

# History of the POW Research Network Japan

## <2002>

- 2002/3/31 The POW Research Network Japan (hereinafter, “the Network”) was established, and held the 1st Annual Meeting in Tokyo.
- 2002/04/11-16 Former Australian POWs, Messrs. Neil MacPherson and Owen Heron came to Japan with their sons. They visited the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama, and the site of Senryu Coal Mine Camp (Fukuoka #24, Nagasaki Pref.).  
**Note: As a general rule, the Network makes it a rule to have some members accompany a visitor(s) from overseas strictly on a voluntary basis. In order to avoid redundancy of the descriptions, however, this will not be mentioned hereinafter.**
- 2002/4/17 With the corporation of the Network, a documentary “212 mai no Ninshikihyo – Kensho, Eibun Horyo no Shokon to Sengo Hosho – Verification of the 212 dog tags, former British POWs’ scars and the postwar compensation” was broadcast in the Kansai District.
- 2002/5/13 Mrs. Fuyuko Nishisato, a Network member, published a book “Seibutsusen Butai 731, Amerika ga menzaishita Nihongun no Senso Hanzai – The 731st Biological Warfare Unit of the Japanese Army, whose war crime was acquitted by the US.” A publication party was held at the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan in Tokyo.
- 2002/7/13-14 Mr. John Glusman, son of a former American POW medical officer, came to Japan to visit the sites of Tsumori Camp (Osaka #3, Osaka Pref.) and the POW Hospital in Kobe. A get-together meeting was held at the Kobe Gakusei Seinen (Students and young people’s) Center. Some Network members accompanied him.
- 2002/9/4-10 A former Australian POW, Mr. Jack Thorpe and his son came to Japan, and visited the site of Tadakuma Coal Mine Camp (Fukuoka #22, Fukuoka Pref.), Kure City where he had been stationed during the occupation period, and the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2002/10/13-14 The 2nd Annual Meeting of the Network was held in Joetsu City, Naoetsu Camp (Tokyo #4, Niigata Pref.) had been located. The Network members visited the Memorial Peace Park, Monuments, and the Museum built at the camp site.
- 2002/10/14 With the cooperation of the Network, “Kobe Harbor field work” was conducted by a research group in Kobe.

## <2003>

- 2003/3/19 Mrs. Yukako Ibuki, a Network member, and others translated a book “My Hitch in Hell, The Bataan Death March” by Dr. Lester Tenney, and published it under the Japanese title of “Bataan Tohi Michinori no saki.” Dr. and Mrs. Tenney attended a party celebrating the publication of the books.
- 2003/5/21-25 Five Network members attended the 59th Annual Assembly of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor (ADBC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2003/7/? Mr. Shimpei Ishii, a Network member, translated a book “The Wages of Guilt, Memories of War in Germany and Japan” by Ian Buruma, and published it under the Japanese title of “Senso no kioku, Nihonjin to Doitsujin.”
- 2003/8/15 Mrs. Fuyuko Nishisato, a Network member, translated a book “Unit 731 Japanese Army’s Secret of Secrets” by Peter Williams and David Wallace, and published it under the Japanese title of “731 Butai no Seibutsu heiki to Amerika, Baio Tero no Keifu.”

2003/11/2-3 The 3rd Annual Meeting of the Network took place in Tokyo. Mr. Yuichi Hatto, a former IJA Sgt. worked at Omori (Tokyo Main) Camp, and Mr. Tokio Tobita, a former IJA Sgt. worked at Shingawa Hospital lectured on their wartime experiences, respectively. Thereafter, the members visited the sites of Omori Camp, Shinagawa Hospital, Sumidagawa Camp (Tokyo #10), and Bunka (Culture) Camp.

## <2004>

- 2004/3/13 Ms. Noriko Hirata, a Network member, translated a book "Summer will come again" by John Lane, an Australian POW in WWII, and published it under the Japanese title of "Natsu wa futatabi yattekuru." Mr. and Mrs. Lane came to Japan to visit the site of Kobe Camp (Osaka #2), and attended a publication ceremony.
- 2004/3/15 Mr. Grant McLachlan, grandson of a former British POW, came to Japan from NZ to produce a movie. He visited the sites of Mitsushima Camp (Tokyo #12, Ngano Pref.) and Kanose Camp (Tokyo #16, Niigata Pref.), and interviewed the local people.
- 2004/4/6 A study meeting on the "POW Bill" was held at No. 2 Assembly Hall of the House of Representatives by PMs Eiko Ishige, Asuma Konno, and the interested members of the Network, including Mr. Toshiaki Manabe, a lawyer. M. Manabe lectured on the agenda.
- 2004/4/9-18 Former Australian POWs, Messrs. Neil MacPherson, Jack Boon, and Jack Simmonds and their families, a total of 6 persons came to Japan to visit the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and the sites of Takefu Camp (Osaka #7, Fukui Pref.), Saganoseki Camp (Fukuoka #13, Oita Pref.), Senryu Coal Mine Camp (Fukuoka #24, Nagasaki Pref.), and Mitsui Miike Coal Mine Camp (Fukuoka #17, Fukuoka Pref.), respectively.
- 2004/5/1 Professor Aiko Utsumi, a Network member, published a book entitled "*Sugamo Purizon - Sempan tachi no Heiwa undo*; The Sugamo Prison and Peace movements by war criminals."
- 2004/5/3 The POWRNJ set up a website on the Internet, and published a list of some 1,700 Allied POWs, whose remains are buried at the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2004/5/3 Study meeting: Former military personnel, Mr. Masao Hirakubo, Mr. Tatsuo Morohoshi and Mr. sadoo Oba, talked about their war experience.
- 2004/5/4 The Japan Times carried an article entitled "Past and Present" by Ms. Satoko Kogure, a Network member, on the list of the deceased Allied POWs prepared by the Network, and the former Australian POWs visited Japan in April this year.
- 2004/6/? The Japan Times carried an article entitled "Causality of War" by Ms. Satoko Kogure, a Network member, on the mistreatments of the Iraq POWs.
- 2004/7/26 A symposium was held by the Yokohama Bar Association's Special Committee for investigating the B & C classes war criminal trails to commemorate the publication of a book "Hotei no Seijoki, BC kyu Sempan Yokohama Saiban no Kiroku - The Stars & Stripes in the Military tribunal, Records of the Yokohama Military tribunal for the B & C classes war criminals." Mr. Toshiaki Manabe, the Special Committee, is also a Network member.
- 2004/8/4-10 Mr. David Barrett, a former Australian POW, forced to labor at the Burma-Thailand Railway, and his family came to Japan. They visited the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, Hiroshima, Kurashiki, and other places in the country.

