
Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90029-10002

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : CR 100-408384-1

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : ARMY
FROM : USA
TO :

TITLE :

Released under the John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records Collection Act of
1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW
66000 Date: 11-03-2021

DATE : 11/06/1953
PAGES : 7

SUBJECTS :

THOMAS R. PEASNER
[Restricted]

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 3
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 09/15/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : APPROVAL OF USA

COMMENTS : SUMMARY;

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HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

6 November 1953

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ON *4-21-98* *SLD/KSR*
8-5-98 (JFK)

GENERAL MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
RECAP-K PHASE III INTERROGATION

SUBJECT: HIBBERD, Winthrop B.
Corporal, RA 19360997
CRF No C-8053239

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

HIBBERD, Winthrop B., RA 19360997, Corporal, Caucasian, twenty-one (21) years of age, eleven (11) years formal education, home address - c/o Mr. Bernard BRENER, 1228 So. Lane St., Burbank, California.

Subject surrendered to the CCF at NUNG-GOL, Korea on 18 May 1951. Subject stated that His group which was down to three (3) men, was surrounded and they were trying to fight their way out when they surrendered.

When He surrendered Subject had a Heavy Weapons MOS, He acted as a platoon runner, assistant radio operator and ammo bearer in Company D, 1st Battalion, 38th Regiment, 2nd Division.

Subject was returned to UN control at "PANMUNJON" on 19 Aug 53. He was returned to CONUS on the USNS Marine Adder on 5 Sep 53.

In the Psychiatric Survey it was stated that Subject was marched to the north for nine (9) days after his surrender, but then managed to escape for four (4) days before His recapture. No other details given.

Subject was interned at the following locations:

<u>CAMP OR PLACE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATES</u>
"Mining Camp"	(none given)	July - 18 Sep 51
Camp #1	CHANGSONG	6 Oct 51 - 13 Aug 53

1. War Crimes and Atrocities.

HIBBERD was present at the "Mining Camp" from Jun 51 to Sep 51 when approximately 250 PsW, mostly American, died of malnutrition, dysentery, and exposure. HIBBERD can testify that many PsW were without shoes and possessed only the minimum of clothing.

2. Escape and Evasion

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Subject claims to have knowledge of escape attempts, but further questioning discloses that He had reference to several spur of the moment and abortive efforts on the part of individual prisoners.

3. UN Propaganda Broadcasts and Leaflets

HIBBERD saw one leaflet drop approximately 50 miles north of the 38th parallel in Central Korea. Later He had occasion to observe one of the leaflets closely, and He remembers that it pictured an oriental begging for food. He saw some of the leaflets piled up in a Korean house and others being used as wall paper.

4. Foreign Weapons and Equipment

HIBBERD could not recall seeing weapons or equipment of unusual design.

5. Health and Medical Service

HIBBERD had but meager knowledge of this subject. He made no mention of the prevalence of any disease, and the only medical facility He observed was the hospital at Camp #1. He describes this as a small institution capable of handling 30 patients at one time. The attendants were very poorly trained; and, while drugs and equipment were in evidence, they were used sparingly. HIBBERD recalled that there was a marked difference in the food and living standards of the CCF and the native Koreans. This was not because the CCF had plenty, but because the North Korean civilians had so little.

6. Communist Political Indoctrination

HIBBERD received the full range of indoctrination consisting of lectures, study periods, conferences, and Communist reading matter. He was told to ask His friends and relatives at home to fight for peace and to have them petition their senators.

7. Chinese, North Korean, and Soviet Army, Navy, and Air Force

a. Military Installation

(1) HIBBERD stated that He saw about twelve (12) jet bombers and fifteen (15) MIG fighter planes land approximately 10 miles south of PYONGYANG on or about 15 Aug 53.

(2) Early in His captivity HIBBERD saw a repair plant at the Mining Camp. The plant contained a machine shop equipped with lathes, milling machines, drill presses, and electric welding equipment.

(3) HIBBERD remembered that He saw a radio station at CHANGSONG, Camp #1, while He was interned there. A PsW, who claimed to be familiar with

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radio equipment, told Him that the station had a range of 10 megacycles, and was the center-fed antenna type.

b. Military Movement

HIBBERD recalled that approximately 1500 southbound enemy troops moved through Camp #1 in Jun 53.

c. Military Construction

Subject's only observation of military construction was at PYONGYANG while enroute to PANMUNJON for repatriation. He said that the Chinese were laying new railroad tracks.

d. Special Defensive Measures

(1) At Camp #1, HIBBERD reported, that the CCF used bunker-type shelters covered with logs and dirt. Tree branches and limbs were used as camouflage on positions and trucks. In the Winter time the trucks were splashed with white wash.

(2) Camp #1, was completely encompassed by a trench and fox holes.

(3) Large amounts of food were delivered to Camp #1 in the fall of 1952.

(4) Air raids were fairly regular at Camp #1 during HIBBERD'S internment. The air raid signal was communicated by a siren. Blackouts were frequently enforced.

