I came out and greeted him and said, "They looted your shop, too." "Yes, they cleaned me out" he said, laughing as though it were a huge joke. I certainly envy these Chinese their ability to laugh at misfortune.

We found everywhere the sure signs of Japanese occupation – empty wine bottles, Japanese saki, cases of which seem to be on every train and every station platform between here and Peiping. Eight villagers were killed, mostly run through by bayonets, although one was shot when he tried to run away with the Chinese soldiers. The language difficulty leads to many misunderstandings and loss of temper and then often a killing.

We went to our village residence where Mabel and I have lived, and found it had been treated as the other places.

Oct. 18.

-

A beautiful full moon sheds its beams upon us tonight and everything seems so quiet and peaceful that it is hard to realize what a business men are making of this wonderful world given us to live in.

A message came early this morning from Fan Village to say that Mr. Li, the village head, had heard of our

visit yesterday and had returned home to await us today. Mr. Huang and I started out after breakfast and, keeping off the main road, reached the village. Mr. Li's house was deserted and we soon learned that there were Japanese in the village searching for chickens and that Li was hiding in the fields. After they left, without seeing us, a villager went out and called him. He came in, a very different man from the one I left last year. He had a month-old beard covering his face, a dirty towel on his head and a manure basket on his back. His clothes looked like those of a beggar. This was partly a disguise as a poor man. But he told me that he had not slept for three days or nights after the Jap flag flew over Paoting, from thinking of the disgrace that this old country should be conquered in this way. His daughters are still in hiding.

Some Jap soldiers came to church yesterday at the Presbyterians' and said they were Christians and that there were a good many more in town! We received a contribution of 160 bags of damaged flour yesterday for our refugees out of the 10,000 or more left in our school by the Chinese army and taken care of by us. This will help feed the penniless, but if we have to keep them on we will be needing thousands of dollars. These people have many of them lost all they had of food, clothing and belongings and winter is coming on. What can we do with them? I believe that 380 were yesterday on the relief roll out of the thousand or more on the compound.

Oct. 22.

I went in to a busy market – now deserted – to see what had happened to our Christian Union Bookstore. A bomb had made a large gap in the bazaar wall right opposite and looters had been busy. Fortunately, they were not much interested in our Christian literature and other stores offered greater attractions. However, pens and pencils and stationery had disappeared, some being spilled on the floor and in the street and heaps of books lay in confusion. I got half a dozen refugees to volunteer to rebuild the broken wall and a watchman is now on the job. The last looters are said to be the local riffraff, who take what is left after soldiers skim off the cream. I am inclined to believe that there is no looting by any Japanese soldiers in the city now. In fact, they are pretty well kept out of the city, thanks to their authorities.

Oct. 24.

Our church looks somewhat the worse for wear. The steps leading up to the pulpit platform were burnt for firewood. The clock was smashed, as were the pictures of Christ, or at least one smashed and the other removed. The pulpit has two long scrolls behind it with religious sentiments on them and one of these was torn and mutilated. The pulpit itself has parts missing to the decorations in the form of crosses. Most of the benches survived, although some made firewood also.

Oct. 25.

Haueh-t'ung (our servant) went out of the compound and was stopped and searched in the south suburb and \$2.70 taken from him. He says that these soldiers stood under the entrance to the suburb and searched everyone that looked better than a beggar. As soon as money was found and taken, the victims were sent gruffly on their way. Another man was threatened with a bayonet and robbed in front of our gate and a few steps away a number were similarly treated. Soldiers have now been billeted in the villages to the south of us.

On the other hand, we had a visit from the head of the Japanese civil office, who seems to be sincerely trying to put a stop to this lawlessness, but who admits that he has no authority over the military. He asked us for our frank statements of instances of misbehavior, which were given him. Let us hope that he succeeds in getting the military authorities to control their soldiers. But if they misbehave here under the nose of the authorities, what will they not do in the villages?

Just heard today that P'an Ench'ing, one of our Christians and for years manager of our bookstore, committed suicide by jumping into a well, rather than face the torture of the Japs who were looking for him because his son-in-law is an officer in the Chinese army. Poor mild P'an, who never hurt a fly!

The Peiping Chronicle comes quite regularly now, arriving six days after publication.

The city streets are quite full of people and more shops beginning to open. Some do business only through a window. One salt shop at the end of the bridge in our south suburb has been doing business through the window some days, but was today forced open by Jap soldiers at about the close of business and money was demanded. However, the money had been hustled out the back door as they were trying to get in the front. Disappointed, one of the soldiers lunged with his bayonet at the man in charge, but the latter dodged and got off with only a slight cut in the neck.

Oct. 29.

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Conditions do not improve as rapidly as we might hope.

Yesterday I took a trip out to four villages. Here is a sample of the kind of story I heard. These gendarmes came out to Yao Chia Chung for cabbage. They chose the best heads and told the farmers to weigh them. The farmers said, "Never mind weighing. Help yourselves." No, they must be weighed and paid for. So the farmers weighed them, then were made to carry them to headquarters, where a receipt was made out for \$20, the amount due. One farmer receipted with his thumb print and received the \$20. They were then dismissed, but a soldier followed them out and presently demanded the \$20. It was handed over, of course, and he graciously gave them 40 cents, thus making only \$19.60 by the transaction.

Another typical story from the same village, as told me by an old farmer: "Two soldiers came into my yard and said something which I could not understand. How can we understand their language? Then one poked me with his bayonet in the ribs and pointed at my chickens. I hurried to catch them, but it was not easy. 'Bang' went his gun and my dog fell dead. He made me catch all six. Then he pointed to the pig pen and I knew he wanted pig. I had to get down into the pit and wade in the filth, trying to catch a pig, not a simple job. You'd think that if I gave him one of my two pigs it would be enough. But no, he threatened me again and I had to catch the second. Then I had to tie them on a wheel barrow and take them to their camp. As we left my yard, 'Bang,' and my other dog was dead. I had to skin the pigs for them and they let the skin and the head, which they did not want."

This is what the Japanese in Japan hear and read:

Excerpts from dispatches from Paoting to the Osako Mainichi, a leading Japanese paper,

By Shoji Takishima, Paoting, Sept. 26: "Outside the walls many Chinese are returning to their homes and a special corps is going to take good care of the distressed Chinese, putting the city in good order."

By Shigeru Sato, Paoting, Sept. 29: "An animated atmosphere is now fast brewing in and out of Paoting, although the city was pillaged by the lawless Chinese troops. Reconstruction of the city has already been started with the citizens relieved of fear and terror by the entry of the Japanese troops."

Nov. 1.

Have been trying for several days to organize classes for the refugees and others who might care to study. Committees and sub-committees have been meeting and we finally have a set-up which covers everything from kindergarten to adult education. It occurred to us day before yesterday to notify the authorities that we were starting these classes. Then our trouble started. We have been to see them half a dozen times and finally today get word that we must get textbooks from Peking, from the new educational authorities there. This will delay starting for another week or more.

Nov. 3.

-
Conditions are slow to improve. Soldiers were robbing people on our street yesterday. I have within half an hour been asked to help the case of a well-to-do farmer from a nearby village who has been arrested by the gendarmerie and is virtually being held for ransom on some flimsy spurious charge. Weather is getting cold and we must do something for those who have no homes, or who have lost clothes and bedding and money.

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>

À: "weihhsien" <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: 2006 Old China Hands Portland Reunion

Date: lundi 10 avril 2006 17:42

I have the information on the Reunion to be held in September. This document has four attachments, and my computer will not send them to all the Weih sien members. If you would like the info please send me your request and your name and email address in the email itself. Otherwise I have to print your email to get your email address. I am hoping to attend. It would be interesting to know who is planning to go. Let us know.
Natasha np57@cox.net

----- Original Message -----

From: [Bill Einreinhofer](mailto:Bill.Einreinhofer)

To: MTPrevite@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2006 3:28 AM

Subject: **CCTV**

Hi Mary,

Last February I was interviewed for the CCTV program "Dialogue" regarding my documentary "So Very Far From Home." I have just learned that portions of that interview, as well as footage from the August Weih sien commemoration, will be broadcast on CCTV-9 on Wednesday April 12 at 19:30 (7:30 pm) Beijing time, or 7:30 am EDT.

On Thursday April 13 the program will be repeated at 0:30 (12:30 am), 07:30 (7:30 am), and 13:00 (1:00pm) Beijing time. That converts to Wednesday April 12 at 12:30 pm, 7:30 pm and Thursday April 13 at 1:00am EDT.

CCTV-9 is China's English-language broadcast channel. Besides being seen throughout China, it is also available as streaming video on the Internet.

Here is their web address: <<http://www.cctv-9.com/2005/>>

Once on their website, click the button marked "Live Broadcast" at the appropriate time(s). You can go directly to the streaming video via this web address: <<http://www.cctv-9.com/2005/default.asp?videoName=live&videoSpeed=300>>

I have no idea what is actually in the program, but I thought you and some of the other people who participate in the Weih sien Topica Bulletin Board might be interested.

Bill

<MTPrevite@aol.com> wrote:

Four terms is correct. Eight years.

Mary

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jkknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **CCTV**

Date: jeudi 13 avril 2006 15:30

Mary,
Forgive me!
I need to thank you for the Mother-Daughter Program from 1967!!!! What a neat gift for our women. They were so appreciative and enjoyed seeing the names and remembering.
With love and appreciation, Dusty

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>
À: <weihsien@topica.com>
Objet: Fw: **message for Topica**
Date: lundi 17 avril 2006 19:40

----- Original Message -----
From: FatherHanquet_c/o_Leopold
To: Nicky & Leopold
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2006 6:29 PM
Subject: **message for Topica**

Cher Leopold,
Voudrais-tu transmettre ce message à Topica?
Bien à toi,
E. Hanquet.
--- Mary Previte's question: ---

How did life in Weihhsien affect the way you conducted religious services or activities there? How did confinement affect your faith?

To answer these questions, I must first remind you of a few facts about our internment in Weihhsien Camp.

During the first 6 months of 1943 we had to organize ourselves the best we could. Various tasks were distributed amongst the prisoners having the abilities or the good will to help. With more than 2000 men, women and children, the compound was overcrowded. We were living one on top of the other in overcrowded rooms.

The departure of the more or less 200 Fathers and Nuns during the summer of 1943, allowed us to re-arrange the prisoners in their housings. Only 11 priests and 4 nuns remained in the camp. All the others were sent to Peking where they were accommodated in two convents and at their costs. Until that date, in summer '43, we mostly stayed amongst ourselves and had only few contacts with our fellow prisoners. The occasional contacts we might have had occurred during our meal times, the inevitable queues, and during our chores.

By the end of that same summer there was a new departure of the American families going back to the States thanks to a prisoner-exchange agreement with the Japanese authorities. They were to be repatriated on board the neutral Swedish vessel, the "Gripsholm".

--- Then, at the beginning of winter arrived the Chefoo School, children and teachers. Much later on came a small group of Italians, mostly wealthy people from Shanghai whose possessions and businesses were confiscated by the Japanese.

It took us about a year to get to know all the camp people a little better and to get thoroughly acquainted.

I already told you about my work in kitchen No.1 with Langdon Gilkey and Robin Strong. Besides cooking, we found a noodle-machine and successfully tried to make noodles! It was only after that experience that we started using our christen names.

I also remember that we had to wait until the Chefoo School students moved to the upper floors of the hospital to get to know them better. We used to have a little chat with the elder students when they passed by our block on their way to the hospital dormitories. We were in block number 56, the house with two floors and an exterior staircase in the middle.

We, the 11 remaining priests had friendly conversations with them. From then on began our relationship with Norman Cliff, Stephen Metcalf, Brian Thompson and many others. As a way to engage conversations, we started to teach them French, but that didn't last for long because their School Principal forbade the students to have further contacts with us. He felt responsible for them and feared they might lose their faith.

I must tell you that as young and healthy priests, we were very active in everyday camp-life. We often accepted the hardest chores. Many internees saw us as we were --- not as "Fathers" but as prisoners like all the others. This allowed us to build many a friendship. We were approached by many for all kinds of services such as participating in the Christmas choir conducted by Father Gyselinck or to appear in a show. I hope you remember that I played a Roman soldier in "Androcles and the Lion" with Father Palmers.

We also helped the younger prisoners. Very early during our imprisonment and with the help of Mr. Coburn, we took the initiative in creating a scout troop. To do so, we changed all the exterior signs of recognition with any existing scout organizations, as these were severely forbidden by the Japanese.

A close collaboration took place around 1944 between the discipline and education committees to protect the younger ones against the potential dangers of life and to occupy more wisely their study and leisure time.

As for the liturgical celebrations we never had the slightest problem. The celebration schedules at the Assembly Hall on Sundays were shared between the Catholics, the Church of England and the different Protestant groups. The concerts and serenades played by the Salvation Army Band were appreciated by all.