- 2004/8/9 Mrs. Taeko Sasamoto, with the help of Mrs. Yoshiko Tamura for interviewing foreigners (both are the Network members), published a book “Rengogun Horyo no Bohimeitai – The Epitaph of the Allied POWs.”
- 2004/8/10-16 Former POWs, Messrs. George Dunbar, Eric Robinson, John Phillips, Robert Pogson and their families, a total of 8 persons came to Japan to visit the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama and the site of Ikuno Camp (Osaka #4, Hyogo Pref.).
- 2004/8/13 A Network member, Mrs. Taeko Sasamoto’s activities named “Hakkutsu sareta Rengogun Horyo no Kiroku – Unearthed records on the Allied POWs” was broadcast on the NHK program of “Today’s World.”
- 2004/8/15 Messrs. Toru Fukubayashi and Yozo Kudo (Network members) and Mr. Yoshishige Okuzumi published their joint work “Horyo shuyosho hokyu sakusen: B29 butai saigo no sakusen” (Airdrop Operations of the POW relief supplies – the last missions flown by the B-29 Units) at their own expense.
- 2004/9/12-20 Mr. Grant McLachlan, grandson of a former British POW, came from NZ to produce a movie for the second time. He visited the sites of Mitsushima Camp (Tokyo #12, Nagano Pref.) and Kanose Camp (Tokyo #16, Niigata Pref.). Thereafter, interviewed the Yokohama Bar Association.
- 2004/10/? A former British POW, Mr. William Rose came to Japan, and visited the site of Mitsushima Camp and other places in the country.
- 2004/10/30-31 The 4th Annual Meeting of the Network was held in Miyazu City, Kyoto Pref. The participants visited the sites of Oeyama Camp (Osaka #3, Kyoto Pref.) and the Chinese/Koreans Camps.
- 2004/11/2 The Japan Times carried an article entitled “Justice reaches the dead-end” by Ms. Satoko Kogure, a Network member, on Mitsushima Camp.
- 2004/12/28 The Network additionally released on its website a list of all Allied POWs who had deceased in Japan during WWII.

## <2005>

- 2005/1/?-2/? The Mainichi Dailies, the Japan Times, Kahoku Shimpō, Okinawa Shimpō, the Courier Mail of Australia, and the Daily Telegraph of England carried an article that the Network had released a list of all Allied POWs deceased in Japan during WWII on its website. The Network received over 100 email inquiries from all over the world.
- 2005/3/? Prof. Gregory Hadley, a Network member, completed his thesis to prove “The POW massacre incident in Aikawa, Sado Island” by James MacKay had appeared on “Betrayals in High Place” was a complete fabrication. His thesis was introduced on the Sankei Dailies, Shikoku Shimbun, Niigatta Nippo, and other newspapers.
- 2005/3/? Mr. Masanori Suzuki, a Network member, translated a book “Snaring the other tiger” by Ian Ward, and published it under the Japanese title of “Shogun wa naze korosaretaka, Goshu Senso Saiban Nishimura Takuma Chujo no Higeki. “The Australian War Criminal Trail, Tragedy of Lt. Gen. Takuma Nishimura.”
- 2005/3/19 Study Meeting: Mr. Masanori Suzuki lectured on his work “Shogun wa naze korosaretaka – Snaring the other tiger” and Mr. Stanley Guy, a British writer on “A British POW detained in Koyagi Camp, Nagasaki Pref.”, respectively.
- 2005/3/22 The Network received the Australian-Japanese Foundation Award, and the presentation ceremony was held at the Australian Embassy.

- 2005/3/26 Ms. Pek Iona, a Korean freelance TV director and granddaughter of an IJA Lt. General Hong Sa-ik, executed in the PI on a charge of the conduct of his prison guards while he was POW Camp Commandant, visited Japan to interview the General's former subordinates, Korean war criminals, and Japanese researchers conducting survey on the General. Some Network members assisted her with the interviews.
- 2005/3/27 A former British POW, Mr. David Russel and his family came to Japan, and visited the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama and the site of Ikuno Camp (Osaka #4, Hyogo Pref.).
- 2005/3/28 A former American POW, Mr. Oscar Leonard and his family came to Japan, and visited the site of Tokyo #2 Camp in Kawasaki, the old NKK Ohgi Machi factory and the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2005/4/4-10 Mr. Pat Flanagan, son of a former Australian POW, and his family came to Japan, and visited the site of Ohama Camp (Hiroshima #10, Yamaguchi Pref.) and the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2005/4/10 Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins, bereaved family members of a former British POW, came to Japan to visit the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2005/4/? Prof. Aiko Utsumi, a Network member, published a book "Nihongun no Horyo Seisaku – The Japanese Military's policies on POWs."
- 2005/5/22 The Mainich Dailies, based on a photo found at the NARA by Mr. Toru Fukubayashi, a Network member, carried an article on "Chubu Kempei tai Jiken Shoko Shashin – A photo used as an evidence of the Chubu Military Police incident."
- 2005/6/7-11 A former British POW, Mr. Stanley Topham and his son came to Japan and visited the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and the site of Mitsushima Camp (Tokyo #12, Nagano Pref.). The BBC broadcast a program about their visit on August 15.
- 2005/8/2-11 Thru the educational program of the Imperial War Museum in the UK, 33 students of the Cheney High School in Oxford City visited Japan. They paid calls on the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo, and visited Hiroshima and Tenryu Village in Nagano Pref., where they had a get-together meeting with a local high school students. The Network assisted the visitors with their tour in the country, and the debate carried on in English at Yokohama Eiwa Women's Seminary.
- 2005/8/12 A weekly magazine Friday carried a translation of Prof. Gregory Hadley's thesis "Verification, the Imperial Army's POWs, a fabricated Sado Island massacre incident developed a life of its own in the Internet." The translation was done by Mr. Masanori Suzuki, a Network member.
- 2005/8/15 The 60th Annual Memorial Service was held at the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2005/8/17 A former B-29 crewmember and POW, Mr. Martin Zapt came to Japan, and visited Masuda City in Shimane Pref., and Mukaishima Camp (Hiroshima #4, Hiroshima Pref.). TV Asahi broadcast a documentary on his visit "Hiroshima wo saisho ni mita Beihei – a GI who was the first to witness Hiroshima" on September 13.
- 2005/9/23-25 The 5th Annual Meeting of the Network was held in Tenryu Village, Nagano Pref. The participants visited Hiraoka Dam, site of Mitsushima Camp (Tokyo #12), and the camps for the Chinese and Koreans forced to come and work in Japan, and their cemetery.

2005/11/? Mr. and Mrs. Booth, bereaved family members of a former British POW, came to Japan and visited the site of Ohama Camp (Hiroshima #9, Yamaguchi Pref.) and the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.

2005/11/28-29 To produce a documentary on a hell ship the Lisbon Maru, the staff members of Phoenix TV in Hong Kong came to Japan, and visited the site of Osaka Main Camp and Kobe Camp (Osaka #2).The Network collaborated with the TV company.

2005/12/? The Network prepared a collections of the Japanese high school students' impressions on the get-together meeting they had had with Cheney High School students from the UK in August this year.

## <2006>

2006/1/? A former American POW, Mr. Everett Reamer and bereaved family members of a former American POW, Mrs. Nancy Brown and her child came to Japan, and visited the sites of Osaka Main Camp, Tanagawa Camp (Osaka #4), Sakai Prison, and the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.

2006/2/5 Study Meeting: Mr. Norio Suzuki, son of Col. Kunji Suzuki, the Commander of Omori (Tokyo Main) Camp, lectured on his father's Sugamo Prison Diary.

2006/3/5 Study Meeting: Mr. Kan Sugahara, an honorary Network member, lectured on the Japanese Navy and the Naval Academy.

2006/4/2 Study Meeting: Mrs. Mayumi Komiya, a Network member, reported on the Civilian Internment Camps within the country.

2006/5/14 Study Meeting: Mr. Yuji Miwa, a Network member, reported on the modernization of Japan, and her merchant men.

2006/5/30 Network members Mmes. Yoshiko Tamura and Taeko Sasamoto were awarded the MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) by the Queen of the UK. An award ceremony was held at the British Embassy in Tokyo.

