

In war-time, misunderstandings will arise. Therefore, we wish to tell you something about our treatment of those of your countrymen who are living with us. This is one of the matters on which misunderstandings arise.

They are of course, treated according to international law. Superfluous as it may be, we wish to explain here what International Law stands for in this instance.

In this case, International Law is determined by the Geneva Convention. The official name is "The International Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War," and it was signed by twenty-nine nations at Geneva on July 27, 1929.

The following are extracts:—

"ARTICLE 2 : Prisoners of war are under the control of the Government, but not of the individuals or formation which captured them.

They shall at all times be humanely treated and protected, particularly against acts of violence, from insults, and from public curiosity.

Measures of reprisal against them are forbidden.

ARTICLE 3 : Prisoners of war are entitled to respect for their honour and persons

ARTICLE 10 : Prisoners of war shall be lodged in buildings or huts which afford all possible safeguards as regards hygiene and salubrity.

ARTICLE 11 : The food ration of prisoners of war shall be equivalent in quantity and quality to that of the depot troops The use of tobacco shall be authorised.

ARTICLE 12 : Clothing, underwear and footwear shall be supplied to prisoners of war by the detaining Power

ARTICLE 13 : Belligerents shall be required to take all necessary hygiene measures to ensure the cleanliness and salubrity of camps and to prevent epidemics They (PsW) shall have facilities for engaging in physical exercises and obtaining the benefit of being out of doors.

ARTICLE 14 : Each camp shall possess an infirmary, where prisoners of war shall receive attention of any kind of which they may be in need

ARTICLE 16 : Prisoners of war shall be permitted complete freedom in the performance of their religious duties

ARTICLE 17 : Belligerents shall encourage as much as possible the organization of intellectual and sporting pursuits by the prisoners of war."

Furthermore, work, pay, communication, discipline, etc., are prescribed in detail.

日本軍將兵諸君

戦時双方に於て相手方の事情に關し誤解のある事は珍しくない。当方の諸君戰友に對する態度、取扱等についても相当誤解がある様であるから念のため当方では「國際協定」にもとづき之を取扱つておる事をつけ、蛇足乍ら同協定とは昭和四年七月廿七日にネーブルに於て廿九國代表が調印したものを指すのである事をのべ、その要を左に記す。

第二條 俘虜ハ政府ニ所屬シテ受降又ハ收容部隊或ハ其將兵ノ私スベキモノニ非ズ、之ニ對スル不法、暴行ヲ禁ズルハ勿論、侮辱ヨリ保護セラルベク、又公衆ノ好奇心ヲ満足セシムルガ如キ取扱復讐等ハ之ヲ嚴禁ス。

第三條 俘虜ハ其身分、人格ヲ尊重セラルベキモノニシテ……

第拾條 其宿舍ハ清潔ニシテ保健ニ資スルモノタルベシ。

第十一條 其食餌ハ留置國留守部隊ニ等シカルベク、且たばこヲ支給スベキコト。

第十二條 其被服、下着、靴等モ一切留置國政府ノ支給タリ。

第十三條 戶外保健運動、宿所ノ清潔、傳染病ノ豫防等ハ留置國家ノ責任ナリ。

第十四條 各收容所ニハ被收容者用病室ノ設備アルコトヲ要ス。

第十六條 被收容者ハ信教禮拜ニカシ完全ナル自由ヲユルサル。

第十七條 留置國當事者ハ學藝、運動、競技等被收容者ノ向上ニ資スベキ萬般ニツキ之ヲ奨励スルコトヲ要ス。

ヲ要ス。

左は右協定には勞務、報酬、交通規律等につきても細目の定があり萬事手落の無い様になつて居る。人あるひは諍りて、なにごとのお客様あつたひでと云ふ者もあるう。其答は「戰は國際間の常道でない。從て戰闘中その推移により死するもなんう役にたゝざる戰況に立至りたる際、同じく人である敵將兵をして人間として生き、又將來再び國家のお役にもたつ道を開くにあるのである。」と言明するもので、右の協定をもとにしオーストラリア國防省では左の如く取扱つて居る。