Intellectually, contacts were made in educational classes, participating in teaching classical Chinese with Lucien Porter, ecumenical interactivities with Hugh Hubbard and many other subjects.

It is true that we haven't lost our time in Weihhsien Camp and I have personally much improved my knowledge of the "human being" during these 32 months by a better understanding of the Protestants' way of thinking.

It helped me in having a more familiar and affectionate approach with all the Protestants I met

with later in my life.

Father Hanquet

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald

To: weihsien@topica.com

Sent: Monday, April 17, 2006 8:32 PM

Subject: Re: Fw: **message for Topica**

Thanks, Leopold,

That is a lovely interview. It made me wish that my Grandfather had a better opportunity to become acquainted with Fr. Hanquet before he left on the Gripsholm. Even so, he writes admiringly of the "magnificent Fathers," both for their willingness to do the hardest jobs and for their prowess in baseball, which he greatly admired.

Donald

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: Fw: **message for Topica**

Date: mardi 18 avril 2006 16:38

What a wonderful letter enriched with a fascinating view of Weihhsien from someone who saw the camp with the eyes of an adult!

Thank you, Father Hanquet. Please keep writing.

I remember Father Palmer and the older Harle sister from the Chefoo group taking walks around the basketball (ROLL CALL) court near the hospital --while she practiced French conversation with Father Palmer.

What memories do any of you have of outdoor Easter services with Brigadier Stranks and the Salvation Army band?

Mary Previte

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jkknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: **New Book!**

Date: mardi 18 avril 2006 23:43

Hey,

Have you seen the new book out by David McCasland? ERIC LIDDELL: PURE GOLD. Just started it, looks good. Even if it didn't I would have bought it, right? Georgie Knisely

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **New Book!**

Date: mardi 18 avril 2006 23:51

Hello, Georgie:

Check the Foreward to see if it is written by my brother James. I believe this book has also been translated into Chinese.

Mary

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **New Book!**

Date: mercredi 19 avril 2006 18:41

As far as I can see, Mary, there is no forward. It was printed in 2001 Discovery House Publishers, but mine is paperback, maybe that is why. Funny, I had never heard of this one. The best one I have is Surrender by a brit from Hong Kong who was going to do a sequel to CHARIOTS OF FIRE. Are you, did you go to the monologue of Eric Liddell off broad way. ? I would have loved to, but just not enough time. Love to hear anyone who did. How was it. Georgie Knisely

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: **Foreward to PURE GOLD -- a book about Eric Liddell**

Date: jeudi 20 avril 2006 2:30

PURE GOLD

Foreword

The Eric Liddell I Knew Eric Liddell was my hero long before the 1981 Academy Award winning movie, Chariots of Fire, brought him to the attention of the world. Interned together in the Japanese concentration camp in Shandong, Weifang, during the War of Resistance, I was mesmerized as "Uncle" Eric gathered us boys around and told us his stories. We sat spellbound, imagining his world record breaking

400 meter run in the 1924 Paris Olympics. He told us of the time a year earlier where he picked himself up after having been tripped by another runner, made up the time lost, pulled ahead at the last moment to win the race. We loved to hear him tell of the Dalian track meet in 1928. After winning the 400 meter race, he almost missed his boat back to Tianjin. Only a wave's pushing the boat back closer to the dock narrowed the space and allowed him to throw his bag aboard and leap onto the deck. We could see it all.

With the Beijing Olympics coming in '08, Pure Gold is a great book for sports fans. It paints its pageantry in bronze, silver, and gold. Here the reader will find the excitement of international track competition - friendly rivalries, team work, sportsmanship, unfulfilled dreams, and broken records.

Pure Gold is much more than that. It is the story of a very common, yet unique, man - Eric Liddell. From Liddell's birth in Tianjin, the author traces his background and upbringing in China, Scotland and England in the turmoil of the first half of the 20th century. Eric was born two years after the Boxer Uprising. He and his close-knit family lived and suffered through the threat of rising Japanese aggression and the tumultuous years of the establishment of the Republic. He

experienced danger and separation during World War I and World War II.

Eric was not only a great athlete; he was also a remarkable educator. Coming to China barely 20 years after China's age-old Examination System ended, he taught mathematics and science at the Tientsin Anglo-Chinese College. After winning gold in Paris and glory and acclaim at the University of Edinburgh, Eric declared his philosophy of education. In Tianjin and in Weifang, it did not change. This is how he put it:

"Athletics is part of educating the whole person. A man is composed of three parts - mind, body, and soul, and only when we instruct each part in such a way that one is not overestimated, but each receives proper emphasis, we will get the finest and truest graduates from our University. As we realize that we not only have to store our minds with knowledge, but to educate our bodies for the strenuous life we must go through, and also remember that we are spirit as well, then we will send out graduates who are really worthy of taking their place in any part of life."

Eric modeled this ideal in his own life. Deeply involved in running and rugby in university, he tied for first place in inorganic and physical chemistry.

He led his church's youth program and taught Sunday school for poor children in the slums.

What made Eric Liddell great?

Eric Liddell was real. In a day when students are concerned about corruption in government and immorality in society, here is a model to emulate, a man of integrity, principle, and unwavering spirit. He was prepared to sacrifice himself and his position for his convictions. Principles that are important for public life are equally important in personal life. In sports, in work, and in life, Eric said the end never justified the means.

A story he often told us in concentration camp illustrates his values. From the grandstands, Eric watched athletes from the UK and the US compete in an obstacle race. The front runner knocked over a hurdle. This left the opportunity for the next runner to dash through the gap and gain an advantage. Instead, the man swerved to the side, jumped over a standing hurdle before moving back to the inside track. Eric never forgot the thrill that went through him, or the answering cheer that rose from the crowd." That was the finest thing done that day," he told us.

Lord Sands in Edinburgh summed up Eric's philosophy of life in these words: "This young man put his whole career as a runner in the balance, and deemed it as small dust, compared to remaining true to his principles. There are greater issues in life than sport, and the greatest of these is loyalty to the great laws of the soul."

Eric Liddell persevered. The ideals and standards Eric set for himself were made, not for the moment, but for life. Determination and perseverance marked his pursuit of excellence in sports, in education, in service to others, and in his religious faith. When another runner tripped Eric in the 440 yards event in the British Triangular International in 1923, he refused to let the setback determine the outcome of the race. With unwavering perseverance, he leapt back into the race, went for gold, and got it.

The disturbances and dangers of the War of Resistance made teaching in Tianjin and serving the people in the countryside precarious if not downright life threatening. Yet he remained at his post when others chose the safer course and left. Even in concentration camp, when there were no textbooks to teach chemistry, he created his own teaching materials from memory.

Eric's long courtship with Florence illustrates his perseverance. He knew that she was the one for him. He could wait. Eric Liddell was a humble man. Headlines trumpeted his triumphs, and people's voices shouted praises. "It would take a great deal of spiritual and emotional maturity for a 22-year-old Eric Liddell to cope with the kind of success that had turned men's hearts and tripped their feet since the beginning of time," says David McCasland. Eric kept his head.

After the Olympics, when suddenly called upon to give an impromptu speech at St. Giles' Cathedral, he spoke quietly: "I hardly know what to say on this occasion because there are many here who

deserve this just as much as I do."

He recognized the enormous contribution his parents had in his life, his teachers had in his education, his coach had in his running, and his colleagues had in service together. He had no sense that God gave him a special blessing because he had refused to run on Sunday. God was gracious, but He is not obligated to give the gold in any of the world's contests to one who obeys His will. Under pressure of the Japanese occupation in Tianjin, Eric volunteered to buy bread for others who couldn't get to the market early enough. When a north China wind storm covered the floor and furniture with Gobi Desert dust, his host family found him up at 4:30 in the morning quietly cleaning the home. He had a true, humble servant spirit.

Eric Liddell was a deeply caring person. In the midst of all the adulation after his 1924 Olympics and similar successes, he embraced those who had not won. Eric liked to quote the words he had seen engraved over the entrance of the University of Pennsylvania sports field: "In the dust of defeat as well as in the laurel of victory, there is glory to be found if one has done his best." He cared for his students at the Tianjin Anglo-Chinese College as though they were his own younger brothers. Eric always had time to listen to their concerns and to help in class work, sports, or other family matters. His students loved him.

In the Weihhsien concentration camp, Eric was like an uncle to those of us separated from our parents. Though he had taken a firm personal stand on not running on Sunday, he was willing to referee our Sunday afternoon games when he discovered fights breaking out between the teams. When he discovered that some of the older youth, children of Tianjin and Beijing business families, were holding sex parties, he gave his own free time to organize wholesome week night activities.

Our headmaster shared a secret at Eric Liddell's memorial service in 1945.

He had learned that "Uncle" Eric had planned to sell the gold watch presented to him by the City of Edinburgh in order to buy softball equipment for the camp's recreation program.

Eric Liddell was a man of Faith. Though he was born into a devout Christian home and had attended church all his life, it was not until he was 21 that Eric decided to tell the Lord that he wanted to serve Him. That decision was sealed when he accepted an invitation to speak publicly for the first time to rough Scottish miners. There Eric personally encountered God and his pilgrimage of faith began. Up to that point Jesus Christ had been only an historical figure to be admired. Now He became his personal Saviour, guide and friend.

Over the next 20 years that relationship was steadily deepened through regular study of the Bible, reflection, prayer and Christian fellowship. He was greatly helped by the Oxford Group and their emphasis in Bible study on reading accurately, interpreting honestly and applying drastically. The latter meant living each day by the Four Absolutes: absolute honesty, absolute purity, absolute unselfishness, and absolute love. This was the new standard Eric set for himself. He knew that to attain to such a standard in his own strength was impossible. This led Eric to a personal pursuit of the cleansing, filling and empowering of the Holy Spirit.

In concentration camp, he loved to speak from the Sermon on the Mount and on the gifts of the Spirit. We boys sensed that these were not empty words.

Uncle Eric modeled these ideals.

Eric Liddell was a Scot with a heart for China. Eric was born in China and is buried in China. His body has become part of Chinese soil. As the author states: "At the peak of his athletic career with the world at his feet, 23-year-old Eric Liddell turned away from it all and set his face toward China."

Why? The love of Christ constrained him.

In 1937, he wrote from the Hebei countryside: "It is good for me that in a year of unprecedented hardship and suffering for the people, I should have been sent away from the city

and ... should have been given ... an opportunity of seeing some of the hardest hit places." Eric gave himself to helping hungry people. He rescued wounded peasants and brought them to the Christian hospital for treatment. Why? The love of Christ constrained him. In 1941, to protect his pregnant wife Flo and their two daughters from the unpredictable dangers of Japanese occupation, Eric sent them by ship to Canada. He stayed on to teach and to serve the people. He knew the risk. He also understood the responsibility. Pure gold fears no fire. He gave this verse to others. It was also his resolve:

"I would be true, for there are those who trust me;
I would be pure, for there are those who care;
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;
I would be brave, for there is much to dare."
How? The love of Christ constrained him.

Eric Liddell never was a student or teacher at the China Inland Mission School in Chefoo, yet when his path joined ours in the Japanese concentration camp in Weihhsien, he touched our lives. The closing verse of our school song summed up "Uncle" Eric's short 43 years:

"Plaudits of men we lightly appraise,
Set we a nobler aim -
Ever to bring through the toil of our days
Glory to God's great Name.
Many the voices that ring in our ears,
Many the cries of need;
God give us grace in the coming years
His voice alone to heed."

James H. Taylor III
Hong Kong SAR
China

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>
À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Foreward to PURE GOLD -- a book about Eric Liddell**
Date: jeudi 20 avril 2006 9:10

I was interviewed by David McCausland the author of *Pure Gold* on my recollections of Eric (His parents were great friends of my grandparents and he took part in several sports with my father in the 20s and 30s. *Pure Gold* was published 2001 by Discovery House Publishers affiliated to RBC Ministries Grand Rapids Michigan 49512 ISBN No is 0 57293 051 9 and there was a three part TV programmed on the subject also done by RBC.
Rgds
Ron

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>
À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Foreward to PURE GOLD -- a book about Eric Liddell**
Date: jeudi 20 avril 2006 18:13

Thank you so much!!!! This was not in my book. Maybe not in the paperback. I will put it in.

Thanks so very much, Georgie

Did I send you this. I am just starting to send it out. Have my visa and tickets, so guess it is go unless something really tragic happens in the next week or so. Why me?? Yes, I asked that often - I am so blessed!

Dear, dear friends,

April 20, 2006

I am off on another adventure - I hope. May 1st I leave for Afghanistan and return on the 23rd. People asked if I ever question God, "Why me?" I certainly do often. I am so blessed! A teacher from China, where I have helped for 4 years went to Kabul and is teaching there - another Christian International School. She dropped my name and they said, Bring her on and I am going. So I guess in the big world they would call it networking - I call it blessed.