2006/5/28-6/8 Former British POWs, Mr. Frank Planton and his family visited Japan. After attending the award ceremony for Mmes. Tamura and Sasamoto, they visited the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and the sites of Kamaishi Camp (Seidai #5, Iwate Pref.), Ohashi Camp (Sendai #4, the same), and Hakodate Main Camp in Hakodate, Hokkaido.

2006/6/7 The artist Kiichiro Ueda, thru the intermediation of the Network members Mr. Miwa and Mrs. Ibuki, presented a painting of the Oryoku Maru to the Hellship Museum in Subic Bay, the Philippines.

2006/7/17 Study Meeting: After showing a documentary "Itsuwari no Bohyo - False grave markers," Mr. Isamu Fukuda, a survivor of the Cowra incident, and Ms. Sayuri Kigawa, daughter of the 3rd President of the Cowra Association, lectured on the Mass breakout of the Japanese at Cowra.

2006/8/22-23 A seminar titled “Towards a Better Understanding, Reflections on the Experiences of Australian Prisoners of the Japanese” was held at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia, under the joint sponsorship of the Division of Pacific and Asian History, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies and the Network. Emeritus Prof. Hank Nelson, Australian researchers, former POWs, and Network members delivered a speech, respectively. During the two-day seminar, a total of approx. 100 people, including 13 Network members, attended the seminar. Thereafter, the Network members visited the Australian War Memorial and Cowra Town, where the Japanese POW Camp once located. They also visited former POWs, internees, and their bereaved families in various places in Australia.

## <2007>

2007/2/8 Mr. Miwa, a Network member, published a book “Umi no Bohyo, Senjika ni ushinawareta Nihon no Shosen – Grave markers at sea, the Japanese merchant men lost during the war.”

2007/4/1 Mr. Ian Topham, son of a former British POW Mr. Stanley Topham, came to Japan with his children. They visited the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, Ysukuni Shrine in Tokyo, the site of Mitsushima Camp (Tokyo #12, Nagano Pref.)

2007/4/28 The Network drew up “The Australian Seminar Reports.”

2007/5/19 Approx. 20 people, including some Network members, visited the site of Ofuna IJN POW Camp and Ryuhoji Temple in Ueki, Kamakura City, in advance of the seminar on the following day.

2007/5/20 The Network conducted an “International Seminar related to the B-29s” at Eiko Gakuen in Kamakura City. The speakers were Assoc. Prof. Thomas Saylor, Concordia Univ., Mr. Hisashi Tezuka, a member of the Group to record the air raids against Yokohama, and the following Network members: Prof. Gregory Hadley, Niigata Univ. of International and Information Studies, Mrs. Nori Nagasawa, Messrs. Toru Fukubayashi, Ichiro Hisano, and Koichi Hiramatsu. Approx. 70 people attended the seminar.

2007/7/1-9 Daughter of a former British POW, Mr. James R. Butterworth who had deceased in Hakodate, came to Japan with her whole family, and visited Hakodate and the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.

2007/9/3-9 Former Australian POWs, Mr. David Barrett (Thai-Burma Railway) and Mr. Bill Flowers (Changi Camp) delivered a speech at the seminar in Canberra, Australia, in the summer of 2008, came to Japan with their sons. They visited the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and Ryozan Kannon. Some Network members dined together with them to celebrate the reunion in Tokyo.

2007/10/10 Prof. Gregory Hadley, a member of the Network, published a book on a B-29 crash incident in Niigata entitled “Field of Spears The last mission of the Jordan crew.” He delivered a speech at the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan in Tokyo.

2007/10/13 The Network held a seminar at Osaka Univ. of Economics and Law in Tokyo. The lecturers were as follows (all Network members).  
“The Asia and Pacific War, and the Japanese Military’s POW policies” by Prof. Aiko Utsumi, “Aircrew POWs air raided the Japanese mainland” by Mr. Toru Fukubayashi, and “Allied POWs as viewed from the Commonwealth Cemetery based on the analysis of the death roll” by Mrs. Taeko Sasamoto.

The Network was designated as the approved study group of the Asian Pacific Study Center of the Osaka Univ. of Economics and Law headed by Prof. Kinhide Mushakoji.

2007/10/20 Study Meeting by visiting speakers: Prof. Kenji Takizawa of Hakuo Univ. and his spouse, Prof. Karen Takizawa of Hosei Univ. lectured on their joint work “Four GI spoons full of rice grains, the Pacific War talked about by our grandfather.”

2007/10/20–25 Mr. Ray “Hap” Halloran, a former B–29 navigator and POW, visited Japan to make an appearance on a TBS (Tokyo Broadcasting System) program.

2007/12/1 Study Meeting: Mr. Hisashi Tezuka, a Network member, reported on the Battle of Wake Island.

2007/12/? Mr. Shinetsu Okita, a Network member, published a book “Shokuminchi Jidai no Furuhyo tachi, Karafuto, Chosen, Taiwan, Manshu, Chukaminkoku, Kuhaku no Shominshi – Secondhand bookstores during the colonial period in Sakhalin, Korea, Taiwan, Manchuria, and China, a blank space in the common people’s history.

## <2008>

2008/1/20 Study Meeting: Mrs. Fuyuko Nishisato, a Network member, reported on Mukden Camp in Manchuria.

2008/3/15 Study Meeting: Ms. Naoko Jin, a Network member, reported on her planned work named “Bridge for Peace, a project to tie the Philippines and Japan via video messages.”

2008/4/15 Mr. Ray “Hap” Halloran, a former B–29 navigator and POW, delivered a speech at the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan in Tokyo.

2008/4/23–28 Son of a former British POW, Mr. Ian Prichard came to Japan, and visited the site of Innoshia Camp (Hiroshima #5, Hiroshima Pref.).

2008/4/26 Study Meeting: Mr. Hisashi Tezuka, a Network member, introduced a book “Late summer of 1941 and my war with Japan” by Welden Hamilton, a former POW of Bataan.

2008/5/24 Prof. Gregory Hadley, a Network member, delivered a speech on “Violence of common people in wartime, B–29s and bamboo spears” at the Nihon Kyoiku Kaikan in Tokyo, sponsored by the Shimin Bunka Forum.

2008/5/31 Dr. Lester Tenney, a former American POW and author of “My hitch in hell, the Bataan Death March,” delivered a speech at the Kyoto Heart Pier in Kyoto.

2008/6/4 The members of the “US–Japan Dialogs on POWs” held a meeting with Dr. and Mrs. Tenney at the Seiryō Kaikan in Tokyo. Some interested Network members attended the meeting.

2008/6/7–8 The 6th Annual Meeting of the Network was held in Fukushima City. Lectures and field trips regarding Fukushima Internment Camp were as follows (except for Mr. Shigeru Konno, the lecturers are the Network members).

“Fukushima Internment Camp and the 509th Composite Group (the US AAF Unit dropped the A–bombs)” by Mr. Konno, Fukushima Mimpo Editorial writer,

“Detention of the enemy aliens during the Pacific War” by Mrs. Mayumi Komiya.

“Fukushima Internment Camp, lifting the shroud of silence” by Prof. Robert Murphy.

The participants visited the old Norte Dame Convent (the former internment camp), internees’ graveyard in Shinobu yama, and Zuiryūji Temple, where a large iron piece (approx. 20cm x 50 cm x 3 cm) of a pumpkin bomb (used for testing and training of the 509th Composite Group) had been kept.