一、收容所ハ之ヲ健康地帶沃地ニ設ケ、其設備、オーストラリア軍兵營ニ等シク、國際法規ニシ

タガヒ將兵ハ別所ヲサダメトス。

二、衣食住ハ等シク之ヲ國內濠洲將兵ノソレニ則ルモ、又米ヲ給シ、調理ハ收容將兵ノ自炊ニマカセ、收容セ

ラレアル將兵ノ希望ニヨリ其材料ノ取捨選擇ヲナサシム。

三、煙草ハ各人ニツキ支給ス。

四、既ニ收容シタル者ニシテ其負傷疾病ノ快癒、健康ノ回復セル者多數ニ上リ、之ニ關シ收容將兵ニシテ感

謝ノ辭ヲ寄スルモノ多シ。

五、健康兵ハ農園等ニ働キ、(國際法規ニヨリ有給)皆明瞭ニ其日ヲオクリアリ。

六、神道、佛教、耶穌教等各自ノ信仰ニシタガイ自由ニ礼拝ヲ行フベク、又各收容所ニハ廣大ナル運動

競技場ノ設備アリ。

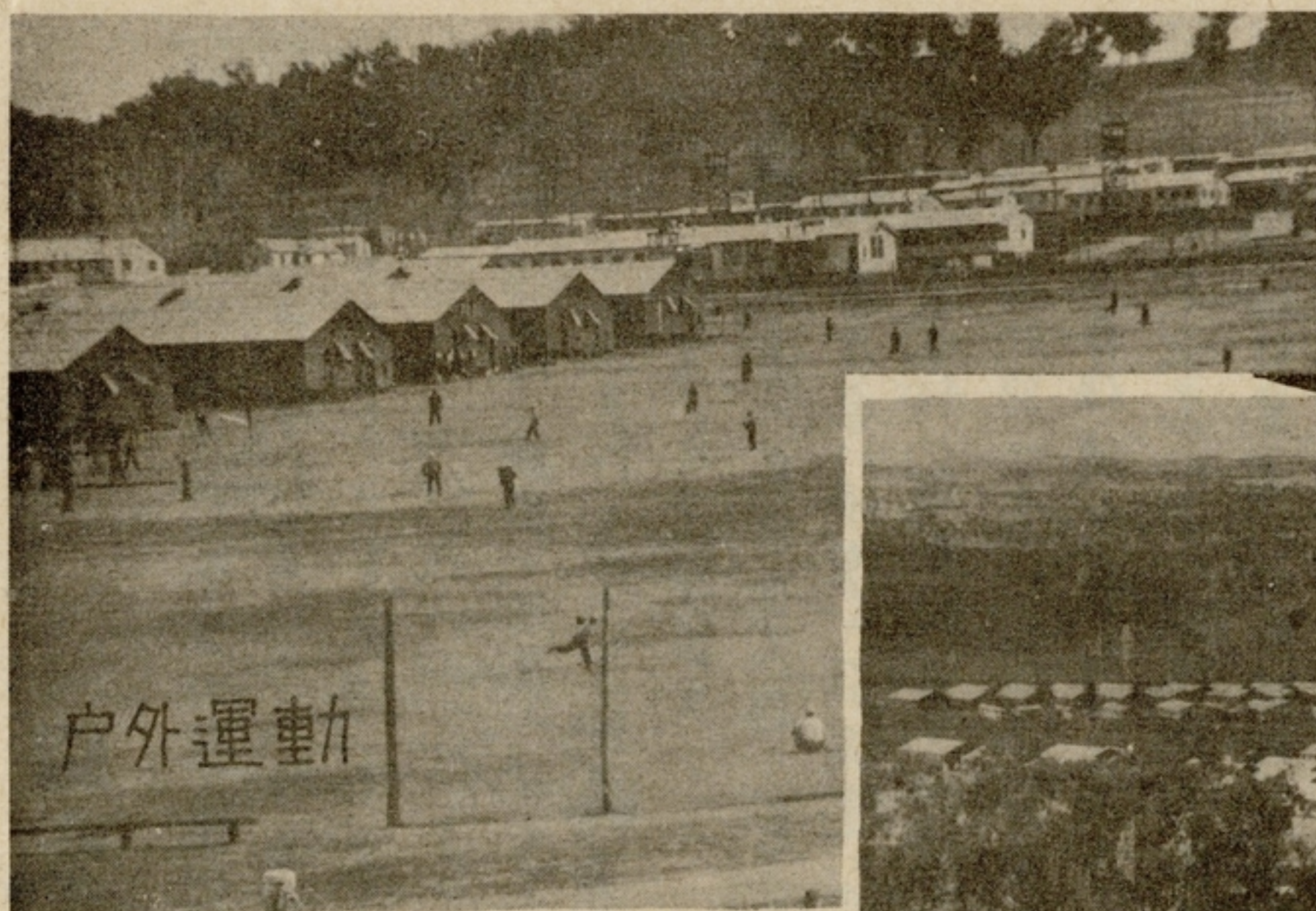
七、各收容所ニ於テハ日刊新聞ノ購讀ハモトヨリ、一週二回ノ交通モ自由ナリ。

八、各收容所ニハ其收容サレ居ル將兵、各自互選ノ区長ヲ有シ、以テ其自治ニ便セシム。

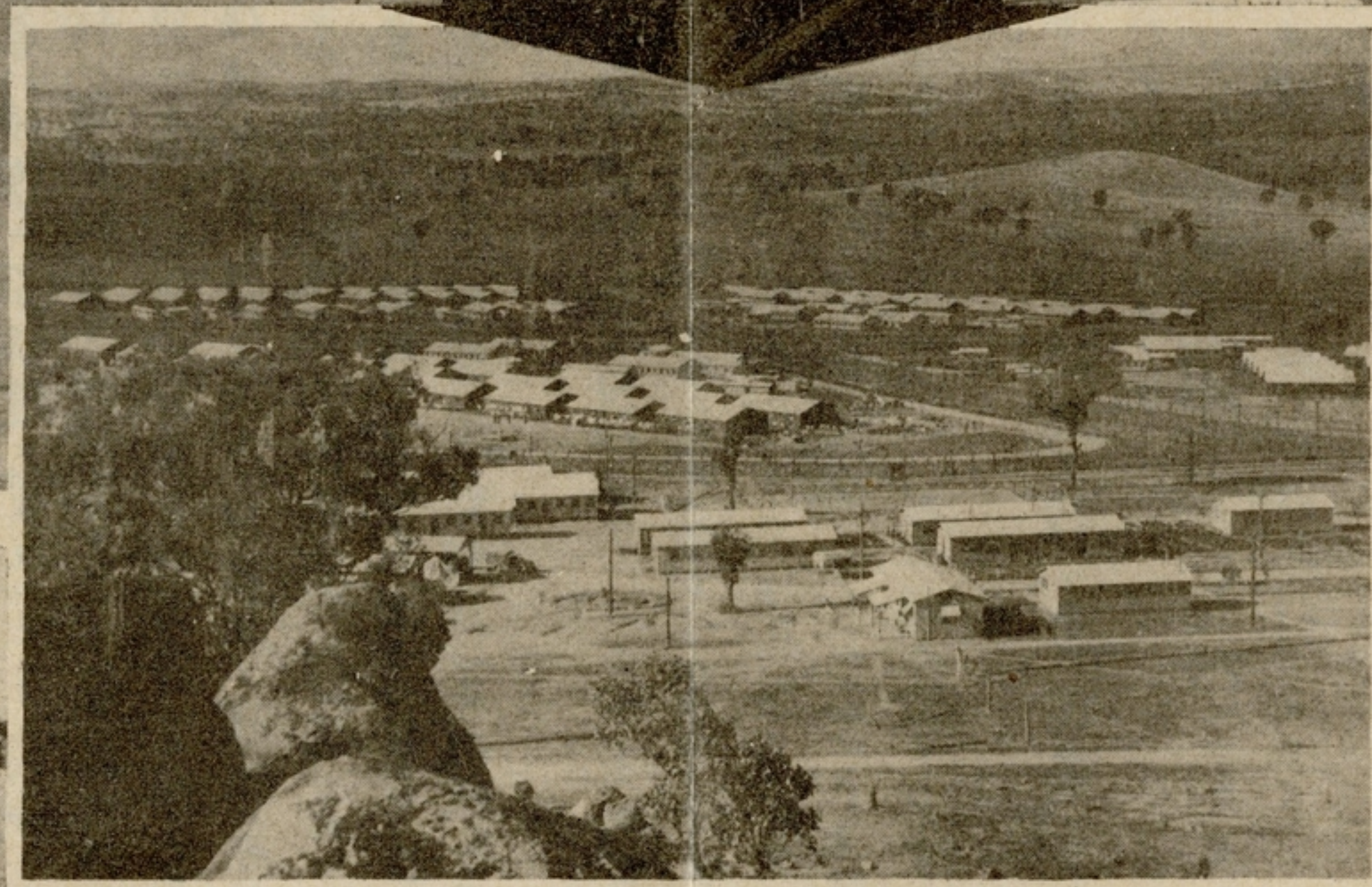
以下略。

右記すところにより、当方の諸君戰友に對する態度、方針、待遇等が如何なるものであるか、いとお解りの事と思ふ。勝敗は兵家の毎、武士は相み互である。心やすくおぼされてよろう。

収容所全景
(オーストラリア)



戶外運動



朝礼集合



収容所用野菜の栽培



負傷勇士をいたはる聯合軍看護婦

What, would you say, is the purpose of these provisions? Are they merely to ensure that a man who is captured, or who voluntarily surrenders, shall spend the rest of his days as a prisoner—even although he may be well cared for?

No! These provisions are made to ensure that, when hostilities end, the man may be in a healthy mental and bodily state so that he can be of further service to his native country when normal times return.