Jay and I traveled through Afghanistan in 1979! Centuries ago and thought we just had to go there and teach. Well, it never happened so now I get the chance to go for a short period. When I received my librarian degree, I was thrilled because I thought I could now support my children happily, if anything happened to Jay. Well, I get my way paid now, and have a wonderful time. Time is a donation, but I love the feeling of contributing.

I have been given names of people who are there and hope I have time to get out of the school a little and see the real world of Afghanistan. It was a rugged country then and must be more so now, after 20 years of war and still outside of Kabul, war still.

I have also been privileged to visit a woman on death row, another friend goes with me and once a month we visit and try to encourage them that the world still knows they are there and cares. Strangely enough, they seem to encourage us more and make us so aware of all that we have in freedom, space, opportunities, etc. We may only visit one person at a time. So we each visit the same individual each time. There are two other women on death row in PA. I write to them, but cannot visit them.

Sooo, as you can see, I do not seem to sit home for long. I have done a lot of speaking on India and Pakistan, because I was privileged to go there on a mission tour last year. I am secretary on two Boards - a United Methodist Conference Mission Board and a Non-profit, temporary welfare Board. You certainly learn a great deal about the many companies and individuals and NGOs that are available and helping. We need them all and more with the many disasters we are having and the economy as it is - changing a great deal.

I covet your prayers while I am going and being there and coming home.

De: "David Birch" <gdavidbirch@yahoo.com>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **New e-mail address**

Date: jeudi 20 avril 2006 20:16

Dear Audrey,

Thank you for sending me a copy of your new email address.

However, once again, I must tell you that your 'overeager' computer got carried away and sent me a total of five identical emails informing me of your new address. I wonder if others are also receiving multiple copies of the same email!

This has happened occasionally in the past re emails coming from you.

Sincerely

David

berean <berean@xplornet.com> wrote: Dear Family and Friends:

Please be advised that as of NOW our e-mail address has changed. We could not do anything different as to notification. So if you have tried e-mailing us within the last 6 hours or more and have received your letter returned==you will know why. And please try again. Our new e-mail address is: berean@xplornet.com

Sincerely,

Audrey Nordmo Horton

De: "berean" <berean@xplornet.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **New e=mail address**

Date: jeudi 20 avril 2006 23:52

The message kept coming up saying that it couldn't be sent due to such and such an address. I apologize. Audrey

----- Original Message -----

From: David Birch

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2006 10:46 AM

Subject: Re: **New e=mail address**

Dear Audrey,

Thank you for sending me a copy of your new email address.

However, once again, I must tell you that your 'overeager' computer got carried away and sent me a total of five identical emails informing me of your new address. I wonder if others are also receiving multiple copies of the same email!

This has happened occasionally in the past re emails coming from you.

Sincerely

David

De: "Raymond Moore" <raym82@hotmail.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **Foreward to PURE GOLD -- a book about Eric Liddell**

Date: vendredi 21 avril 2006 2:08

Thanks Mary, for including the full text of your brother's forward to "Pure Gold" by David McCasland. My copy did not include it, and I have now printed your email and slid it in to the front of the book.

Great book.

Warm regards to you all,

Ray Moore

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Eric Liddell play, BEYOND THE CHARIOTS, now playing in New York**

Date: vendredi 21 avril 2006 3:31

Reminder:

The Eric Liddell play, "BEYOND THE CHARIOTS," with Rich Swingel is now playing Off Broadway tomorrow -- Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

For details go to fireoffbroadway.com

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Foreward to PURE GOLD -- a book about Eric Liddell**

Date: vendredi 21 avril 2006 3:44

Hello, Georgie:

I will look forward to hearing all about your trip when your return. What amazing opportunity and ministry!

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **PURE GOLD -- where to buy it**

Date: vendredi 21 avril 2006 4:02

Information about where to purchase **PURE GOLD**

PURE GOLD is available in Chinese translation with the foreword I wrote, also in Chinese. The original English edition does not have a foreword. Thus, unless we put my foreword in English on the web, it is not available elsewhere.

The English edition of PURE GOLD was published by Discovery House Publishers in Grand Rapids. I presume it should be available in the US in most Family or Christian bookstores. I would be surprised if there is not a UK edition, though I have not seen it. People who are interested in getting a copy can go to Amazon.com, Google, or Yahoo.

For the Chinese edition of PURE GOLD, I would suggest the following:

US & Canada - call Ambassadors for Christ 1 (800) 624-3504 or email:

_bks@afcinc.org (mailto:bks@afcinc.org)

UK - call COCM 44-01908-234-100 or email: _cocm@cocm.org.uk

(mailto:cocm@cocm.org.uk)

Australia - call OMF 61-(2) 9868-4777 or email: _au@omf.net

(mailto:au@omf.net)

New Zealand - call Bamboo 64-(09) 630-5997 or email:

_bamboo@omf.net (mailto:bamboo@omf.net)

Hopes this helps

James Taylor

De: "Donald" <dmenzi@earthlink.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Eric Liddell Play**

Date: samedi 22 avril 2006 23:14

Hello, all,

We saw the play, *Beyond Chariots*, last night. It was very well done, with writer-actor Rich Swingle playing multiple roles, from Chinese students to Japanese guards - and Liddell, of course.

Mary will be pleased to see the historical note by James that puts the play in its larger context. If you go on Sunday, Mary, you may meet one of Liddell's daughters, who we were told plans to attend then.

Donald

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Eric Liddell Play**

Date: lundi 24 avril 2006 4:00

Helo, Everybody:

I attended the Saturday matinee of the Eric Liddell drama, *BEYOND THE*

CHARIOTS, Off Broadway in New York yesterday. How deeply moving that after more than 60 years since Eric Liddell died, the influence of Eric's life and his walk with God continue to touch thousands of lives!

I was asked to speak briefly following yesterday's performance.

Write/actor Rich Swingle tells me that they are considering taking this show to China either before or during the Olympics.

Liddell's daughter, Heather, was scheduled to attend tonight's performance.

Those of us who attended the reunion in Weifang last August heard Stephen Metcalf's very moving story of how Eric Liddell influenced Stephen's life.

After Stephen won a race between boys from the Chefoo School and those from Tientsin, Eric took a special interest in Stephen and recruited Stephen to be his assistant in keeping athletic equipment repaired for games for the young people in the camp. Shortly before Eric died, he gave Stephen his much-patched running shoes.

Eric inspired Stephen both by Eric's life and the messages he gave during Bible studies which Eric conducted for young people in the camp. Talking about the Sermon on the Mount, Eric used to ask if Jesus REALLY meant what he said: "Love your enemies." Could you love the Japanese? Those influences ripple on. Stephen Metcalf recently retired after serving God for a lifetime as a missionary to Japan. I wish all of you could have heard Stephen's tribute to Eric Liddell last August 15 at the Eric Liddell monument, now located just behind the back entrance to the hospital in Weifang.

Mary Previte

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Eric Liddell Play**

Date: lundi 24 avril 2006 8:51

hello,

this should help:

http://www.weihsien-paintings.org/60YearsAfter/texts/txt_Metcalf.htm

all the best,

Leopold

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Eric Liddell Play**

Date: mercredi 26 avril 2006 4:40

Mary,

How was the play? Why did Rich Swingle write it and what did he talk about or how present it.

Thanks, Georgie

De: "Marti Suddarth" <MarthaSuddarth@aol.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: **Martha Morrison Kramer**

Date: lundi 1 mai 2006 20:58

My name is Marti Kramer Suddarth. I'm the grandniece of Martha Morrison Kramer, who was at Wei'Hsien from March to September 1943, before being sent to America on the motor ship Gripsholm. I'm not sure if this qualifies me for membership on this list, but if it does, I am very interested in learning more about my grandaunt.

Marti Suddarth
grandniece of Martha Morrison Kramer

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Fw: **search for morrison**

Date: mardi 2 mai 2006 10:14

----- Original Message -----

From: Nicky & Leopold

To: weihsien@topica.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2006 10:04 AM

Subject: **search for morrison**

Dear Marti,

Hello,

Can this help you?

You can also go to this link:

http://www.weihsien-paintings.org/pander/Weifang2006/Slide_Show/02_Weihsien/p_01.htm

and click on picture No. 365 ---

Best regards,

Leopold

(I was 4 years old when we were liberated in 1945)

De: "Marti Suddarth" <MarthaSuddarth@aol.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: Fw: **search for morrison**

Date: mardi 2 mai 2006 16:56

THANK YOU, so much! I didn't know there was such a wall. I didn't find Aunt Martha's name, but she left in September of 1943. Maybe the list was compiled later?

When I was a little girl, my parents had told me that Aunt Martha (who is actually my dad's aunt) was under "house arrest" while in China. It wasn't until after Aunt Martha died (in 1981) that I learned that after being under house arrest for a while, she was sent to a Prisoner of War camp. I don't know if Mom & Dad didn't want to upset me when I was little or if maybe Dad's parents didn't want to upset HIM when he was little. (He was a small child during WW II.) Maybe Dad didn't know the truth himself until recently.

Now I wish I could ask Aunt Martha so many questions, but of course, I can't. Dad's brother and his wife printed some letters that Aunt Martha had written in China and while on the Motorship Gripsholm coming back to the U.S. ... that's all I have. I'm hoping to learn more about what really happened.

THANK YOU, everyone, for allowing me to be a part of this list.

Marti (Kramer) Suddarth
Grandniece of Martha Morrison Kramer

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: RE: Fw: **search for morrison**
Date: mardi 2 mai 2006 19:30

The Weih sien list is very incomplete. Many of those on the MS Gripsholm are not recorded.

There were over 1500 repatriates from the Far East in 1943. Many had not yet been interned, due to exemptions for health or political reasons.

Your great Aunt Martha was living in Peking and a teacher at Yenching University before the war. After December 8, 1941, Allied nationals in Peiping, as it was then known under the Japanese, lived under a number of restrictions, which were tightened after the escape of a National City Bank of New York banker, via the Western Hills, in May of 1942. Armbands for enemy subjects were issued and those living in smaller Out ports and isolated mission stations were brought to Peking to live. There were a few cases of strict "house arrest" but most did not experience this. Eventually, most Allied civilians in Peking, Tientsin, and Tsingtao were interned at Weih sien. A small number were interned at a camp set up at the Peking British Embassy.

Greg Leck

www-captives-of-empire.com

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald
To: weih sien@topica.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2006 5:19 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: **search for morrison**

Marti,

Welcome aboard!

Apparently our grandparents were together on the Gripsholm prisoner exchange. If you want to know what that

trip was like, including two journals (George Wilder and Howard Galt) and some watercolor sketches by Gertrude Wilder of the places where they stopped on the way, you can find them at my "family" web <http://d.menzi.org>. Just click on the "Directory" link then on "Repatriation Journey."

I'm sure that exploring Leopold Pander's wonderful web site will be quite an adventure for you.

Donald Menzi

De: "Tracy Strong" <tstrong@weber.ucsd.edu>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: Fw: **search for morrison**

Date: mercredi 3 mai 2006 2:00

Dear Donald - many thanks for the web site - and I am charmed to find that George Wilder baptized me on Sept 12, 1943.! Your grandparents and my parents (Robbins and Katherine Strong) were thus on the same voyage of the Gripsholm.

Tracy B. Strong

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2006 4:24 PM

Subject: RE: Fw: **search for morrison**

Dear Tracy - Yes, and I believe that your parents and my grandparents lived in the same multi-family home in Oberlin for a while after repatriation. Do you remember their Oberlin address?

Donald

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Greg Leck's book**

Date: mercredi 3 mai 2006 21:44

Hello, Greg,

Is your book out yet? Please give us all the details,

Mary Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Weih sien liberator, Jim Moore**

Date: jeudi 4 mai 2006 2:28

Hello, Everybody,

Jim Moore tells me that cancer has spread to his lungs. Last summer, unexpected surgery for

cancer of the colon prevented Jim from joining us for the 60th anniversary of our liberation from Weihhsien.

He is 86.

A member of the super-secret Office of Strategic Services, Jim Moore was one of the six Americans who parachuted from a B-24 bomber to liberate the Weihhsien Civilian Assembly Center, August 17, 1945.

Jim Moore's is truly one of the amazing sagas of World War II. The son of Southern Baptist missionaries to China, Jim had attended and graduated from the Chefoo School in the 1930s. After Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, Jim read in the school's alumni magazine that the Chefoo School had been captured and interned by the Japanese. He resigned from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) where he was a Special Agent, joined the U.S. Navy and the Office of Strategic Services, went to China, and signed on to the rescue mission.

Yes, he liberated his own Alma Mater.