2008/9/27 Study Meeting: A lecture was given by an Australian naval historian, Mr. Ian Pfenningworth on Following the footsteps of Dr. Stening, an Australian POW.”



- 2008/10/25 A Network members, Mr. Takeshi Sawada reported on “The truth about Chichi Jima incident, Testimony of a certain Ensign witnessed the execution of an American POW. Mr. Hisashi Tezuka on “Movements of the POWs regarding the missing Pekin man’s fossil, and the POW Camps in the Japanese occupied areas at the early stage of the War.”
- 2008/10/28 Daughters of a former British POW, Ms. Paula and Judith Medcalf visited Japan to call round at the site of Mukaishima Camp (Hiroshima #4), where their father was detained.
- 2008/11/13 At the Diplomatic and Defense Committee of the House of Councilors, MP Yukihiisa Fujita, a member of the Democratic Party of Japan, questioned the Prime Minister Taro Aso and the Foreign Minister Hirobumi Nakasone about the POWs’ hard labor at Aso Coal Mine by showing a copy of the “Report on Aso Mining Company,” found in the NARA, and forwarded to MP Fujita by a Network member, Mr. Toru Fukubayashi.
- 2008/11/29 Study Meeting: A Network member, Prof. Aiko Utsumi, reported on “The war criminal trials and the POW issues.”

## <2009>

- 2009/1/24 Study Meeting: Prof. Aiko Utsumi, Mmes. Yoshiko Tamura and Fuyuko Nishisato, and Mr. Toru Fukubayashi talked about Aso Mining Company’s employing the POWs in WWII.
- 2009/1/29–2/8 Mrs. Pattie Wright, an Australian writer, visited Japan and, with the help of the Network, interviewed, the people involved in the construction of the Burma–Thailand Railway. She also visited the sites of Ohama Camp (Hiroshima #9, Yamaguchi Pref.), Motoyama Camp (Hiroshima #8, Yamaguchi Pref.), the Peace Museum in Hiroshima, and Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo.
- 2009/2/6 MP Yukihiisa Fujita, a member of the Democratic Party of Japan, made a briefing and press interview on “the POWs’ hard labor issue at Aso Coal Mine” at No. 1 Assembly Hall of the House of Representatives. The Network members, Prof. Aiko Utsumi and Mr. Toru Fukubayashi also reported and commented on the issue.
- 2009/3/1 Mrs. Mayumi Komiya, a Network member, published a book “Tekikokujin Yokuryu, Senjika no Gaikoku Minkanjin – Internment of the enemy aliens, Foreign civilians in wartime.”
- 2009/3/6 Mr. Takeshi Sawada, a Network member, published a booklet “Kushu ni owareta Higaisha tachi no sengo, Tokyo to Jukei, Kienai Kako – Postwar experiences of the air raid victims, Tokyo and Chongqing. The indelible past.”
- 2009/3/28 Study Meeting: Network members Mrs. Mayumi Komiya reported on her studies about “Internment of the civilian enemy aliens during the war,” and Mrs. Nori Nagasawa about “social interactions with former POWs during the Southern Pacific cruise.”
- 2009/4/3 A weekly magazine Friday carried an article contributed by a Network member Mr. Toru Fukubayashi on “Hard labor of the POWs by Aso Zaibatsu concealed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.”
- 2009/4/28 A Network member, Mrs. Nori Nagasawa, was awarded the Orange–Nassau by the Queen of the Netherlands, for her achievements in contributing to reconciliations with the former Dutch POWs and civilian internees.
- 2009/5/7 The June issue of a monthly magazine Sekai (The World) carried an article contributed by a Network member Mr. Toru Fukubayashi on “Verification. The indelible past of Aso Coal Mine, the truth about hard labor of the POWs supported by documents.”



- 2009/5/14-21 Mr. Raymond Heimbuch, a former American POW, came to Japan and visited the sites of Yokkaichi Camp (Nagoya #5, Mie Pref.) and Iwase Camp (Nagoya #11, Toyama Pref.). In Tokyo, he had a meeting with the members of the Sub-Committee on the POW issues composed of the Democratic Party of Japan's lawmakers, and a get-together meeting with the Network, respectively.
- 2009/5/23 Study Meeting by a visiting speaker: Mr. Hitoyasu Shirato, the author of a book "The POW Camps in Hokkaido," lectured on his work.
- 2009/5/30 The Japanese Ambassador to the US, Mr. Ichiro Fujisaki, officially apologized to the former American POWs for their having undergone hardships in WWII, at the ADBC's last Annual Convention held in San Antonio, Texas.
- 2009/5/31 The President of the House of Councilors, Mr. Satsuki Eda, paid a visit to the Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2009/6/14-21 A former Australian POW, Mr. Joe Coombs and his 2 sons, and son of a former British POW, Mr. James MacAnalty invited to Japan by a group to get-together with the former POWs worked at Aso Coal Mine and their families, and supported by the Network. They visited Fukuoka #26 Aso Mining Yoshiguma Mine, and the present Aso Head Office in Iizuka City, Fukuoka Pref. Thereafter, the Coombs visited the site of Osaka #5 and the Kawasaki Heavy Industry's factory in Kobe. Mr. MacAnalty visited the site of Fukuoka #2 in Nagasaki. In Tokyo, they paid a visit to the Australian and British Ambassadors, the President of the Democratic Party of Japan, Mr. Yukio Hatoyama, and the President of the House of the Councilors, Mr. Satsuki Eda. They were busy with a press conference, get-together and lecture meetings with the general public.
- 2009/7/23 A symposium "Gathering to commemorate the Geneva Convention" sponsored by the Postwar Compensation Network and other organizations, including the Network, was held at Kensei Kaikan. Prof. Akiko Utsumi acted as a panelist, and a few other interested members attended as the audience.
- 2009/10/3-4 The 7th Annual Meeting of the Network was held in Ichinomiya Town, Chiba Pref. The incidents involving the downed Allied aircraft in the central part of Ciba Pref. were placed on the agenda, and the participants visited the sites of Emery, Hockley, and Bonus cases.
- 2009/11/21 Study Meeting: Prof. Aiko Utsumi, a Network member, talked about the Tokyo Trial and the POW issues.
- 2009/12/16 The Network members met the staff members of the Dutch Nationaal Archief, and discussed the matters related to the translation project on the Dutch POWs' meimei hyou (respective cards).

## <2010>

- 2010/1/16 Study Meeting: Ms. Kaori Maekawa, a Network member, gave a presentation on the IJA policies for the POWs, and mobilization of the Asian POWs in the Asia-Pacific War – the Japanese occupation of the Southeast Asia and hei-ho (auxiliary forces) system.
- 2010/6/6-17 Seven Network members participated in "the 7th leg of Malay Peninsula Peace Cycle in Singapore and Malaysia." They visited the site of Changi POW Camp, the Kranji War Cemetery, and the sites of the Chinese massacre incidents had taken place.
- 2010/3/20 Advanced preparations for the translation project on the Dutch POWs' meimei-hyo (individual record for each POW) commenced.