(5) Nearer the front lines, HIBBERD noticed that the air raid alert was signaled by rifle fire.

e. Military Training

HIBBERD recalls seeing military training during His captivity but He does not say, where, when or whom He saw training. He remembered that the training consisted of hand grenade practice and small unit maneuvers.

f. Personalities

HIBBERD had no knowledge of any important enemy personalities at the camps of His internment.

g. Chemical, Biological, Radiological (CBR)

Subject saw no evidence of CBR equipment in North Korea.

h. Enemy Intentions

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HIBBERD recalled that, "they talked like they were going to keep the peace."

8. Treatment and Internment

a. Treatment of UN PsW

HIBBERD described His first search as being very light. He kept His hand grenades after being searched. He recalled that medical care was inadequate at first but improved later. He was photographed in early 1952 at Camp #1 but was not fingerprinted. Recreational equipment, consisting of volleyballs, basketballs, soccerballs, softballs, ping pong balls, tables, and nets, cards, chess sets, checkers, and Chinese pool, was available. Punishment consisted of self-criticism, wood chopping, confinement, hard labor, and cages. The Chinese issued safe-conduct passes at the front lines, promising good treatment and medical care for the wounded. Routine work at camp consisted of wood gathering, ration handling, and general company details.

b. Enemy Interrogation

Immediately after capture, HIBBERD was questioned about the organization of His unit, about the meaning of the different colored flares, and why UN troops had a search light on all of the time. Later He was asked personal questions, including His past military training and history.

c. Prison Camps and Staging Areas

(1) Mining Camps - located in a medium sized valley with a small river running through it. The camp contained an ore processing plant and had cable buckets coming to it from the mountain. The stream was always milky from the ore processing. While HIBBERD was there the PsW population was approximately 400. He could not estimate the number of PsW of the various UN nationalities.

(2) Camp #1 is described by HIBBERD as being located in the village of CHANGSONG. The village and camp were in a small valley with a river running through it. At the time of HIBBERD'S internment the PsW population was about 1400 British and Americans.

(3) From the place of His capture near NUNG-GOL, Korea, HIBBERD was marched, always at night, along mountain paths, roads, and railroads to the "Mining Camp". From the "Mining Camp" He was again marched under identical conditions to Camp #1.

d. Camp Administration

HIBBERD listed the following as being in Camp #1:

(1) Headquarters of all camps.

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- (2) Three Regimental Commanders
- (3) Three Regimental Instructors
- (4) Company Commanders
- (5) Assistant Company Commanders
- (6) Company Instructors
- (7) Platoon Leaders
- (8) Platoon Instructors

e. Mail and Censorship

HIBBERD received approximately 40 letters, intermittently, during His confinement. All of the letters were open when received, and He was limited to three (3) outgoing letters a month. HIBBERD mentioned that the Chinese tried to influence the PsW by explaining what they were to write in their letters.

f. US Broadcasts, Periodicals, and News Releases

HIBBERD stated that US broadcasts were not heard in camp, and the only literature He saw was the Readers Digest, cartoons, and sports news.

g. Enemy News

HIBBERD recalled that Radio MOSCOW was heard a few times a week and Radio PEIPING every night. Newspapers, magazines, and other publications emanating from the following listed countries were available:

- (1) China:
 - (a) China Monthly Review
 - (b) Peoples China
 - (c) Shanghai News
 - (d) China Pictorial
- (2) U.S.S.R.
 - (a) Soviet Literature
 - (b) Novels by Marx, Lenin, Stalin, and Engels
- (3) Bulgaria
 - (a) Bulgaria Today
- (4) Czechoslovakia
 - (a) Czeckoslovakia Life
- (5) Britain
 - (a) London Daily Worker
 - (b) I Appeal
- (6) U.S.
 - (a) New York Daily Worker
 - (b) National Guardian

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h. Enemy PsyWar Agencies

HIBBERD had no knowledge of PsyWar Agencies.

9. Activities in Enemy Rear Areas

a. Enemy Attitudes

HIBBERD stated that front line troops were more understanding of PsW and would share things with them. The rear area troops, on the other hand, were just the opposite. He could recall no incidents of a friendly nature on the part of the enemy. He claimed that He made no friends, thinks bribery would be impossible, and believes Chinese and North Koreans dislike each other.

- b. Sabotage, Guerrilla Warfare, and Underground Activity
- c. Forced (Slave) Labor
- d. Psychological Vulnerabilities

Subject gave no information pertinent to the following:
b, c, and d.

10. Enemy Intelligence Activities

a. Enemy Intelligence

HIBBERD stated that the guards at camp reported to Regimental Headquarters. He also recalled that the enemy seemed completely supplied with US Army TO&Es.

b. Communication Security

On this subject HIBBERD mentioned that He was asked if He knew any codes. He neither heard nor saw any instances of the enemy monitoring UN communications.

11. Others

HIBBERD had no information on any of the coastal areas in enemy territory. He remembered that the terrain was mountainous, that traffic was usually heavy on roads, but that rain would flood roads and snow would cause land slides. He observed that everything seemed to have been bombed out, but that the railroads were still operating.

12. Towns, Industry, and Mining

Subject had no information pertinent to this topic.

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13. Recommendations

The members of the JIPB indicated no further interest in HIBBERD. He apparently answered all questions to the best of His ability. Since He was in no particular position to observe incidents or objects of good military intelligence value it is doubted that further interrogation would be productive.

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