When he got inside the camp on August 17, 1945, the first person he asked to see was "PA" Bruce, Head Master of the Chefoo School. Many of his former Chefoo teachers welcomed him that day -- Masters Bruce, Martin, Welch, Houghton.

Despite some difficulty breathing, Jim continues very up-beat. He tells me that he is now living a day at a time.

If you'd like to write or phone Jim to express your appreciation for the gift of freedom he gave us in 1945, use the following contact information.

James W. Moore Phone: 214-341-8695
9605 Robin Song Street
Dallas, Texas 75243
USA

Why don't you tell him your very personal memories of August 17, 1945?
Jim does not use e-mail.

Mary Taylor Previte

----- Original Message -----

From: Donald

To: weihhsien@topica.com

Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2006 5:08 PM

Subject: **Some thoughts on Jim Moore's Story**

Mary,

Your touching information about Jim Moore's story is yet another example of the kind of "circularity" - connectedness and "wholeness" - that sometimes occurs in life, and which seems to be especially true of the whole Weihhsien story. Yesterday for me it was hearing that Tracy Strong had discovered that my grandfather had baptized him in 1943, a connection that neither of us were aware of. And now Tracy and I are re-connected in a way, by being members of this email group. Today we learn from you how Jim Moore in his own lifetime was

able to complete a cycle by actively responding to the news of his alma mater's capture and choosing to set out on a course that eventually led him to being one of those who liberated Chefoo's captivity. And now those whom he liberated are once again together with him, sending him love and support as he approaches the end of his life.

I always find it a little amazing when these hidden connections become apparent. It would be wonderful, wouldn't it, if by the end of our lives here we could look back and see our own life story as a series of these vignettes, each one complete with a satisfying ending and no remaining loose ends? I imagine that for believers there is a trust - or at least a hope - that the sum total of all the little vignettes of all our lives, and those of past and future generations, adds up to a meaningful and purposeful story, whose plot and ending we can only guess at.

At least for now the Internet and email have made it possible for us to discover some of the hidden connections and stories that we would never know about without it. Thanks to you and to everyone who has used these new resources so effectively to bring us all closer together. It has added a whole new dimension to all of our lives.

Donald

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>

A: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **Greg Leck's book**

Date: jeudi 11 mai 2006 5:20

Dear Mary and Weih sien Topica Members:

As some of you may know, I have been working on a book about internment for several years now. This is not light summer reading for the beach, but an extensively researched, serious, academic history of the Japanese internment of Allied civilians in China, 1941-1945. There are hundreds of footnotes and the bibliography, which is in size 8 type, runs to ten pages. There is an extensive index; three columns per page and running to over six pages.

To put the book together I have scoured archives from San Francisco to New York, as well as repositories in Canada, the UK, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Switzerland, and Japan. I have examined tens of thousands of pages of documents (hundreds of which were in French or Japanese), read over 120 published accounts, and listened to over sixty ex-internees tell their stories. Though I have no personal connection to Weih sien, my own family lived in Shanghai during the war and family members were held in three different camps there.

The book's title is *Captives of Empire*. You can see more at

www.captives-of-empire.com <http://www.captives-of-empire.com/>

The website will soon be updated with details of the book.

I chose the title because firstly, internees were the prisoners of Dai Nippon or the Empire of Japan. But some were also, in a way, captives of their economic or personal empires in China. Lastly, many Britons ended up being captured because their own government told them to stay in China.

The book is an extensive documentation of the internment experience. Weighing in at five pounds, it is large format (8.5 inches by 11 inches), 738 pages in length, and contains over 650 illustrations, 20 maps, and extensive color images. It covers the life of Westerners in China

before the war, life under the Japanese occupation, life in the camps, and the aftermath of the war. Each camp is also discussed in a separate chapter. Listed is information on 13,544 individuals who were held in camps in China or Hong Kong. This includes several hundred documented Weihhsien internees who are not on the Chinese memorial in Weifang.

A chapter on repatriation details how repatriates were chosen, and describes the journey of the various ships to Goa, Lourenco Marques, and onward to New York. There are extensive first person accounts as well as photos of each ship and photos of repatriates on board the MS Gripsholm.

Those who were in Weihhsien, or had relatives there, will be interested in a number of new discoveries related to that camp.

- A sketch of a dormitory room by internee Jim Murray.
- A photo of five Weihhsien girls in the food queue.
- An illustrated poster for the "Sewing Advisory Group" listing the internees available for advice.
- A Women's Auxiliary poster advertising a Sewing Bee and Story Telling.
- Sketches and drawings of camp activities
- A photo of tin cups and containers made from recycled cans (from Ash Camp, but no doubt similar to those used in Weihhsien)
- A photo of the hospital
- A Weihhsien internee in the camp dentist's chair (and smiling, too)
- Photos of the Japanese Consular Police, including them shepherding internees from the American Embassy to the Peking train station.
- A painting of a dark uniformed guard in a watchtower at Weihhsien by internee Nick Milhailoff.
- A sketch of Weihhsien internees waiting for roll call to begin.
- Two colorful posters for plays put on in camp, "Stewdents" (featuring Joyce Cook and others) and "Red Hot and Blue" the last play before liberation.
- A photo of two Weihhsien internees at a piano.
- An envelope mailed from Weihhsien to a neutral Irish national in Peitaiho.
- A 1943 Weihhsien Christmas card.
- A 1942 photo of Weihhsien escaper Laurance Tipton wearing his red armband.
- A 1945 photo of Mary Previte, her three siblings, and Raymond Moore and David Allen on an airstrip, getting ready to board a flight to Xian. (I discovered this photo in the National Archives. Mary was unaware of its existence.)
- A photo of Weihhsien children playing in camp - it looks like "ring around the rosey."
- A drawing of Chinese traders on the wall after liberation.
- A photo of a Chinese market set up after liberation.
- Japanese Consular Police inspecting luggage prior to internment
- Internees carrying luggage on the grounds of the Peking American Embassy.
- Weihhsien students in a classroom
- A group of children in a Weihhsien dining hall.
- A photo of Weihhsien internees in the hot water line.
- A view of an inner courtyard in camp.
- Weihhsien internees arriving in Tsingtao after liberation.
- US Army personnel talking with internees

- Internees boarding trucks to take them to the Ershilipu airstrip to be airlifted out.
- Internees boarding C-46 transports
- A photo of internee women cleaning vegetables
- Internees after the war.

It has been a tremendous job to put this all together. I am acting as my own publisher and have different printers and a book binder involved - and I have literally put together each book, by hand, on my dining room table, placing every single one of the 738 pages in the correct order for every one of the books. Because of the short print run, large size, length, and extensive use of interior color, it has been an expensive project. Before I decided to do the project myself, I was quoted prices of \$150 - \$170 to print and bind each volume! I am selling the books at roughly what it cost me to print and bind them - \$75. I think the final book looks very professional - most people would not know that it is a self published volume.

In September I will be giving an illustrated talk on the camps at the Old China Hands Reunion and hope to have further Weihhsien photos to show.

sincerely,

Greg Leck

De: "Alison Holmes" <aholmes@prescott.edu>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Greg Leck's book**

Date: mardi 16 mai 2006 0:17

Greg, I went to your website and tried to send you a message there but do not know if it got through. I would like a copy of your book. Please let me know if you received the message.
Thanks, Alison Holmes

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **Greg Leck's book**

Date: mardi 16 mai 2006 2:10

Hello Alison,

I did not get the message via the website but this one did come through fine.

I will reserve a copy for you. Don't send anything until you hear from me later in the month - I want to be certain they are ready to go, which means I will have them in hand!

Thanks,

Greg

----- Original Message -----

From: Dwight W. Whipple

To: weihsien@topica.com

Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2006 7:17 AM

Subject: Re: **Greg Leck's book**

Hi Greg~

I am interested in having your book, too. Please put me on the list, and autograph it for me, if you will!

~Dwight W. Whipple
4728A Lakeshore Lane SE
Olympia, WA 98513
360.456.4300

De: "Pamela Maters" <pamela@hendersonhouse.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Greg Leck's book**

Date: mardi 16 mai 2006 16:06

Dear Greg --

I would really like to get a copy of your book "Captives of Empire" when it's published. I am really intrigued that you have a picture of the poster for "Professor Thomas and his Stewdents" as that was one that I did. In fact, I have a colorful page in my autograph album (if I can lay my hands on it) signed by Gerry Thomas and all the cast...of which I was a minor member. Will scan the page and send it on to Weih sien Topica.

Here is my address: 3001 Camino Heights Drive, Camino, CA 95709-9508

Pamela

Pamela Masters - Author/Publisher

Henderson House Publishing

Titles: The Mushroom Years, Sass & Serendipity

Phone: 530-647-2000

Fax: 530-647-2002

pamela@hendersonhouse.com

<http://www.hendersonhouse.com>

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Date: jeudi 18 mai 2006 5:48

Autograph book

Dear Greg and Pamela and other Weih sieners. I also remember the play with Professor Thomas and I too have all the signatures in my autograph book. In fact I sang a duet sitting at a piano with Tisha Metcalf (Gerry Thomas' stepdaughter) singing "September In The Rain" and also managed a solo "Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me A Bow Wow" (Maybe it is a good thing recorders weren't available in those days).

I met Tisha a few years ago in London for lunch (Gaotse) She is now almost blind and living in a nursing home. After Pamela sends her material I will add my autograph book entries for general information. Best regards.Joyce.

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **autograph book**

Date: jeudi 18 mai 2006 11:03

Dear Pamela, Dear Joyce,

Hello,

I'd be glad to add any copies-of-pages from your autograph book you wish to the Weih sien-picture-gallery-web-site --- for all to share with you.

Best regards,

Leopold

De: "Mary Broughton" <wilmar@clear.net.nz>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **change of address**

Date: samedi 20 mai 2006 5:58

I have just changed my email address
to maryhbroughton@swissmail.org

I too found Father Hanquet's interview so very interesting. I am so sorry our Headmaster stopped the French lessons. He did his best but was rather over protective in other ways too. I have always said one of the joys of Weih sien was meeting and seeing so many different people from different walks of life. In fact over the last year in Camp my best friend was Gay Talbot and we spent many hours discussing what we believed, happily agreeing to differ in a few areas. I was 15 then.

I seldom write but I do enjoy reading all the Weih sien letters at Topica,

Greetings to everyone,

Mary (Hoyte) Broughton

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Update on three surviving Weih sien liberators: Moore, Nagaki, Hannon**

Date: mercredi 31 mai 2006 7:09

Hello, Everybody:

Here's an update on our three surviving Americans who liberated Weih sien: Jim Moore, Jim Hannon, and Tad Nagaki. All three are 86 years of age. I telephoned all three on our Memorial Day holiday weekend.

Jim Moore is being cared for at home in his struggle with cancer that has moved from the colon into his lungs. Hospice workers now help with his care. Jim remains upbeat and sharp as ever, despite his telling me frankly that he's living a day at a time. Ever the gentleman, he says he deeply appreciates your cards and letters. Jim's is a remarkable story. The son of missionaries to China, Jim grew up in China, spoke Chinese, and attended and graduated from the Chefoo School. When head read in the school's alumni magazine that Japanese had marched the school into internment camp, he joined the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) and shaped a plan to help liberate the school.

By the way, Jim is the only college graduate on the team that liberated us. He and Raymond Hanchulak moved on from the OSS and finished their careers in the Central Intelligence Agency

(CIA).

If you'd like to write, Jim's address is James W. Moore, 9605 Robin Song Street, Dallas, Texas, 75243, USA. I know he'd love to get a letter telling what you remember about Liberation Day.

Tad Nagaki, a widower, still actively farms corn, beans, and wheat with a younger brother in America's heartland. Of the five Nagaki siblings, only Tad and his younger brother remain. Each of my chats with Tad opens a chapter for me about the Japanese-American experience in the United States. This time Tad told me about his parents settling in Nebraska as tenant farmers in the early 1900's -- tilling the soil with a horse-drawn plow. In more modern times, Tad and his brothers have had as many as ten tractors. I still remember the windmill in front of Tad's farmhouse when Emily Bryant and I visited him in 1998.

Jim Hannon and his wife, Gin, are celebrating their 63rd wedding anniversary today not to mention their creative partnership. Jim continues hand writing books and screen plays. Gin turns them into manuscripts and book or screen proposals. But Jim says he suffers increasingly-serious problems with his balance and has suffered several falls recently. He says he remains optimistic about one or more of his books turning into a movie, but says that his limited mobility also limits his ability to market his books into movies. In marketing, phone calls and letters lack the power of face-to-face meetings.

I will be grateful for ever for knowing these men.
America has heroes. I know their names.

Mary T Previte

----- Original Message -----

From: [Greg Leck](#)

To: weihsien@topica.com

Sent: Friday, June 02, 2006 5:56 AM

Subject: **Captives of Empire**

Dear Topica Members:

My book, *Captives of Empire: The Japanese Internment of Allied Civilians in China*, is now available. I picked up the books from the bindery yesterday and I am very happy with their appearance.