- 2010/4/3 Study Meeting: Mr. David Moreton, a Network member and author of “Surviving the war – The secret diaries of an English POW along the Thailand–Burma Railway, 1942~1945,” gave a lecture on his book.
- 2010/4/10–11 Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Williams, son and daughter–in–law of a former American POW medical officer, visited the sites of Zentsuji POW Camp in Kanagawa Pref., and Motoyama POW Camp in Sanyo–Onoda City, Yamaguchi Pref.
- 2010/5/30 Study Meeting: Network members appreciated a Dutch DVD entitled “Old Pain in the Netherlands and Japan.” Mr. Sadao Oba, an honorary Network member, gave a lecture on his experiences in the Netherlands East Indies during the war, and his relationship with the Netherlands.
- 2010/7/12–25 Ms. Susan Grant, daughter of a former B–29 crewmember, visited Yokogoshi–Mura in Niigata Pref., where her father had been shot down during the war, the sites of Tokyo Kempei–tai Hqs. and Omori POW Camp he was detained. She also visited Yasukuni Shrine, the Center of the Tokyo Raid and War Damage, Hiroshima and Nagasaki Cities.
- 2010/7/24 Study Meeting: Prof. Gregory Hadley, a Network member, lectured on “A sequel to the story on a shot down B–29 to the field of spears.” Ms. Susan Grant, mentioned above, also lectured on “Following the memories of my father shot down to the field of spears.”
- 2010/9/12–19 At the invitation of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the first group of the former American POWs (Dr. Lester Tenney and 6 others) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada received them and, for the first time, officially apologized. They attended a get–together meeting with the public in general hosted by the Network in Tokyo, and visited the sites of the POW Camps they had been detained in Kawasaki, Omori, Yokkaichi in Mie Pref., Iizuka and Moji in Fukuoka Pref. during the war. They also visited the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama and Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto.
- 2010/9/25 Study Meeting by visiting speakers: Lectures by 2 former IJA personnel – Mr. Tatsuo Morohoshi, a former National Railways Corporation employee drafted into the IJA, talked about his wartime experiences with the Thailand–Burma Railway and Trans–Sumatra Railway. Mr. Nobuo Ikegami, an Imperial Guard the 3rd Infantry Regiment Officer, also talked about his wartime experiences as Commandant of a civilian internment camp in Sumatra, respectively.
- 2010/10/17 Ms. Kaori Maekawa briefed on the translation project on the Dutch POWs’ meimeihyo.
- 2010/10/11–28 Mr. and Mrs. John Davis, son and daughter–in–law of a former Australian POW, visited the site of Osaka 5D (No. 5 Detachment) Camp in Kobe, and the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2010/11/2 Messrs Michel and Marco Coomen, grandsons of a former Dutch POW, visited the site of Tokyo 7B (No. 7 Branch) Camp in Hitachi City, Ibaraki Pref.
- 2010/11/22–12/1 Ms. Lore Ridings, daughter of a former Dutch POW, visited the sites of Motoyama POW Camp in Sanyo–Onoda City, Yamaguchi Pref. and Mukaishima POW Camp in Onomichi City, Hiroshima Pref.
- 2010/12/7–11 Three former Canadian POWs and their families, a total of 38 members of Canada Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association visited Japan. The Network hosted a get–together meeting with the public in general in Tokyo.

<2011>

- 2011/1/6 Ms. Fiona Simpson and her sister Helen came to Japan from Australia, and visited the sites of the Metropolitan Police Department's Internment Camp (present Denenchofu Futaba-gakuen) and Saitama Internment Camp (present St. Francisco Monastery in Urawa/City), where their relative Alexander Catto had been held during the war.
- 2011/1/15 Study Meeting: Network members appreciated a British Chanel 4 video tape "Hell in the Pacific" with a commentary by Ms. Fuyuko Nishisato, a Network member.
- 2011/2/? Mr. Masanori Suzuki, a Network member, published a Japanese translation of "The Featherstone Chronicles – A Legacy of War" by Mike Nicolodi under the title of "Shasatsu sareta Gadarukanaru Nihon-hei, Fezasuton Shuyojo" thru Shin Jimbutsu Bunko
- 2011/2/26 Symposium (Tokyo): The Network held an Symposium on the actual conditions of the Dutch POWs and the IJA POW policies as studied from the POWs' meimeihyou. The following members spoke about the assigned subject related to the matters. (Titles omitted) Kaori Maekawa, Taeko Sasamoto, Hisashi Tezuka, Miyo Sakuma, Kan Sugahara, Yuji Miwa, David Moreton, and Aiko Utsumi.
- 2011/3/2-9 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 5 former Australian POWs (Dr. Rowley Richards and 4 others), their attendants, and 3 family members, a total of 13 people visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara received them and, for the first time, officially apologized. Thereafter, they visited the sites of the Camps they had been detained during the war in Sakata, Tsurumi (Yokohama), Niigata, Osaka, and Sagano-seki (Oita Pref.). Then they visited Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto, Tomigaoka Catholic Church in Nara, and the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama. On 6 March, they attended a testimony meeting in Kyoto, and on 8 March a get-together meeting with the people in general hosted by the Network in Tokyo.
- 2011/2/28-3/12 Dr. Marian May, daughter of the late Rev John May, a former Australian POW Chaplain, visited the site of Zentsuji POW Camp her father detained during the war. She joined the former Australian POWs and their families mentioned above, and traveled together with them. She also spent several hours with some Network members, and exchanged views on the POW issues in Tokyo.
- 2011/4/? Mr. Tokio Tobita, an honorary Network member, published a book "C kyu Sempan ga sukecchi shita Sugamo Purizon" (The Sugamo Prison sketched by Class C war criminals) thru Soshi-sha,
- 2011/4/23 Study Meeting: Mr. Masanori Suzuki talked about the "Featherstone incident," in which the Japanese POWs revolted against the NZ guards and shot, from his Japanese translation of "The Featherstone Chronicles – A Legacy of War" by Mike Nicolodi.
- 2011/5/15 Study Meeting: Mr. Sadao Oba, an honorary Network member, lectured on "My wartime experiences in Java, under the Japanese occupation and being as Japanese Surrendered Personnel (JSP)."
- 2011/5/24 Study Meeting: Mr. Mike Nicolodi, the author of "The Featherstone Chronicles – A Legacy of War," gave a lecture on his book. Mr. Hisashi Tezuka talked about the remains of the victims in the "Featherstone incident."
- 2011/7/23 Study Meeting: Mr. Harumi Sakaguchi, a Network member, lectured on the war-dead Japanese cemetery in Bomana (near Port Moresby, PNG), and records on the deceased Allied POWs kept in Ryozen Kannon, in Kyoto.

2011/8/15 The POW meimei-hyo database – translated by a group of the Network members under a contract with the Netherlands National Archives – on the KNIL (Koninklijk Nederlands-Indisch Leger –Royal Netherlands Indies Army) officers and men deceased while being held in captivity of the IJA was opened to the public at the Netherlands National Archives.

URL: <http://www.gahetna.nl/collectie/index/nt00425>

2011/9/17-18 Shikoku Fieldwork: The Network members visited the sites of Bando POW Camp in Naruto City, Tokushima Pref. detained the German POWs in WWI, and Zentsuji POW Camp in Zentsuji City, Kagawa Pref. established in WWII.

2011/10/16-23 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the second group of 7 former American POWs (Mr. Robert Vogler and 6 others) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting with the people in general hosted by the Network in Tokyo, and visited the sites of the Camps they had been detained during the war in Omori, Takaoka, and Omuta, respectively. They also visited the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama and Ryozen Kannon and Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Risumeikan University in Kyoto.

2011/11/27-12/5 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the second group of 4 former Australian POWs and 1 civilian internee (Mr. Author Gamble and 3 others, and Ms. Lorna Johnson), and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting in Tokyo and Nara. They visited the sites of the Camps they had been detained during the war in Yokohama, Saitama and Hyogo Prefectures. They also visited the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama, Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto, and Tomigaoka Catholic Church in Nara.

