

Captain Billy Taylor. In his oral history interview for the Hawaii Holocaust Project, Captain Billy Taylor, former 522nd S-2 officer identified himself and Sgt. Shozo Kajioka (deceased) as the “two liaison scouts” witnessed by Ichihiro Imamura as opening the Dachau prison gates:

“We passed very rapidly, and on approaching Munich, Germany, approximately ten miles north or ten kilometers north of Munich, we came upon a horrible scene. It was a — happened to be the Dachau death concentration camp. Well, we arrived at the gate and it was locked.....at the cap itself, where there were the few living prisoners, but mostly we found bodies in boxcars.

A lot of them that hadn't been cremated in the ovens which were there. These were mostly Jewish men with some Polish.....it was a fenced compound and we were at a gate.

And the sergeant [Shozo Kajioka], I ben told, I can't recollect for sure, but he was the one that shot the gate open and opened it up. And, of course, there were not too many prisoners there that were able to get around too much, becausethey had taken 8,000 of the prisoners and moved them out of the camp....Now this was just one section, or one gate of the Dachau concentration camp. And the best I found out, I didn't know at the time, just how large. I knew it was a large camp. It covered several miles or better. But I found out later that there's some other people that've said they were the first ones [to] arrive



At Left. The prisoners would just stare and gape at their liberators not knowing what to do with their freedom.

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at Dachau. But it would, probably, they were at some other section of the camp, or other gates, or maybe some of these outlying camps that were around Dachau itself....” [“Days of Remembrance”, Volume II, pages 822, 797-804]

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