Here is a brief outline of the book, as well as payment methods and shipping costs.

(I don't know if Topica accepts HTML format – if not, the Table of Contents in your email will appear disorganized.)

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Ordering Information

Captives of Empire: The Japanese Internment of Allied Civilians in China, 1941-1945.

scheduled publication date: June 1, 2006

Shandy Press SAN **2 5 7 – 0 1 8 1**

ISBN: 0-9772141-0-9

Library of Congress Control Number: 2005906868

8.5 inch by 11 inch, hardcover with full color illustrated dust jacket

738 pages

665 color and black and white illustrations, 20 maps

Nominal Rolls of internees in China and Hong Kong with biographical details - 13,544 individuals listed.

Index, extensive bibliography

Price (direct from author, all prices in US Dollars)

\$75.00 plus shipping

Shipping:

United States - airmail \$14.00, each add'l copy \$10
- media mail \$5.00, each add'l copy \$3

Canada - airmail \$19.00, each add'l copy \$5
-surface mail \$12.00, each add'l copy \$4

United Kingdom - airmail \$30.00, each add'l copy \$9
- surface mail \$12.00, each add'l copy \$4

Australia - airmail \$42.00, each add'l copy \$12
- surface mail \$13.00, each add'l copy \$3

New Zealand - airmail \$42.00, each add'l copy \$12
- surface mail \$13.00, each add'l copy \$3

Hong Kong - airmail \$42.00, each add'l copy \$12
- surface mail \$13.00, each add'l copy \$3

Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery by surface mail.

Shipping Weight: 5 pounds 8 ounces (2.5 kilograms)

Payment Methods:

Personal check drawn on funds in a US bank

Cashier or Bank check, payable in US dollars.

Credit Card (Mastercard or VISA)

How to Purchase

By check: Send payment in US dollars for purchase price plus shipping costs, payable to Greg Leck, along with your shipping address, to:

Greg Leck
101 Bunny Trail Drive
Bangor, PA 18013
USA.

By credit card: use your credit card to send purchase price, plus shipping costs, in US dollars, via the Paypal website at www.paypal.com
Use the email address gregleck@epix.net as the recipient. Or, go to the book's website, www.captives-of-empire.com, scroll down to the bottom, and click on the button for the country destination and desired shipping method.

De: "rod miller" <rmmiller@optusnet.com.au>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **NZ Weih sien**
Date: samedi 3 juin 2006 23:56

This maybe of interest to some of you.

<http://www.nzetc.org/tm/scholarly/name-035506.html>

Rod

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: RE: **Greg Leck's book**
Date: dimanche 4 juin 2006 1:59

Dear Pamela,

I have the books ready to go (finally). You can find details about payment methods, prices, and shipping options at the updated website:

www.captives-of-empire.com <http://www.captives-of-empire.com/>

The "Stewdents" poster came out quite well, with your name displayed.

thanks,

Greg

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: RE: **Greg Leck's book**
Date: dimanche 4 juin 2006 1:59

Hi Dwight,

The book has finally arrived and is ready to go. You can find out about shipping options, prices, and more at the updated website:

www.captives-of-empire.com <http://www.captives-of-empire.com/>

thanks,

Greg

----- Original Message -----

From: [Greg Leck](#)

To: weihsien@topica.com

Sent: Sunday, June 04, 2006 1:56 AM

Subject: RE: **Greg Leck's book**

Dear Alison,

The book has finally arrived and is ready to go. You can find out about shipping options, prices, and more at the updated website:

www.captives-of-empire.com

thanks,

Greg

De: "David Birch" <gdauidbirch@yahoo.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **NZ Weihhsien**

Date: dimanche 4 juin 2006 5:03

Thank you Rod! The record you have passed on to us of camps in the Far East in which New Zealanders were interned during WWII is a vital document although terribly sad!

Compared with camps such as that at Changi, Weihhsien, as I quite clearly recall, was quite akin to 'heaven on earth!' Although food was inadequate as Captain Mason states, the Japanese were never physically cruel to us. Some have other memories however, although I believe these acts of cruelty were the exception rather than the norm.

Thank you again, for giving us this important document!

David Birch

(13 yrs old at end of WWII)

De: "rod miller" <rmmiller@optusnet.com.au>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **NZ Weihhsien**

Date: dimanche 4 juin 2006 22:24

David

You're most welcome.

Just saw it when researching a NZ coast watcher.

You may have already done so but if you go to the Australian War Memorial web site collections database

<http://www.awm.gov.au/database/collection.asp>

search with the words china camps and you will see some photographs of the Yangchow Internment Camp C was also known as Yangchow Civilian Internment Centre which may be of interest.

This link may work for one of the photographs.

<http://www.awm.gov.au/database/cas.asp?accum=p02428.001>

There is a photograph of a red arm band like on the cover of Greg's fabulous book etc.

Kind Regards
Rod Miller
Sydney.

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **World War II Magazine article about Jim Moore**

Date: lundi 12 juin 2006 4:37

The July-August issue of WORLD WAR II Magazine -- now available -- includes an article I've written about our own Jim Moore, now age 86, of Dallas, Texas. Moore, a member of OSS Unit 101, was one of the seven-man "DUCK MISSION" that liberated the Weih sien Concentration Camp on August 17, 1945.

The five-page account tells how Moore and American liberators set out the day after the Japanese Emperor capitulated -- intent on preventing the massacre of Allied prisoners in Japanese internment camps in Asia. The 1,500 Allied prisoners in Weih sien included Jim Moore's teachers and his classmates from his own alma mater, the Chefoo School. Located in China's Shantung province, the Chefoo School educated the children of missionaries to China. The son of Southern Baptist missionaries to China, Moore had graduated from the Chefoo School in 1936.

I plan to forward the story to Leopold Pander's WEIHSIEN web site.

Mary Previte

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **World War II Magazine article about Jim Moore**

Date: mardi 13 juin 2006 14:45

Dear Mary, and Weih sien friends ---

Thanks very much for your story about Jim Moore. It is now accessible by clicking on this link:

<http://www.weih sien-paintings.org/Mprevite/WWIIMagazine/Weih sienConcentrationCamp.htm>

I still have to make other links to this text via your chapter and also the chapter named "The Magnificent Seven".

You can also find new documents just sent to me by Norman Cliff (in his chapter). A pass in Chinese delivered in Chefoo, 1937 -- by the British Consul. Also a badge and a pin given to us by the mayor of Tsingtao after our liberation.

Many thanks - again - for sending all this my way ---

Leopold.

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Captives of Empire**

Date: mercredi 14 juin 2006 21:07

Hello, Greg:

My Captives of Empire has arrived safely and I've sat glued to my chair reading it. What an amazing piece of research you've given us! Congratulations.

I hope you sell out IMMEDIATELY and have to order a second printing.

When you've finished your backbreaking job of shipping these copies to enthusiastic readers, I hope you'll let me have a copy of the photo of us six Chefoo children getting ready to fly out of Weihhsien.

Mary Previte

De: "Raymond Moore" <raym82@hotmail.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: RE: **Captives of Empire**

Date: jeudi 15 juin 2006 5:47

I haven't received my copy yet as it's coming to Australia via surface mail, but I am looking forward to it. As one of the six, I would love to have a copy of the picture too if that is possible.

Thanks in anticipation of a great read

Ray Moore

De: "Nicky & Leopold" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Fw: **de E. Hanquet**

Date: dimanche 18 juin 2006 12:26

----- Original Message -----

From: "Paul-Emile Laggasse" <pe_lagasse@hotmail.com>

To: "pander leopold" <pander.nl@skynet.be>

Sent: Saturday, June 17, 2006 8:50 PM

Subject: **de E. Hanquet**

CECI EST UN MESSAGE DE E. HANQUET
LLN 17-06-06

Cher Léopold,

J'ai beaucoup apprécié l'article de M. Previte que tu m'as apporté. Peux-tu lui envoyer de ma part le texte ci-joint.

To Mary Taylor Previte:

I am just through reading your 14 pages on «Rescue from de sky» and I wish to tell you how much I am moved by your script: excellent article on late Jim Moore, one of your heroes, now wonderfully depicted in your pages.

Bravo Mary, for this perfect talk memorizing glorious events of your life in China.

Although 91 already, I am still able to vibrate and be deeply moved by what you published.

3 cheers to you and to your work.

Very friendly yours, Father E. Hanquet

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Weih sien liberator, Jim Moore, died at home today**

Date: dimanche 18 juin 2006 22:51

Jim Moore, one of the six Americans who liberated the Weih sien Concentration Camp in 1945 died peacefully at home today. He was 86.

If you'd like to send a card or letter to Jim's wife, Pat, here is the address:

Pat Moore, 9605 Robin Song Street, Dallas, TX 75243

Leopold Pander's wonderful Weih sien web site has an article I wrote about Jim Moore for the July-August issue of World War II Magazine. You can access Jim's remarkable story at

<http://www.weih sien-paintings.org>

(<http://www.weih sien-paintings.org/>)

Mary Taylor Previte

De: "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: Fw: **de E. Hanquet**

Date: dimanche 18 juin 2006 23:13

Thank you, Father Hanquet:

What a thoughtful message! What a gift to be blessed with 91 years -- and good health!

I hope you'll continue to add memories for Leopold's Weih sien web site.

Mary Previte

De: "David Birch" <gdavidbirch@yahoo.com>

À: "Weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Jim Moore, Weih sien Liberator and Chefoo Alumnus**

Date: lundi 19 juin 2006 22:06

I was most thankful that Mary sent out a recent email about Jim Moore and gave his phone number. Mary said that Jim was always very thankful for the letters, cards and phone calls from Weih sien folk!

So a week ago I phoned and had the privilege of chatting briefly with this wonderful man. Jim sounded very upbeat and vigorous. Who would have known he was about to die? We had a pleasant conversation and I told him that when he came to rescue us I was a thirteen-year-old boy who was totally thrilled by these fearless paratroopers coming down to us from the clear blue sky!

Jim and I had something very special in common, namely that we were both "Chefoo boys!"

Just before we parted, Jim said to me, "I'll see you in the next world!" He told me that he was trusting in Jesus Christ as his Saviour just as I am!

My only regret is that Jim was not well enough last year to attend our Weih sien reunion. He was 85 at that time and in poor health!

A great man has passed on!

David Birch

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Weih sien liberator, Jim Moore, died at home today**

Date: mercredi 21 juin 2006 3:44

Mary,
I just read your Rescue from the Sky!!!! And cried - what did you expect. That was so beautiful - two sides of the story. Yes, I remember where I was. With my best friend, it was her birthday and we were grinding peanuts, making peanut butter! And yes, we ran out to the ball field and then

on. Still the most exciting day in my life!!!!

And now reading Captives of Empire and seeing all of it in this huge book and there were so many more camps than I ever realized.

And now I appreciate you even more than before, for finding these men and getting us all together again.

Love ya, Georgie Reinbrecht Knisely

De: "Donald Menzi" <jweprinmenzi@earthlink.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Stephen Metcalf's Speech**

Date: dimanche 2 juillet 2006 5:08

Hello, all,

I recently came across a reference in a 1921 letter to an Ohio clergyman named Metcalf, and I wondered if he could be related to Stephen Metcalf, who spoke at the 60th anniversary celebration. I didn't find out, but found it interesting that when I "googled" Stephen Metcalf I found that the first listing was the speech he gave to us. The surprising thing that it was posted on the web site of the U.S. embassy in Beijing. The web address is:

<http://beijing.usembassy.gov/081705ea.html> .

Leopold - is this included in "our" web site? If not it would be a good addition.

Donald

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Stephen Metcalf's Speech**

Date: dimanche 2 juillet 2006 11:30

Hello,

If you click on: <http://www.weih sien-paintings.org> and go to the chapter "60Years Later"

- click on the links --- I just added your interesting link.

or

- click on "speeches" --- go to Stephen's speech and the Beijing link is just at the bottom.

--- all the best,

(thanks for the tip, :-))

Leopold

De: "Gay Talbot Stratford" <stillbrk@eagle.ca>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Stephen Metcalf's Speech**

Date: jeudi 6 juillet 2006 2:50

DearDonald,

Many thanks for making Steven's speech available.

I found it truly moving, his observations about Japan fascinating, and his quiet spirit shining through it all inspirational.

Weihisien has borne fruit of great value.

Thanks again,

Gay Talbot Stratford

De: "Alexander Strangman" <dzijen@bigpond.net.au>

À: <weihisien@topica.com>

Objet: **Contact**

Date: vendredi 7 juillet 2006 13:18

Dear Weihisien-ites,

I would appreciate it if someone could supply me with Stephen Metcalf's e-mail address or other ?