2011/12/8 Three former Canadian POWs (Mr. Gerry Gerald and 2 others), the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Canada), and others visited Japan. After attending the memorial service at the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama, they paid a visit to the Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Toshiyuki Kato, who received them and officially apologized, representing the Government.

## <2012>

2012/3/25-29 Taiwan Fieldwork: Six Network members visited several sites of the POW Camps established in Taiwan during WWII. A Canadian researcher Mr. Michel Hurst resides there guided the members. They interviewed Mr. Lian-Dui Hou, a former Taiwan No. 4 Branch Camp guard. They exchanged the information on the Allied POWs in Taiwan during WWII with Ms. Shu-Min Chung, an Associate Research Fellow of the Institute of Taiwan History.

2012/4/20-27 Mr. Kevin Menzies, son of a former NZ POW Mr. Michel Menzies, visited the sites of Zentsuji and Ofuna POW Camps, and Negishi horserace stands in Yokohama his father and father's comrades interned. He also paid a visit to the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.

2012/4/28 Study Meeting by visiting speakers: Mr. Takeshi Arimitsu, Representative of the Postwar Compensation Network, spoke about "The current status and future prospects of the Postwar Compensation." Ms. Michiyo Arakawa, Secretariat of the Society to support the demands of Chinese war victims, spoke about the "Recent situation on the trail for the abandoned IJA poisonous gas," respectively.

2012/6/10 Study Meeting: Debriefing on the Taiwan Fieldwork by the participants.

- 2012/7/21 Study Meeting by a visiting speaker: Mr. Katsumoto Saotome, a writer and Curator of the Center of the Tokyo Raid and War Damage, talked about his new book “Haroran no Tokyo Dai-kushu” (Halloran’s a large-scale air raid against Tokyo).
- 2012/7/22 Study Meeting by a visiting speaker: Prof. Guido Samarani of the Venetia Univ. talked about the complicated situations involving the Italians taken POWs by the Japanese during WWII.
- 2012/10/3-8 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the third group of 2 former Australian POWs (Mr. William Schmitt and one other) and the same number of the former civilian internees (Ms. Elsa Hatfield and one other) visited Japan with their families. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba received them, and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting with the people in general hosted by the Network in Tokyo, visited the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto. In Hiroshima, they attended a get-together meeting with a local primary school children, and in Okayama with university students.
- 2012/10/13-21 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the third group of 7 former American POWs (Mr. Douglas Northam and 6 others) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting with the people in general hosted by the Network in Tokyo, and visited the sites of the POW Camps in Omori, Yokosuka, Niigata, and Mine in Yamaguchi Pref. They also visited the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and Ryozen Kannon, Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto.
- 2012/10/23 Study Meeting by visiting speakers: Mr. Yang Jing, the Director of Shenyang University Mukden Allied POW Camp Research Institute, and Ms. Yang Jing, the Deputy Director, Bureau of Press, Culture and Publishing of Liaoyuan City.

## <2013>

- 2013/2/14-21 Five Network members participated in “the Thailand-Burma Railway Trekking” organized by the Malaya Peninsula Peace Cycle.
- 2013/3/10 Study Meeting by visiting speakers: Mr. Yukihiro Udagawa, a postgraduate student of Hitotsubashi Univ., lectured on “the International Military Tribunal for the Far East” (the Tokyo Trial) and the POW issues, and Ms. Shu-Min Chun, an Associate Fellow of the Institute of Taiwan History, on “the POW issues in history of Taiwan,” respectively.
- 2013/3/23 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (1): First preliminary meeting.
- 2013/4/13-14 Kansai Fieldwork: Nine Network members visited the sites of POW Camps and related facilities in the Kansai District (Kyoto, Osaka, and Kobe).
- 2013/4/15 A memorial monument to console the spirits of the deceased British POWs erected at the site of Hiroshima 4B Camp (Mukaishima, Onomichi City, Hiroshima Pref.) in 2002 was renewed, and a memorial monument for the deceased American POWs was newly established on the same spot.
- 2013/5/9-16? Mr. and Mrs. John Davis, son and daughter-in-law of a former Australian POW, visited the site of the POW Camp their father detained in Kobe during the war.

- 2013/6/1 Study Meeting by a visiting speaker: Mr. Shigeaki Mori, a military historian and the author of “Genbaku de shinda Beihei Hishi” (Secret historical facts on the GIs killed by the A-Bomb), lectured on his book.
- 2013/6/23 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (2): Second preliminary meeting.
- 2013/7/13 Study Meeting by a visiting speaker: Mr. Masayuki Tsukazaki, a current and modern historian, lectured on “the Chinese POWs in the Sino-Japanese War, and the formation of subjects of the Great Japanese Empire.”
- 2013/8/10-16? An Irish TV crew visited Japan to interview and gather information on Dr. Aidan MacCurthy, an Irish POW medical officer detained in Fukuoka 14B Camp (Nagasaki) and some other Camps.
- 2013/9/15 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (3): Mr. Hisashi Tezuka, a Network member, talked about the Doolittle’s Tokyo raid and POW issues – disposition of captured downed aircrews brought about after the raid,
- 2013/9/30-10/7 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the fourth group of 4 former Australian POWs (Mr. Charles Edwards and 3 other) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting hosted by the Network with the people in general in Tokyo, and visited the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, site of the POW Camp in Sanyo-Onoda City, Yamaguchi Pref., Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto, Nara and Hiroshima, where they attended a get-together meeting with a local primary school children.
- 2013/10/13-21 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the fourth group of 4 former American POWs (Mr. Robert Heer and 3 others) , 3 widows (Mrs. Marjean McGrew and 2 others), and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting hosted by the Network with the people in general in Tokyo, and visited the sites of the POW Camps in Hakodate, Kosaka (Akita Pref.), Onomichi, and Zentsuji. They also paid a visit to the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto,
- 2013/11/24 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (4): Mr. Toyomi Okuda, a former National Railways Corporation locomotive engineer, lectured on the Thailand-Burma Railway as he had witnessed it on the spot.

## <2014>

- 2014/1/26 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (5): Prof. Aiko Utsumi talked about the International Military Tribunal for the Far East and the POW issues.
- 2014/2/16 Study Meeting: Ms. Kaori Maekawa debriefed on the symposium held in the Netherlands regarding the Thailand-Burma Railway.
- 2014/4/5 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (6): Mrs. Taeko Sasamoto talked about the Indian POWs.



