

**Tadashi Tojo and Robert Sugai (deceased).** Tojo and Sugai of A Battery, assigned to another American mechanized unit as forward observers sometime between April 20 to 29, 1945, eyewitnessed a Tank Destroyer smash open the gate of a barbed-wire compound somewhere in the vicinity of Augsburg (probably Horgau) to release the starved, emaciated, disoriented prisoners. Tojo recalls:

“Sugai and I were on a M-35 reconnaissance vehicle from an armored unit operating in our sector....on our mission with the tank group that day, we came upon a huge barbed wire encampment with a double-locked gate. The roadway leading to it appeared to be a swamp.....after we discovered it, we acked out and let te lead (larger) Tank Destroyer break into the compound.

I was asked more than once by the interviewers if there were any rejoicing by the inmates when they were freed. Quite the contrary, most of those people appeared to be ‘walking zombies.’ They seemed to be disoriented and just shuffled out of their barracks or compounds and walked around aimlessly. I distinctly remembered that someone threw a bar of chocolate or a fruit bar. An inmate picked it up and took a feeble bite of it, only to throw up. Someone wisely yelled not to feed the prisoners. These people were starved and emaciated beyond help. I saw a medic attempting to administer intravenous feeding but he had great difficulty locating the blood vessels to start the procedure.” [Statement of Tadashi Tojo]

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