Regards,

A (Zandy) Strangman

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihisien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Contact**

Date: vendredi 7 juillet 2006 13:23

Dear Zandy,

You should be able to reach him at this address ---

sametcalf@hotmail.com

All the best,

Leopold

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weihisien@topica.com>

Objet: **Professor Thomas and his stewdents.**

Date: dimanche 9 juillet 2006 8:14

I can now send my autographs of Professor Thomas and His Students but I have lost *Greg Lecks* address. Please *Greg* can you send to me and I will return. Thanks. Joyce Bradbury.

De: "Alexander Strangman" <dzijen@bigpond.net.au>

À: <weihisien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Contact**

Date: mardi 11 juillet 2006 9:40

Dear Léopold,

Thanks for supplying me with Steven's e-mail address. It's a nice feeling to know there is someone on the other side of the world who is always willing to be such a big help!

Have you been watching the FIFA World Cup?

My wife Jen was never a sports minded person, but living with me and my sports programs has changed her a bit.

This time she has been almost as interested in the W/C Soccer as I was. Having the best coverage ever, of this years World Cup, from one of our Sydney TV stations, made watching it, a real pleasure. Not only were replays or game high lights with expert commentary shown each day, but interesting travelogues of the areas and towns where the games were due to take place,

were also presented, which was so interesting put you in the right frame of mind to see more. The Germans certainly went out of their way to show the world, they are now a happy and friendly people.

When Wimbledon came on at the same time, there was even more to keep ones interest up. Then the team that couldn't score a goal against the Aussie Socceroos for 90 minutes, until they took a 'dive' and was awarded a questionable penalty to be able to finally score, and then went on to win the final against France.

The TV's wild scenes of Italian soccer fans celebrating their team's win in the World Cup, was unbelievable. I can't remember seeing scenes of celebration like that, even for the end of World War II! But we were all too tired, I guess.

Then suddenly, it was all over and what one was left with, was an awful empty feeling. But life goes on!

How has life been treating you all in Belgium recently, Leopold. It must be almost mid summer over there with everything looking nice and colorful, and Nicky's garden in full bloom, I'm sure. We have gone past the shortest day and are now looking forward to the return of our warmer days but not the hottest summer ones, though.

How is Fr. Hanquet getting along? I suppose you are still doing interesting things with your computer?

Take care,
Zandy

De: "Donald Menzi" <jweprinmenzi@earthlink.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Inviting a new member**

Date: mercredi 12 juillet 2006 16:02

Hello, anyone,

I've forgotten how new people can get added to the list. My sister, Betty, wants to join. Her email address is

emenzi@hughes.net.

Please send her what she needs in order to get on the list.

Thanks.

Donald

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **weih sien - via satellite**

Date: mardi 18 juillet 2006 20:41

Hello,
Go to "Google-earth"

You can download it via Internet, --- it's free!

Go to 36° 42' 05,01" North

and 119° 07' 33,93" East

It is the exact position of our Weih sien-camp's Hospital roof.

Remember, I asked Google for a High-Definition map of our camp ---- now we have it.

Thanks "Google" --- you're real great :-))

Best regards,

Leopold

PS I can't send you the map via Topica (too big file) --- but I'll try to fix something on my web site ---

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>; "M and D Beard" <phoenix7788@hotmail.com>; "Donald Menzi" <dmenzi@earthlink.net>; "Mary Previte" <mtprevite@aol.com>; "Janette & Pierre @ home" <pierre.ley@pandora.be>; "Zandy" <dzijen@bigpond.net.au>

Objet: **Re: superposition of Weifang & CACW**

Date: mercredi 19 juillet 2006 19:06

I will do some work on it I am still not sure about the scale of the various sketch maps that we have seen over the years, Given that the rooms in the hutted rows were 12 ft x 8ft 10 inches that makes each block of 12 rooms 106 feet long without any walls we know the walls were 1 1/4 bricks wide i.e. 12 inches and for 12 rooms there would be 13 walls giving a total block length of 119 feet i.e. nearly 40 yards from the scales quoted in the various books with maps the average seem to suggest that each block was only around 27 yards (80 feet) i.e. making each room just over 6 feet6 wide which we know is wrong.

In summary I think that the superimposing is slewed and that it should extend to the left. That is a first assessment

Rgds

Ron

----- Original Message -----

From: [Donald Menzi](#)

To: [Ron Bridge](#)

Cc: [weih sien](#)

Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2006 5:43 AM

Subject: **Re: superposition of Weifang & CACW**

Ron,

I agree with you about the likelihood that the hand-drawn versions of the Weih sien maps are likely to be a little off in scale - very understandable if you can imagine how you would do it without any surveyor's instruments.

My urban planner's instincts tell me that the outer boundaries then are likely to be reflected in street patterns now, and so I have superimposed my own guess as to the locations of the perimeter walls on the attached image as red lines.

Actually, that it's a tribute to the original map-makers that they got it as close to exactly right as they did.

Donald

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: superposition of Weifang & CACW**

Date: vendredi 21 juillet 2006 0:45

Donald,

I totally agree with you I have done some playing around with a pair of dividers although not a town planner I was taught aerial reconnaissance 50 years ago and all my life have been in and out of maps and mapping.

I think that the west boundary of the camp coincided with the N/S road that is now there that the south boundary ran along that road tree lined running south of eat interesting how the corner cut off is the same relative shapes the Camp wall. The blocks 50 and the hospital are correctly to scale but that the scale to the NW of the camp with the long blocks was at about 80% of the rest.

If this theory is correct the block with the Blue roof is on the site of the old Block 24 and 23. AS you say town planning follows road lines and vice versa some of London is still defined by Roam Roads and given the situation between 1945 and 1980 it is unlikely a developer flattened the camp and id aplan building development and that it is far more likely that buildings fell down or were developed individually.

The other point about the sketch maps is the size of the field in the NW corner it was too small for baseball but OK for softball, that has a 30 yd diamond. I also seem to remembers that when soccer football was played the penalty and goal area was combined and that the whole field was 75% of an actual official soccer field which would make it 80 yards. I think that that has been cut off when the E/W road at the intersection with the N/S road (top left of map) was cut and that "Tin Pan Alley (also known as Rocky Road) was there by the side of what now looks like a running track and that the Main Street should be were the superimposed Tin Pan Alley now is. We will get there in the end.

Rgds

Ron

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: Fw: **superposition of Weifang & CACW**

Date: samedi 22 juillet 2006 13:01

Dear Ron,

--- click on this link:

http://www.weihhsien-paintings.org/maps/GoogleEarth/p_Weifang_CACW.htm

Your remarks were most constructive.

I got the two Japanese villas wrong --- so I changed the shape of Father Verhoeven's map to make the villas coincide with the two other ones. Block 23 is now in the right place and so are Block-50 and the Jap-villa just in front of it. Now, the sketched hospital is much bigger than the real one.

I'd say that the West boundary is correct because if you look at the aerial view taken by the B-29 in 1945 (sent to us by David Beard) the actual road - N/S orientation $\pm 182^\circ$ is just West of the river-curve . That actual road passes between our camp and the outer wall or ditch excavated by the Japanese after Tipton and Hummel's escape. One more detail: the exact position of Eric Liddel's grave (plot-59) can now be \pm located in the small garden behind (or in front) of a building built on our old cemetery.

click on this link:

http://www.weihhsien-paintings.org/NormanCliff/people/individuals/Eric01/p_grave_1991.htm

All the best,

Leopold

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **superposition of Weifang & CACW**

Date: samedi 22 juillet 2006 13:26

Leopold,

We are getting there. I have got copies of the rest of those aerial shots of Weih sien. I will see if I can relate into bends in the river but the course of that might have changed. We are also not sure if the North on Fr Verhoven map is True or Magnetic and I need to establish variation circa 1944

I also have the very detailed survey map of the graveyard with all those that were buried within the walls, some outside in July.Aug45.

I have been tied up with other matters all week but the light is emerging at the end of the tunnel!

Rgds

Ron

De: <mstanzick@hotmail.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: RE **Tisha Metcalf**

Date: lundi 24 juillet 2006 0:59

> Message -----

> From: Joyce Cook

> To: weih sien@topica.com

> Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 5:41 AM

>

>

> Dear Greg and Pamela and other Weih sieners. I also remember the play with Professor Thomas and I too have all the signatures in my autograph book. In fact I sang a duet sitting at a piano with Tisha Metcalf (Gerry Thomas' stepdaughter) singing "September In The Rain" and also managed a solo "Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me A Bow Wow" (Maybe it is a good thing recorders weren't available in those days).

I met Tisha a few years ago in London for lunch (Gaotse) She is now almost blind and living in a nursing home. After Pamela sends her material I will add my autograph book entries for general information.

Best regards.Joyce. Dear Joyce,

My name is Moira Thomas Stanzick and I am Tisha Metcalf's sister. It is true that Tisha is almost blind but she is not living in a nursing home.

She has a flat of her own in Arundel, England. I spoke to her just the other day and she is doing well.

I just found this web sight and I love it. It's nice to know that you remember Tisha and my father.

Fondly, Moira

De: "Pamela Maters" <pamela@hendersonhouse.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: RE **Tisha Metcalf**

Date: lundi 24 juillet 2006 20:15

Hi Moira!

If you give me your mailing address, I have a book for you.

I think you'll enjoy your mother's antics in the first chapter. She was some lady!

Pamela

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: RE **Tisha Metcalf**

Date: mardi 25 juillet 2006 7:59

Dear Moira. I am thrilled to hear from you and to know that Tisha has her own place and that she is all right. Do give her my love and also to yourself. I send Tisha a Christmas card with my news every year but I have not heard from her for the last two or three years. I hope you enjoy this site. It has given me so much pleasure. Is your little brother Terence ? still around. I hope so. Regards Joyce Bradbury Cooke. Your ex compound No. 2 neighbour.

De: "R. E. Stannard Jr." <restannardjr@yahoo.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: **Contact for OCH in Portland Sept.10-13?**

Date: vendredi 28 juillet 2006 1:49

Natasha Petersen

Can you help me get in touch with Ed Immergluck for information on the Old China Hand gathering in Portland Sept.10-13?

I signed onto the weishen site only to get your e-mail address, which was only partially visible when a google search on this topic led me to this site (verrrrry interesting!) and your exchange with Greg Leck. Greg is traveling in Poland and doesn't have his computer with him to look up the address.

(FYI the roanoke email address on your automatic welcome letter bounces)

I'm one of six siblings who were born and/or were raised in China (Ningbo, Shanghai, Shaoxing) and three of us were in Chapei camp in Shanghai with my parents March-September 1943, then repatriated on the Teia Maru and Gripsholm.

Did you know the Scovels at Weishen? Carl was one of our gang of five who ran together on the repatriation ships, and after WWII we were schoolmates at Shanghai American School. He now is retired in the Boston area after a distinguished career as a Universalist-Unitarian minister at Kings Chapel, and is currently organizer of a forthcoming 2008 global reunion in Salem of Shanghai American School alumni. His brother Jim is retired from a career with the Long Island daily Newsday.

Anyhow I'd be grateful if you can put us in touch with Ed Immergluck. Several of us are

considering attending.

Ted Stannard

R.E.Stannard Jr. (Ted) & Femmy T. Stannard
e-mail : restannardjr@yahoo.com femmystannard@yahoo.com backup : stannard@cc.wvu.edu phone: (360)
392-0712 postal : 4328 Frances Avenue, Bellingham, WA98226-8735, USA Western Washington U. prof.emeritus;
American University in Cairo ret.

De: "R. E. Stannard Jr." <restannardjr@yahoo.com>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **OCH in Portland Sept 10-13**

Date: vendredi 28 juillet 2006 5:19

Natasha Petersen -- belay my earlier query. My sister has located a lost letter and provided Ed Immergluck's contact information. For others thinking of attending the Old China Hand gathering in Portland Ore Sept.10-13, Ed's contact information is:

Ed Immergluck, co-organizer
2215 NW 13th St.
Corvallis, Oregon 97330
541-754-0808, Fax 541-754-2626
e-mail: IMMERO808@msn.com

Regards to anyone here who was on the 1943 Gripshom exchange. I've often wondered what happened to the other three kids in our gang: Johnny Hayes, Charlie Loucks, and David Philippi. The names mean anything to anyone here?