- 2014/4/18-20 Nagasaki Fieldwork: Seven Network members visited the sites of Fukuoka 2B, 14B, and 18B Camps in Nagasaki Pref. They participated in the welcome party for Mr. Willy Buchel van Steenberg, a former Dutch POW survived the A-Bomb disaster at Fukuoka 14B Camp in Nagasaki City. The people of Nagasaki showed a movie “Beauty within,” and established a committee to erect a memorial monument to console the spirits of the POWs deceased in Fukuoka 2B Camp.
- 2014/6/28 Study Meeting: Mr. Shigeru Konno, a Network member, talked about Fukushima Internment Camp and various issues on conservation of its site, and the current status of the aftermath on the nuclear power plant accident.
- 2014/7/12 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (7): The participants discussed “How did the mass media reported on the POWs in these days?”
- 2014/9/5 An unveiling of a memorial monument erected at the site of Tokyo 13B Camp (present Denka Omi Factory in Itoigawa City, Niigata Pref.) to console the spirits of the deceased POWs therein was held. Six Network members attended the ceremony.
- 2014/9/14 Study Meeting by a visiting speaker: Mr. Terry Smyth, son of a former British POW detained in Hiroshima 6B Camp (Omine coal mine in Yamaguchi Pref.), talked about the issues on the former POWs’ children.
- 2014/9/28 Study meeting by a visiting speaker: Prof. Hiroya Sugita of Kanagawa Univ. talked about the POW issues in the Australian society.
- 2014/10/12-20 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the fifth group of 7 former American POWs (Mr. William Sanchez and 6 other) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Vice Foreign Minister Yasuhide Nakayama received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they visited the sites of POW Camps in Hitachi, Ashio, Omori, Kawasaki, and Osaka. They also paid a visit to the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, Ryozen Kannon and Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan Univ. in Kyoto, and attended a get-together meeting hosted by the Network with the people in general in Tokyo.
- 2014/10/20-27 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the fifth group of 4 former Australian POWs (Mr. Russel Ewin and 3 others), and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida received them and officially apologized. On 22 October, they attended a get-together meeting hosted by the Network with the people in general in Tokyo. On that night, Prof. Richard Braithwait accompanying the group, talked about his father’s survival in the Sandakan death march to the Network members. Thereafter, they visited the site of POW Camp in Naoetsu, and Hiroshima City, where they attended a get-together meeting with a local school children.
- 2014/11/16 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (8): Mrs. Mine Takada, a Network member, talked about the coverage on POWs as appearing in the Asahi Dailies. Mrs. Taeko Sasamoto about the coverage on POWs reported in a photo weekly.

## <2015>

- 2015/1/18 Study Meeting: Mrs. Fuyuko Nishisato, a Network member, briefed on the Mukden POW Camp Museum. She also showed a movie on the Museum.
- 2015/2/8 Study Meeting: Ms. Kaori Maekawa lectured on the issues of the Dutch people whose father was a Japanese, showing a movie “Children’s tears, searching for Japanese fathers” produced by Yuki Sunada.

- 2015/3/14 Joint Research Meeting on POWs (9): Mrs. Mayumi Komiya, a Network member, talked about the coverage on POWs appearing in the Java Shimbun, and wartime experiences of a Japanese woman sent to Java as Navy civilian.
- 2015/4/4-9? Ms. Caren Caston and William Johnson, daughter and son of a B-29 crew member shot down in bombing Tokyo and captured, visited the crash site of their father's plane. The NHK broadcast a news on the event.
- 2015/4/26 Study Meeting: Mrs. Noriko Murata and Mr. Yosuke Watanabe, the Network members, debriefed on their visit to the site of the Sandakan Death March.
- 2015/5/23-24 Niigata Fieldwork: The participants visited 2 sites of the POW Camps and related facilities within Niigata City, and another site in Agano Machi.
- 2015/6/25-7/5 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barmes, son and daughter-in-law of a former Australian POW visited the site of Fukuoka 14B Camp in Nagasaki City, and Fukuoka 5 B Camp in Kama City, Fukuoka Pref. They also paid a visit to the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2015/7/24 An information board was set up at the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama for the first time, and an unveiling ceremony was held.
- 2015/7/28-8/8? Mr. Toby Norway, son of a former British POW visited the bereaved family of a former Japanese Guard, Mr. Kameo Yamanaka in Ibaraki Pref. Mr. Norway showed his appreciation to the Yamanakas for his father having been well treated under detention in Singapore. The NHK broadcast a news on the event.
- 2015/8/28-9/7? Ms. Hanna Wassenaar, daughter of a former Dutch POW visited the site of Kamioka POW Camp in Gifu Pref., and the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama.
- 2015/9/13 A memorial monument was erected at the site of Fukuoka 2B Camp (present Koyagi Middle School) to remember all victims, the ones who deceased and the ones who survived. Another monument was erected for a B-29 crew killed in a crash in the mountains near the Camp while airdropping relief supplies immediately after the war. Over 100 people, a former POW, their bereaved families from the Netherlands, UK, and US, and the representatives of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Embassies of the countries concerned, Nagasaki Pref. and City attended the unveiling ceremony. Eleven Network members who had made every effort to erect the monuments and locate the crash site of the B-29 also attended.
- 2015/9/29-10/2 A symposium called "Wounds, Scars, and healing Civil Society and Postwar Pacific Basin Reconciliation" coordinated by Yasuko Claremont, a Network member resides in Australia, was held at Sydney Univ. From the Network, Aiko Utsumi, Yoshiko Tamura, Fuyuko Nishisato, and Yosuke Watanabe partook in the symposium, and gave lectures and presentations on the Network's activities.
- 2015/10/10-18 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the sixth group of 9 former American POWs (Mr. Arthur Gruenberg and 8 other) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Vice Foreign Minister Yoji Muto received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting hosted by the Network with the people in general in Tokyo, and visited the sites of POW Camps in Yokohama, Kawasaki, Kamioka, Osaka, and Tsuruga. They also paid a visit to the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto.

2015/11/9-16 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the sixth group of 3 former Australian POWs (Mr. John Gilmore and 2 other) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Vice Foreign Minister Seiji Kihara received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting hosted by the Network with the people in general in Tokyo, and visited the site of POW Camps in Kobe, and Sanyo-Onoda City. They also paid a visit to the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, and Ryozen Kannon in Kyoto

2015/12/5-14 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the seventh group of 5 former American POWs (Mr. Charles Brown and 4 other – all crewmembers of downed aircraft) and their families visited Japan. Representing the Government, the Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida received them and officially apologized. Thereafter, they attended a get-together meeting hosted by Meiji Gakuin Univ. with the attendance from the Network in Tokyo. They visited the sites of Tokyo Kempei-tai Hqs., Omori and Ofuna POW Camps, the Center of the Tokyo Raid and War Damage, and crash sites in Gunma, Saitama, Chiba, Ibraki, and Fukuoka Prefectures.

2015/12/8-12 A group of 17 people, families of the former Canadian POWs visited Japan. After visiting the British Commonwealth Cemetery in Yokohama, they attended a get-together meeting hosted by the Network with the people in general in Tokyo,

## <2016>

2016/1/30 Network study meeting on *Ianfu* (Comfort women) issues. Lecturer, Ms. Eriko Ikeda, director of the Women's Active Museum on War and Peace.

Sons of former Australian POWs Mr. Tim Flanagan and Mr. Frank George, with their wives, visited Japan. They called at the site of Hiroshima No. 9 Branch Camp (Ohhama Camp) in Sanyo-Onoda City, Yamaguchi Pref., where their fathers had been interned, and the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama.

2016/2/29 A settlement was reached between the Japanese Government and a former Dutch POW Mr. Willy Buchel van Steenberg. He received the amount of 1,100,000 yen as compensation. (Some Network members assisted his court case). Mr. Buchel kindly donated most of his compensation money to peace movement groups, including the Network.

End of Feb. The Network published a documentary brochure on the unveiling ceremony of the monument erected at the site of Fukuoka No. 2 Branch Camp in Nagasaki City.

2016/4/3-15 A Dutch researcher, Dr. Ernestine Kohne-Hogen visited Japan. She called at the site of Nagoya No. 1 Branch Camp (Kamioka Camp) in Hida City, Gifu Pref., and the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama.

2016/4/30 Study meeting on "Laws and institutions for POWs." The meeting was held under the joint sponsorship of "The beginners' course in military issues." Lecturer, Mr. Masaharu Fukuyoshi, Military journalist.

