

H.N.P. / 5457

Tel:
St. Sampson
4560

RECEIVED
27 MAR 1965
HNP.545-①

Columbia Villa,
St. Sampsons,
Guernsey, C.I.

H

Mar: 21st

1965

acc'd 253

Dear Sir,

I beg to submit my claim for compensation, Re Nazi persecution.

I had served in the British army in France in the 1st World War. When this 2nd World War came, I had been a member of the Guernsey Police Force approx: 15 years. Shortly after the Island was occupied, the Germans had called in all wireless sets, but I had hidden mine, and heard news

on occasions, ²telling the people to hinder the enemy as much as possible. We in the Police Force had devised different things to do, and when on night duty being the only persons allowed about after curfew, proceeded to hinder the Germans in many ways.

In March 1942. I was arrested with other members, by the German police, and sentenced to 26 months at hard labour, on a German charge (sabotage of German food.)

June 1942, I, with others arrived at Caen Centrale Prison; after a few weeks, I, with others were taken to a Fortress (Villeneuve St. George) just outside Paris.

May 1943; large drafts of

(3)
prisoners were being sent to
Germany. Members of our party
had already left us, for some
unknown destination. Bailey and
I, were the only members of our
original party to arrive at a
place called Braunau, or Bernau.
This prison was very large, close
to mountains on one side, and a
lake or river some distance on the
other side, understood to be close
to Salzburg, Bavaria.

Prisoners worked in groups
of approx: 50 or 60, although Bailey
was in the same building, we
were in a different group at work,
working on the ground in summer
and making canals in winter.

The guard in ⁽⁴⁾ my group had a vicious dog, and besides beating up prisoners with his fists, boots and rifle butt, would set the dog on them. I suffered many of these atrocities. Being scantily clothed (pants, jacket, shirt, boots, and rags for our feet, we suffered terribly with the cold when winter came, snow was on the ground from Nov. to April, freezing hard every night. We were taken to work in the fields in all weathers, with no extra clothing. Many times one was soaked through even before arriving on the work, but it made no difference, one had to carry on irrespective of the ~~the~~ conditions, clothing got soaked, and dried on one's back, sometimes frozen stiff.

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THE ORIGINAL HAS BEEN
CLOSED FOR
...60... YEARS UNDER FOI
EXEMPTION No.40.....

Many times ⁽⁵⁾ I have been to the
prison soaked through, after work,
in the fields. Arrived in our room,
one had to undress, and wrap up
in the only blanket to try and get
warm, there was no heat in the
rooms, the only heat was the pint
of hot water with perhaps a cabbage
leaf, or a few grains of corn in a
bowl before going to bed. One
had to get into bed immediately
after drinking what was called
soup, otherwise one couldn't sleep
at all with the cold. Next morning
one had to be up at six o'clock
and dressed in soaking wet clothes
as there was no means of drying.

In consequence of beatings, bad
food, and conditions, many prisoners

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EXEMPTION No. 40

(6)

died. I was reduced to skin and bones, and got so weak that I could not get up when I fell down. I had to be assisted by my prison comrades, some who I am very sorry to say collapsed ~~later~~ and died.

Eventually I was put to work sewing buttons on garments. After a few weeks on that work, I was sent with 30 or so prisoners to an old castle at Naihingen - Enzy, near Strasburg, where I was given the job of sorting feathers out in different-sizes, I was then so weak that I could not move a small sack full of feathers when I was told to get one.

I had left Bailey at Braunau
or Bernau.

(7)
After a few weeks at this place
I was released on July 25th
1944, being the end of my
sentence. I was escorted to
Biberach internment-camp, where
my wife and young daughter
had been taken because of my
act against the German regime.

When I arrived at the
camp, I was put under medical
care for some weeks, my weight
which was originally around
12 stone was around 6 stone.

For many months I was a
nervous wreck, and even now
I get nightmares of my prison

(8)
experiences on occasions.

Sir, I cannot give my
prison number, as I have
forgotten it after all these years.

Should you want more details
of my treatment there, and
treatment of others, I will be
happy to oblige.

I remain at your service
Thomas John Leudion
Columbia Villa
St. Sampsons
Guernsey,

1545
FORM A for use by
surviving victims of
Nazi persecution

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A BRITISH
VICTIM OF NAZI PERSECUTION

- N.B.—1. Before completing this form it is important to read carefully the attached Notes for Guidance and then to answer all questions fully.
2. Please attach all documentary evidence to the form. All documents sent will be returned.
 3. All applications must be received before the 31st of July, 1965.
 4. Acceptance of an application for registration does not constitute a right to participate in the distribution.

SECTION ONE—IDENTITY

Surname GAUDION
Other names THOMAS JOHN
Address COLUMBIA VILLA
ST SAMPSONS GUERNSEY

SECTION TWO—NATIONALITY

1. How did you acquire British nationality?
(Please write YES opposite the method that applies and delete the others)
 - (a) By birth? YES (If so, please attach birth certificate)
 - (b) By marriage? (If so, please attach marriage certificate and birth or naturalisation certificate of husband)
 - (c) By naturalisation? (If so, please attach certificate)
 - (d) By some other method? (If so, please give full details)

2. If you are not British by birth what was your previous nationality?.....
Do you still retain that nationality?.....
If not, when and how did you lose it?.....
(Please attach all documentary evidence)

3. If you are a dual-national—

(a) Where were you ordinarily resident on the 9th of June, 1964?

(Please attach all available evidence, e.g., receipts for rent or rates, &c.)

(b) Have you been in Crown Service under Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom? (If so, please give full details and dates)

(c) Are you the holder of a British passport? (If so, please give number and full details)

SECTION THREE—PERSECUTION

1. Please give, on a separate sheet, the following details of your imprisonment:

(a) Name of camp or other place of detention, its situation, its general conditions and régime;

(b) Dates of imprisonment and of release; prison number; reasons for imprisonment and circumstances in which it arose;

(c) If you are suffering permanent disability as a result of treatment received during your imprisonment please give full details of its nature and cause;

(d) Any other information you consider useful and relevant.
(Please attach all documentary evidence)

2. Have you at any time received any payment in respect of this persecution? *NO*
(If YES please give full details)

I HEREBY DELARE that all the above statements are to the best of my knowledge and recollection true in all particulars.

Signature. *Y. J. Gaudion*

Date. *31/1/65*