Ted Stannard

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Re: **Contact for OCH in Portland Sept.10-13?**

Date: vendredi 28 juillet 2006 8:54

Scovels were, I am pretty sure, in our compound No. 2. It was a large family and I think the father was a Dr. Scovel. The children if I remember correctly were qualified to be issued with an egg a day each and I can remember Mrs. Scovel saying Sunnyside up or sunnysidedown? Joyce Bradbury (nee Cooke)-----

De: <suishude@sohu.com>
À: "DallasSwan" <DallasSwan@aol.com>

Objet: **From Weifang China**

Date: jeudi 17 août 2006 17:42

From Sui Shude, Weifang China<p><p>Dear Weih sieners and Weih sien Friends-related,

Today Last year, August 17th 2006, Weifang People's Government and Weifang Foreign Affairs Office held the celebration on "The 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Weih sien Camp" in Weifang, China. It is a big gathering and a successful meeting for all Weih sieners and families, and

an important time and chance for Weihsiensers and families to visit and explore the old concentration camp site, to evoke the past memories, to seek and talk to old friends and to establish friendship with new friends, the People of Weifang.<p><p>I am so proud that in that short period of time, with the help of many friends all over the world, to find, contact and invite so many Weihsiensers and families for the occasion. Here I want to say THANK YOU to those friends who offered great help to me on my contacting job. <p><p>I especially want to extend my sincere thanks to Assemblywoman Mary Previte of U.S.A., Bill Einreinhofer, David Beard, David Birch, Desmond Power, Donald Menzi, Estelle Cliff Horne, Francis Joyce, Gladys Swift, Ian Grant, James Taylor, Jim More, Joyce Bradbury, Leopold Pander, Natasha Petersen, Neil Yorkston, Nicky Leopold, Norman Cliff, Pamela Masters, Roy Campbell, Tracy Strong and many other friends that all on my list.<p><p>We are so happy that all the people participated in the meeting enjoy their trip and stay. We are so happy that our government find the right time to hold a celebration like that. We are so happy that the celebration aroused the interest of so many people and sounded the whole world. <p><p>Weifang People's Government will try all the best to maintain the camp-site well, as well as the exhibition rooms and the old houses, and to furnish more and more new-collected articles, information and content to it, to preserve this historical site forever to tell and teach the younger generations. And most important, to keep it for memories and visits of all Weihsiensers and their families all over the world!

Today, as the contacting organizer of the celebration meeting, I am thinking of you all, who came to the celebration, who contacted me for information of the event and who visited the camp-site with me.....

I wish you all the best and look forward to see any of you again in Weifang.

Sui Shude

Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of Weifang People's Government E-mail:

suishude@sohu.com

E-Mail: emailshude@yahoo.com.cn<p>Tel/Fax:++86-536-8233692

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihisien@topica.com>

Objet: **Fw: Emmanuel.**

Date: jeudi 24 août 2006 11:42

Hello,

--- does anybody have more details about this "secret-defence-group"????

Best regards,

Leopold

----- Original Message -----

From: Father Hanquet

To: Cliffnorman@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2006 11:31 AM

Subject: **Re: Emmanuel.**

Dear Norman,

In answer to your question of July 02, I cannot tell you more than what I already wrote in our chat on "Topica": I remember that upon our return from the field where we cheered the arrival of Major Staiger and his group on August 17, 1945 around 12 a.m., we approached the wall of the ball field, he came down of our shoulders and said:

"You stop here. Now, it is our turn to act."

He had orders to rescue the inmates of our camp and probably knew that the Japanese guards had to surrender but that was not so sure. So we let him go with the other paratroopers.

At that moment, I noticed two of our inmates (Roy Chu and Wade) standing on watch on the other side of the wall. One had a hatchet in his hand and the other a long kitchen knife hidden inside his jacket. Both of them had put on their sleeve the red armband that they had to wear in town before coming to camp.

Later, I asked them why they were on watch there and they told me that they were members of a small secret defence group who had mission to fight for our lives against the Japanese guards, in case they did not accept to surrender. I never asked for the details. I suppose that they disbanded since their group was no longer necessary.

Yours very friendly,

Father Hanquet

----- Original Message -----

From: Cliffnorman@aol.com

To: tapol@skynet.be

Sent: Sunday, July 02, 2006 8:08 PM

Subject: **Emmanuel.**

Dear Leopold and Nicky,

Would you consider asking Emmanuel to tell us all about the defence group which was ready to resist the Japs if they resisted the surrender - who they were, how they prepared themselves for this eventuality? This is just a suggestion.

I am busy getting ready to go to the East.

Yours aye, Norman

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Cc: "Gordon Helsby" <ghelsby@capincrouse.com>

Objet: **new chapter, new book**

Date: jeudi 31 août 2006 17:54

dear all,

Gordon Helsby just sent his parents' book about Weihhsien Prison Camp.

I started with the pictures and now I'm busy with the chapters ---

go to

<http://www.weihhsien-paintings.org/GordonHelsby/indexFrame.htm>

Best regards,
Leopold

De: "Greg Leck" <gregleck@epix.net>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: RE: **weih sien - via satellite**
Date: dimanche 17 septembre 2006 23:01

Dear Leopold,

I just got back from the Old China Hands Reunion in Portland, Oregon.

While there, several people asked me about a Belgian girl who was interned in Lunghwa - Aline "Poupee" Bodson.

Is there anyway to determine if she returned to Belgium after the war?
Perhaps Fr. Hanquet would know something? She may have married. Her parents were Robert and Alphonsine Bodson, and she had a sister, Claudine.

Thanks for any suggestions you can offer.

regards,

Greg

De: <grannydavies@aol.com>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: Re: **weih sien - via satellite**
Date: lundi 18 septembre 2006 0:20

Sorry Greg, do not recall a Belgium girl at Weih sien Phyllis Davies

----- Original Message -----

From: Tapol
To: weih sien@topica.com
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2006 9:39 AM
Subject: **your book,**

Dear Greg,
We finally received your books --- you sent by "air-mail" on June 20th!
Magnificent work. Congratulations :-))

On page 495, at the bottom-right is a photo -"Inside the transport"- --- On the right of the picture is my mother holding our Weih sien-born sister - Mary-Lou and next to my mother is a little boy seeming to be on another planet. Well, that's me !! I remember that flight back to Tientsin. I was sick and felt awfully miserable. The American soldiers tried to cheer me up and even gave me a little toy-dog. That, I remember.
Thanks very much Greg ---



Leopold

----- Original Message -----

From: [Tapol](#)

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2006 10:23 AM

Subject: **Re: your book,**

Dear Greg,

Thanks again for sending a better definition of that photograph by separate e-mail. I did not recognize him at first, --- but the man with the worried look at my right is my father. He was certainly wondering at "what was going to happen next ----"

Best regards,

Leopold

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Fw: **Saw this on the news**

Date: vendredi 13 octobre 2006 4:10

This email was received from Margo Shiels an ex Shanghai resident and it interests me a great deal and I am sure it will interest many who have been classified as "Not British Enough" I do not have Ronald Bridges address unfortunately but I am sure he ought to be aware of this. I will ask Margo for the source of the article. Best wishes Joyce

Bradbury

----- Original Message -----

From: Margo Shiels

To: Bradbury, Joyce

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2006 2:58 PM

Subject: **Fw: Saw this on the news**

Subject: Saw this on the news

Joyce

Can you make a claim?

Margo Shiels

Pensioner wins WWII compo battle

From correspondents in London

October 11, 2006 03:04am

Article from: Agence France-Presse

Send this article: [Print](#) [Email](#)

AN 83-year-old woman told she was not British enough to receive compensation for being interned by the Japanese during World War II has won her legal battle with Britain's Ministry of Defence.

Diana Elias was held in a prisoner of war camp for four years from the age of 17 with her parents, who were from India and Iraq, after the fall of British-ruled Hong Kong in 1941.

She was refused a payment under a ministry compensation scheme for internees because of a rule which disqualified those who were not born in the UK or had no UK-born parent or grandparent, even if they had British nationality.

But England's Court of Appeal has now ruled that she should receive £10,000 (\$25,141) in compensation as well as nearly £4000 (\$10,056) for hurt feelings after she was discriminated against by the government.

In a strong criticism of ministers' handling of the case, presiding judge Lord Justice John Mummery told the court: "The result of inadequate preparation has been an embarrassing administrative and legal muddle, personal pain, charges of incompetence, costly litigation and political apologies."

The ministry had appealed against a High Court ruling last year which found that the blood-link rule constituted unlawful discrimination on the grounds of race. This was dismissed by the court.

An estimated £250 million (\$628.54 million) has been paid under the internees compensation scheme to about 25,000 applicants.

Mrs Elias, of north London, was not in court in central London to hear the judgment.

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **RE: Saw this on the news**

Date: vendredi 13 octobre 2006 10:25

Thanks for that I am very much involved in this and an another case which will be heard in December. I have got the 120 pages of Judgement which I

Have managed to condense to 63!! The Lady concerned was in Stanley Camp HK.

The judgment effects about 600 who have been excluded because the Ministry of Defence UK changed the rules they have subsequently changed them again and this third change is also probably illegal

Rgds

Ron

De: "Joyce Cook" <bojjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: Saw this on the news**

Date: samedi 14 octobre 2006 5:48

Thank you Ron. As you know my brother Eddie and I have been excluded but are both very anxious to obtain justice in this case. Therefore any information we can get relative to the present and forthcoming proceedings will be important to us. We will keep watching. Regards. Joyce Bradbury.

De: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **RE: Saw this on the news**

Date: samedi 14 octobre 2006 11:45

Joyce, Kevin and any one else involved.

The MoD are still wriggling I am just about to deal with them as one does with a poison snake. Make sure you keep your case alive by writing to ask if the Diana Elais Court of Appeal Judgement effects your claim, make sure that you tell them that you are aggrieved and a former British internee at being discriminated against because of your PLACE of birth and what are they going to do about it. If they send you a 20 year claim form answer it truthfully but ensure that you place on it "That notwithstanding the fact that I do not comply with this arbitrary rule imposed 60 plus years after the event that you were interned as a British Subject, that you were wronged by the British Government when they reviewed the 1951 San Francisco Peace Treaty terms in the 1950s and refused to reopen the Treaty under Article 26 as legally entitled to do to get a better deal from Japan.

IF anyone would like to copy the text of their letter and their own circumstances to me I will put you on the list of cases to be solved. MY own e-mail is rwbridge@freeuk.com

Rgds

Ron

MY problem to date is that there are about 600 cases out there and I only know the names of less than half

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: Saw this on the news**

Date: dimanche 15 octobre 2006 10:48

Thanks Ron. We will do as you advise and hope we will succeed this time. Thanks. Joyce Cooke / Bradbury..

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Cc: "Janette & Pierre @ home" <pierre.ley@pandora.be>

Objet: **Re: any messages**

Date: mardi 28 novembre 2006 12:23

Hello,

Is everyboy OK? :-))

Nothing special, --- out here in Belgium.

We are still studying Greg Leck's book --- a heavyweight of information and very pleasant to read.

Went to visit Father Hanquet a few days ago. At 91-and-a-half he is in good health and full of stories to tell about China and also anecdotes about his everyday life. He is still very active. Unfortunately, I didn't have a single "Topica-message" to print for him to read. Janette is also fine and more than very busy with her grandchildren.

The Olympic games of 2008 are just behind the temporal horizon. I guess that our Weifang friends will not let that pass without mentioning Eric Liddell and the Weih sien-Concentration-Camp. Anyone knows something about that?

Best regards,

Leopold

PS My "web-site" has nothing new since a few months already --- I'd gladly add --- whatever ???

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ron Bridge" <rwbridge@freeuk.com>

To: <weih sien@topica.com>

Sent: Monday, November 27, 2006 6:36 PM

Subject: **RE: any messages**

> Natasha,

> I am still on the planet.BUt have had nothing

> Rgds

> Ron

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Natasha Petersen [mailto:np57@cox.net]

> Sent: 25 November 2006 14:08

> To: weih sien@topica.com

> Subject: **any messages**

>

> Has anyone received or sent messages since October 15th.? I have not.

>

> Natasha Petersen

>

De: "Donald Menzi" <jweprinmenzi@earthlink.net>

À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Off the List?**

Date: mercredi 29 novembre 2006 9:55

Jane just got an email from Leopold that I didn't receive. If this means that I got dropped from the list, will someone please put me back on?

Thanks.

We just had a visit from Sui Shude, who was the translator for a group of 6 transportation system management people from Weifang. He says that the museum centre is being staffed on a full-time basis, and that they have tour groups visiting it several times a month, in addition to local citizenry. Also, that the school has been transformed into Weifang High School, instead of Weifang's Middle Schools. During dinner, the most-travelled among the group said that he had been in a dozen different countries but this was the first time that he had ever been invited into

a private home for dinner. It was a nice, friendly evening.

All the best to all of us.