End of May The Network published an English version of the documentary brochure on the unveiling ceremony of the monument erected at the site of Fukuoka No. 2 Branch Camp in Nagasaki City.

End of May The Network was granted a subsidy by the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society in the US.

2016/5/31-6/9 Four Network members, Mss. Mayumi Komiya, Yoshiko Tamura, Fuyuko Nishisato, and Taeko Sasamoto visited the Netherlands. On 3 June, they announced their respective research works in the symposium at NIOD (the Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies) in Amsterdam. On the following day, Ms. Sasamoto reported on the activities of the Network at the meeting with "Dialogue Netherlands-Japan-Indonesia" in Utrecht.

- 2016/6/18 A film appreciation meeting: a documentary film entitled “Paper Lanterns”(Directed by Barry Frechette) was run, in which Mr. Shigeaki Mori, makes follow-up researches on the captured 12 US fliers killed in the A-bomb disaster in Hiroshima.
- End of July Mr. Bill Kerr, son of a former Australian POW Alexander Kerr who had died in Tokyo No. 4 Branch Camp in Naoetsu, Joetsu City, Niigata Pref., visited Japan with his spouse. They paid a visit to the British Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama and Joetsu City.
- 2016/9/3 Morning: First editorial meeting on “Collection of materials on the POW camps and civilian internee camps (working title).”  
Afternoon: propaganda films appreciation meeting. The films screened were; “Calling Australia,” “Nippon presents,” “Know your enemy Japan.” Navigator, Ms. Aiko Utsumi.
- 2016/9/10 Memorial service was held at the site of Fukuoka No. 2 Branch Camp in Nagasaki City. The Network members Mss. Fuyuko Nishizato and Rika Miyamoto participated in the service.
- 2016/10/1 Second Study meeting on Collection of materials on the POW camps and civilian internee camps.
- 2016/10/23 Study meeting; reading John Dower’s “War without Mercy” with the navigators by professors Aiko Utsumi, Miyo Sakuma and Hiroya Sugita.
- 2016/11/10-17 Four family members of Ms. Wendy Kennedy, a half-sister of a former Australian POW died in Tokyo No. 4 Branch Camp in Naoetsu, Joetsu City, Niigata Pref., visited Japan. They called at the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama, and Joetsu City.
- 2016/11/16 At the Netherlands Embassy in Tokyo, meeting was held by “Dialogue Netherlands-Japan-Indonesia.” Professor Akiko Utsumi delivered a lecture. Network members participated in this meeting. Thereafter, they met with some former Dutch civilian internees visiting Japan.
- 2016/11/16-29 A former Dutch POW’s two daughters Lody Pieter sisters, and another POW’s son Ed Ewalts and his wife visited Japan. They called at the sites of Osaka No.4 Branch Camp in Tanagawa, Fukuoka No. 8 Branch Camp in Kama City, and Fukuoka No. 7 Camp in Iizuka City in Fukuoka Pref., respectively.
- 2016/12/4-12 Ms. Kristin Dahlstrom and eight family members of the former American POWs visited Japan on the Japanese Government’s invitation program. On the 5th, they visited the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama, and site of POW Camp in Kawasaki. On the 6th, they called at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the US Embassy in Tokyo. On the 8th, they attended a get-together meeting with the citizens sponsored by the Network in Tokyo, and on and after the 9th, they visited the sites of POW Camps in Tsuruga, Osaka and Kita-Kyushu and Ryozen-Kannon temple in Kyoto.

## <2017>

- 2017/1/8 Lecture meeting on “Hinomaru Hour,” the s-w propaganda broadcast for overseas went on the air from the NHK Studio by the Allied POWs dwelled in “Bunka Camp” (Bunka Gakuin School building) in Suruga-dai, Tokyo. Mr. Yuichi Nagura was the lecturer.
- 2017/1/26 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, former Australian POWs, their family members and a researcher (Mr. Jack Hopgood and eight others) visited Japan. They attended a get-together meeting in Tokyo. Thereafter, the Network members asked Dr. Lachlan Grant, the Senior Historian of the Australian War Memorial, to talk about his research work.
- 2017/3/11 Research meeting on “Postwar Detention of the Japanese POWs in Siberia, and compensation for their labor” was jointly lectured by the Siberia Detention Study Group, the Peace Studies Association of Japan and POW Research Network Japan.

- 2017/3/29~31 Family members of a former Dutch POW (Mr. Ingrid van den Berg, and four others) visited Japan, and visited the Camp sites in the Osaka and Kyushu areas. Some Network members accompanied them.
- 2017/4/22 Editors' group meeting for compilation of an "Encyclopedia for the POW and Civilian Internment Camps within Japan." Ms. Mayumi Komiya gave a briefing on the Civilian Internment Camps in Kanagawa prefecture and Akita prefecture.
- 2017/5/28 Study meeting by Mr. Makoto Ezawa on "the rail road runs north-south thru Sumatra, and the Sumatra newspaper."
- 2017/6/28~7/1 "Akita fieldwork." Eleven Network members visited three Camp sites (Osarizawa, Hanaoka, and Kosaka), and one Civilian Internment Camp site (Kemanai) in Akita Prefecture.
- 2017/8/25 The Network Journal No. 18 distributed.
- 2017/8/31 Mr. Toru Fukubayashi, one of the co-founders of POW Research Network Japan passed away because of disease.
- 2017/9/5~16 Family members of a former British POW (Mr. & Mrs. Mottershaw) visited Japan, and attended a get-together meeting, and visited the Camp sites in the Kyushu area. Some Network members accompanied them.
- 2017/9/9 Mr. George Ballantyne, grandson of a former British POW and the afore mentioned Mr. & Mrs. Mottershaw attended the memorial service at Fukuoka No. 2 Camp site in Nagasaki City.
- 2017/10/1~10/9 At the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, former US POWs and their family members (Mr. Henry Chamberlain and 9 others) visited Japan. On the 5th, they joined a get-together meeting in Tokyo. On the 6th and 7th, visited the Camp sites in various places accompanied by some Network members.
- 2017/10/11~10/20 Mr. Paul Murray, son of a former British POW visited Japan, and attended a get-together meeting in Tokyo. Thereafter, visited, the Camp sites in various places in Hokkaido, accompanied by a Network member,
- 2017/11/18 Editors' group meeting for the compilation of an "Encyclopedia on the POW and Civilian Detainees Camps. Briefing was given on Kamikita Camp by Mr. Makoto Ezawa, and on the ships transporting the POWs by Ms. Taeko Sasamoto, respectively.
- 2017/11/23 Princess Laurentien, the wife of Prince Constantijn of the Netherlands, offered flowers at the memorial of war victims erected at Fukuoka No. 2 Camp site in Nagasaki City.
- 2017/12/7 Several Network members attended at the memorial event celebrating the ending of Japan-Australia Grassroots Exchange Program sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and mingled with the members of the RSL (Retired Services League).
- 2017/12/17 A book entitled "Citizen Power Postwar Reconciliation" by a Network member Ms. Yasuko Claremont was introduced at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan.
- 2017/12/23 Editors' group meeting for the compilation of an "Encyclopedia on the POW and Civilian Internment Camps. Briefing was given on Kanose Camp by Ms. Mine Takada, and Kawaguchi Camp by Mr. Takuya Inoue, respectively.
- 2017/12/25 The Network Journal No. 19 distributed.