On the basis of that convention, the Department of the Army of the Commonwealth of Australia are treating Japanese Prisoners of War in the following way:—

1. Prisoner of war camps in Australia are established in fertile and healthy country districts. The accommodation provided is similar to that provided for the Australian Army. In accordance with international regulations (Japanese) officers and other ranks are accommodated in separate compounds.

2. Although Japanese prisoners of war receive the same ration scale as Australian depot troops, rice can be supplied and prisoners can do their own cooking. They may obtain variation of food in harmony with their national dietary requirements through the camp leader.

3. Japanese other ranks prisoners are given a free issue of five cigarettes per man per day.

4. As the result of medical facilities provided in the camps, the health of the prisoners of war has improved immensely since their capture, for which many have expressed their gratitude.

5. Other ranks prisoners of war in good health are employed in farming and other work. They are paid for this work in accordance with international regulations. They appear to be doing their work in a cheerful mood.

6. Prisoners of war are permitted to observe their own religious ceremonies (Shinto, Buddhist and Christian). There is plenty of space in each camp for sports and exercises.

7. Daily newspapers are available and, if desired, two letters a week may be despatched by each prisoner.

8. Each compound has a camp leader elected from amongst themselves by the prisoners of war.

Victory or defeat in war is a matter of fate, but soldiers respect one another. So you can be easy in mind about these things.

CAPTIONS ON PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Prisoner of war camp in Australia.
2. Assembling for morning worship.
3. Taking exercise to keep healthy.
4. Growing vegetables for the camp.
5. This wounded soldier is being looked after by an Allied nurse.