Donald

De: "Natasha Petersen" <np57@cox.net>
À: "weih sien" <weih sien@topica.com>
Cc: "Jane Weprin-Menzi" <jweprinmenzi@earthlink.net>
Objet: **off/on listing**
Date: mercredi 29 novembre 2006 18:52

Donald,
I checked. You are still on the list. I do not know why you did not receive the email. I will try to remember to check with you next time a message is posted.
Hope that your Thanksgiving was wonderful, and I wish you a most holy Christmas.
Natasha

De: "Gay Talbot Stratford" <stillbrk@eagle.ca>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **Seasons Greetings**
Date: dimanche 10 décembre 2006 23:07

May everyone experience the happiness of this time of year, and every best wish for the New Year.
I received a photograph taken by a Japanese photographer for propaganda purposes during our first year in Weih sien. Three charming young ladies were in the foreground. Barbara Barnes was the name of one; I was rather dour in the background.
It was truly a whisper from the past.
Regards to all,
Gay Talbot Stratford

De: "Buddy Grant" <jlgrant@sympatico.ca>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **Seasons Greetings**
Date: lundi 11 décembre 2006 3:17

Wishing everyone who was in Weih sien a very Merry Xmas and many more to follow. I now live in Niagara Falls, ON, Canada. Thank you Natasha for setting up this site.

John Grant (a.k.a. Buddy)

De: <gregleck@epix.net>
À: <weih sien@topica.com>
Objet: **Weih sien photos**
Date: mardi 12 décembre 2006 2:21

I wonder if this photo was one I saw in the Japanese archives?

There are a number of people pictured who should be clear enough to identify, though I have not

had a lot of success in doing so when I have showed the photos at various talks.

On the other hand, several have recognized people in the groups photographed leaving camp by USAAF transports.

regards,

Greg

De: "Tapol" <tapol@skynet.be>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: Weih sien photos**

Date: mardi 12 décembre 2006 17:39

Dear Greg,

Could you put those pictures on the Internet so we ca also see them --- ?

Thanks in advance :-))

Merry X'mas and Happy New Year to all

Leopold

De: <MTPrevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Weih sien band and Weih sien orchestra**

Date: vendredi 15 décembre 2006 2:32

Hello, Everyone:

Peter Bazire in the UK is collecting memories of the Weih sien band and the orchestra to document this important part of the "spirit team," that helped keep hopes alive in Weih sien. Peter was the youngest member of the band.

His mother, Eileen Bazire, an artist and a musician with the Chefoo School group, transcribed much of the music for the orchestra and created wonderfully-detailed posters announcing many of the orchestra's performances.

So far Peter has talked to Nelma Stranks Davies in Australia. Nelma was the soloist in Mozart's concerto No. 20 in Weih sien. She is now nearly 89 .

Peter has also talkled with Joyce Stranks Cotterill in the USA and Norman Cliff and Douglas Sadler in the UK.

If you have memories or information about the Weih sien orchestra or band, please contact Peter Bazire at psbazire@yahoo.co.uk (<mailto:psbazire@yahoo.co.uk>)

A journalist at the Fort Monmouth (USA) Army base has written a series of articles about Nisei who served in the US military service during World War II. The series commemorates the 65th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. Her series includes an article about Tad Nagaki, liberator of Weih sien. I'll send out a copy as soon as the article

reaches me.

Tad continues farming his land in Alliance, Nebraska, and reports that he enjoys good health. I talked with him a few weeks ago on Veterans Day. In January, Tad will celebrate his 87th birthday.

Jim Hannon, the other surviving liberator of Weihhsien, is in fragile health.

If you'd like to send Christmas cards and/or notes of appreciation their addresses are:

Tad Nagaki, 5851 Logan Road, Alliance, NE, USA 69301
Phone: 308-762-2968

Jim Hannon, P. O. Box 1376, Yucca Valley, CA 92286
Phone: 760-365-2210

Mary Previte

De: <MTPrevite@aol.com>

À: <weihhsien@topica.com>

Objet: **Story about Weihhsien liberator, Tad Nagaki**

Date: dimanche 17 décembre 2006 2:25

This story was written by a reporter for the newspaper that serves Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, USA

Soldier becomes 'Armored Angel' freeing prisoners
by Renita Foster

Sgt. Tad Nagaki didn't notice the cumbersome parachute and combat equipment strapped to his body as he struggled to climb aboard the B-24 Liberator Bomber in Kunming, China. His thoughts were focused instead on what would probably be his last mission in World War II.

Reports had reached American headquarters in China the summer of 1945 that Japan planned to kill all Prisoners of War (POW). To prevent the massacre, seven-man rescue teams that included medics, communications specialists and interpreters were hastily organized to find and evacuate POWs in China, Manchuria, and Korea.

Determined to make one last difference as World War II came to an end, especially since so many lives were at stake, Nagaki immediately volunteered for the mission. As the "Armored Angel" droned toward Weihhsien Concentration Camp in the Shantung Province, he remembered how he almost didn't get the chance.

Almost four years earlier on Dec. 7, 1941, Nagaki was having a grand time visiting New York City. The Nebraska farm boy and now Army Soldier, was fascinated by the huge city and all it had to offer. So much so, he didn't learn of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor until he returned to his unit at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

"I never heard an announcement of any kind that day about the bombing," said Nagaki. "I was in

Japan earlier that year, and when I heard speculations there might be war with the United States I thought I better get home. That was around April. Now it was nine months later, but I was still surprised and shocked."

Although Nagaki was the only Nisei (second generation Japanese American) in his unit, he never noticed any different treatment until his outfit deployed without him.

But America was Nagaki's country too. More determined to serve than ever, he pursued his ambition of becoming a pilot. He passed the physical examination and produced recommendations for acceptance as an air cadet. A letter from his commander, however, denied the request because he was Nisei.

Instead, Nagaki was transferred to Fort Thomas, Kentucky where he shared a barracks with about 40 other Nisei Soldiers. Gardening, planting trees, and loading supplies became their main duties. Later, it was laundry with the quartermaster branch.

"I couldn't believe it," said Nagaki. "There's a war going on and other 'Americans' are allowed to go and fight. But I'm stuck cleaning up an Army post! Is that any way to treat a devoted American Soldier when his country's threatened?"

Then one morning as he prepared for daily details, Nagaki saw an announcement posted on the camp bulletin board. It was a request for volunteers for a special Nisei warfare unit. After two long, unsuccessful years of "begging" for combat duty, Nagaki grabbed the opportunity to join the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT).

During infantry training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) petitioned for Nisei volunteers in intelligence work described as "more hazardous than combat" and "a one-way ticket." As someone who lived for adventure and action, Nagaki was a natural. Fourteen out of 23 were selected for an elite team of Nisei in OSS Detachment 101, including Nagaki. His Japanese reading and writing abilities acquired while attending Japanese summer school as a youngster proved invaluable.

After expert training in parachuting, radio operations, infiltration, survival, hand-to-hand combat, cryptography and guerrilla tactics, Nagaki's unit jumped into Northern Burma in January 1943.

They were the first espionage unit sent behind enemy lines throughout China, Burma, and India.

"We Niseis had bonded together for the sole purpose of proving our patriotism. And the significant strength in the brotherhood we felt was our secret weapon," said Nagaki.

"And we all knew how much more dangerous the duties were for us if captured by the Japanese."

While living in straw huts and adjusting to insects and K-rations, Nagaki accumulated valuable tactical experiences like sabotage and hit and run harassment operations. He also translated enemy documents and prepared propaganda literature.

Additionally, Nagaki trained two platoons of Kachin and Shan tribesmen in north and central Burma. And he parachuted behind enemy lines to gather information and monitor Japanese troop movements.

"I volunteered to go behind the Japanese forces while stationed in Burma.

Parachuting was the only way in so that helped me earn airborne wings. It might not have been the same as being an airplane pilot, but I did get wings!" grinned Nagaki.

Nagaki began the journey to Weihhsien Concentration Camp on August 17, 1945.

Located in the Shantung Province, the operation was given the code name "Duck."

"The Japanese had surrendered three days earlier, but none of the 1500 prisoners in the camp knew the war was over.

The B-24 flew as close to the trees as possible to ensure the jump was a short one, just 400 feet in fact. The maneuver deprived the Japanese guards space and time to fire at the rescuers.

Nagaki was astonished at the sight below as the bomber circled the area. The prisoners, many of

which were children, were running wildly toward the gates as they realized freedom was just moments away. Thunderous cheering and shouting, even dancing greeted the rescuers as the floated towards the earth. The team had barely touched the ground when they were mobbed by the exhilarated POWs and brought back to the camp. Although the guards had initially pointed weapons at the prisoners, they now retreated to their barracks.

"They knew the war was over," said Nagaki. "We contacted the Commandant and there was a quick, peaceful surrender."

A parade of worshipers followed the American Soldiers everywhere, begging for souvenirs like buttons, insignia and pieces of parachute. One little girl cut off hair from Nagaki's head while another woman insisted he autograph her baby's bonnet. The Americans delighted the POWs in return with treats of Juicy Fruit Chewing Gum and chocolate.

The children added to the celebration by relentlessly singing 'You Are My Sunshine' and 'Maresey Doats and Doesey Doats and Little Lambsey Divey.' After learning American songs from their rescuers, the children continually sang those as well.

Among the prisoners was Mary Previte, a future Assemblywoman in the New Jersey legislature, who was only 12-years-old and hadn't seen her parents in five and a half years. Fifty-two years later, Previte literally tracked down Nagaki and the other rescues to personally thank them.

"I was very surprised and also very delighted the first time Mary contacted me," said Nagaki. "She had tried contacting other members of the rescue team and only found widows. I was the first one she found alive so she was very emotional as well. One of the questions she asked me was how I felt about being followed by children every where that day and I told her like being on a pedestal. I still remembered the event quite well, right down to the little girl cutting off some of my hair for a souvenir."

Previte still calls Nagaki every holiday, including this last Thanksgiving.

She also sends him a birthday card every year. More than 20,000 Allied POWs were liberated from Manchuria to Indo-China by the OSS Soldiers who were honored with the Soldier's Medal. But Nagaki insists he's no hero. "I did what any American what have done," Nagaki said simply. "We were gung ho and more than willing to help. And that's the way all of us felt."

(Editor's Note: This is the sixth story in a series featuring the Nisei (second generation Japanese Americans) during World War II.

Picture caption: Nisei MIS attached to OSS detachment 101 to through Guerrilla and Ranger survival training on Catalina Island. Tad Nagaki is in the front row, fifth soldier, left to right.

Caption: Sgt. Tad Nagaki (left), interpreter, and T/4 Raymond N. Hanchulak, medic, are awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism for helping to liberate 1,400 allied prisoners from the Weih sien Civilian Assembly Center in China's Shantung Province, August 1945. Photo courtesy Mary T. Previte. #

De: "Dwight W. Whipple" <thewhipples@comcast.net>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: Story about Weih sien liberator, Tad Nagaki**

Date: dimanche 17 décembre 2006 2:45

Nice to see Weih sien "talk" again after a long hiatus. Our family was repatriated in 1943 so we were not around for the liberation. I always felt cheated about that when I was young. I was seven years old during repatriation and remember it like it was yesterday but when I heard about planes and parachutes at Weih sien I often wished we had stayed in the camp. In fact, our parents offered our places to others, older and medical needs being a priority, but we were told that no changes could be made to the lists that were posted. So we left Weih sien in September 1943. The story of Tad Nagaki is touching. Thanks, Mary, for making it available.

~Dwight W. Whipple

De: "georgeanna knisely" <jknisely@paonline.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: Story about Weih sien liberator, Tad Nagaki**

Date: lundi 18 décembre 2006 22:05

Dear Mary,

Thank you for all your past work and this report. Wonderful keeping up.

I wonder how many people have written stories just for their families that we will never see, but whom we lived through Weih sien and other times in China?

With appreciation, Georgie

De: <MTPrevite@aol.com>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: Story about Weih sien liberator, Tad Nagaki**

Date: mercredi 20 décembre 2006 5:32

You're right, Georgie:

I'm sure there are personal records and diaries out there

Happy Christmas.

Mary

De: "Joyce Cook" <bobjoyce@tpg.com.au>

À: <weih sien@topica.com>

Objet: Fw: **Story about Weih sien liberator, Tad Nagaki**

Date: lundi 25 décembre 2006 0:23

To all Weih sieners and friends. Bob and I wish you a very merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year. Jopyce Bradbury nee Cooke.----- Original Message --

From: MTPrevite@aol.com

To: weih sien@topica.com

Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2006 1:08 PM

Subject: Re: Story about Weih sien liberator, Tad Nagaki

You're right, Georgie:

I'm sure there are personal records and diaries out there

Happy Christmas.

Mary

De: "Alexander Strangman" <dzijen@bigpond.net.au>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: **Yule-tide greetings**

Date: lundi 25 décembre 2006 5:39

To my fellow interneees,

Wishing you a joyful Christmas season with peace and contentment in 2007.

Zandy

De: <grannydavies@aol.com>

À: <weihsien@topica.com>

Objet: **Re: Yule-tide greetings**

Date: mardi 26 décembre 2006 2:33

Have a blessed Christmas,
Phyllis