

Joe Obayashi. Joe Obayashi, Liaison Unit, Headquarters Battery, recalls his "Dachau experience" as follows:

"As a forward observer group, we were on a mission to locate the enemy line when we drove past Dachau and the prison camp. No enemy resistance was encountered. As we passed by the prison, I recalled that a small door of the prison was open and a handful of prisoners wearing striped clothing were roaming around the entrance way. Some of them were on the ground either they were dead or barely alive. We were told that some of the doors and gates were left open by the retreating German soldiers...As we drove through this area, I recalled that there were a couple of dead horses along the roadside. We proceeded around the rolling hill as the prison site disappeared in the lower part of the land and at some point we were recalled by radio.

On our return trip, we found a

large number of prisoners wearing the striped clothing, roaming all over the area together with other large gatherings along the roadside and eating the dead animals. Many were on the ground either dead or barely alive. The over-all happening was unbelievable and this is the way I remembered Dachau."
[Statement of Joe Obayashi]

[The Historical Album Committee of The 522 Field Artillery Battalion of the 442 Regimental Combat Team. *FIRE FOR EFFECT*. Fisher Printing Co., Inc. 1998]

Below. Dead human bodies found in one of the camps about to be put in the crematory but left abandoned by the fleeing SS guards.

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