

Page 35 - Austin Roberts' Second World War

ISSUE: <u>Issue 47</u>

Published by Ronald Caplan on 1988/1/1

I., .?..*' M'' Liberated Canadian prisoners-of-war aboard the PRINCE RUPERT i. 1945. said, "Yeah, I can see the tower. Nobody in the tower, either." So, we ventured out timidly into the yard. Guardhouse empty, all the guards are gone. All the towers empty, gone. Not a Japanese in sight, anywhere. I suppose it was about 10 o'clock. We heard this plane coming, and we knew it was an American plane. You could tell the difference in the planes, you know, after you're used to them. Plane came over, and circle--dropped a carton of cig? arettes with a note tied to it saying, "The war's over. Finished. Try to hang on. We'll be in, but it'll take time." So. We're all standing around looking at one another. And I looked at this fellow, and the tears were running down his cheeks. I said, "What are you crying for?" He said, "That water on your face isn't spit, ei? ther!" Every one of us was the same--we were all crying, the whole works. Well, there were about--Englishmen and Americans and all that were there then, in that camp--there were about 3500, I sup? pose. And I guarantee you, that there was not one person ever molested, not one per? son ever bothered in any way. We were 12 days there, in that camp. We went out around, back and forth. The Japanese people came there and picked up--scavenged what was broken and that. And there was never one thing. (No one ever beat up any Japanese people?) No one ever beat up a Japanese person. (No "We're MacLeod-Lorway Insurance / CALL us NOV' and discover why more Cape Breton residents are insured through MacLeod-Lorway than any other independent agency. We represent more than half of Canada's leading insurance companies. Call or visit 215 Charlotte St. one of our 12 licensed agents for pre-purchase counselling. P.O. Box 1354 MacLeod-Lorway offers personal and commercial lines including home owners and Sydney, N.S. tenants packages and mobile home, travel, auto, builder's risk, commercial fire, crime, B1P 6K3 commercial liability, marine, bonding, business interruption and boiler and machinery. 24 hour phone - call collect 539-6666