

Tony Temple

POW Camp Guards

I couldn't find anything wrong about the camp. Let's face it we were prisoners. I mean anybody who's expecting five star treatment in a place like that. Well we never gave them five star treatment when we captured them in the desert or whatever. You were the last person thought of in the nation there, the nation comes first. If anybody understood this then obviously the treatment that we got was reasonable. And there was only one odd bod , and he was one of the original 'black shirt' members, and he used to pull out a revolver now and again to try and frighten blokes to work harder and the blokes used to tell him to "get stuffed". He didn't know what they were talking about like, they'd just walk away from him. But he didn't do anything, there was no belting somebody with sticks and staves. He tried to threaten the lads with his revolver once or twice and we just reported him to the laager major, we used to call him, but he was a *feldwebel*, a sergeant. And he went to the factory and had a go and he said "the next time you do it you'll go to prison". And that was it, we never got any more like. As I say, this sergeant he was kind hearted itself, again considering that we were prisoners, he used to look after our welfare. In relation to the work that we were doing he would make sure that they weren't putting onto us and we weren't putting onto them.