

FOREIGN OFFICE

1964

(CLAIMS)

FILE NO. HNP 1358.

Hnp 396
Hnp 435

Name of File :—

J Harper.

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THE FOLLOWING is a statement by JACK HARPER regarding
PAUL GOURDON:

In July 1945 all Guernsey political prisoners were placed in the hold of a cargo boat including myself and we proceeded to Jersey where a number of political prisoners from Jersey were also placed on board and one of them included Paul Gourdon.

We proceeded to Granville, France, and subsequently to Germany. When in Germany we were split up into groups and sent to various slave-labor camps. Paul Gourdon was in my group and we went to Neoffingen, Bavaria after being processed at Augsburg Prison.

We were put to work on the railroad track with pick, axe, fork, and shovel, digging a trench; this was in August, 1945. We were working in pairs and Paul Gourdon was my partner. On the second work day Paul suggested we make a run for it because we had the woods at the back of us and the guard at our end would go up in the signal box for his beer.

The following day I agreed to have a go at it. We dropped our picks and ran through the woods. After five (5) days living on the land we were crossing a field and had to pass a signal box when I heard a voice shout halt! I looked back and saw a young man armed with a rifle. Paul and I started to run for it and he kept ahead of me. I could hear the bullets coming very close to me so I hollered to Paul to keep going and I threw my hands in the air. The German came up and butted me with the rifle and we went back to the signal box where I was placed in the coal hole.

Later a German policeman came and took me to the local police station. I was unable to tell them where I escaped from so I was transferred to a number of prisons in Germany until they located me.

Paul was not caught and kept on running. I was subsequently returned to Augsburg prison and received twenty-eight (28) days solitary confinement with bread and water. After a few days in the hole the Germans took me out in the yard for exercise where I saw Paul Gourdon. I told him to get behind me, which he did, and he told me that he had gotten to the Belgian Border and was fed by a farmer but later the farmer turned him in to the German police.

I was returned to Neoffingen slave camp and was beaten many times. Paul never came back so I thought he had been placed in the oven. It was not until October 1965 when I was in Guernsey on a visit and the Guernsey Press reporters came to me for a story which they published with my photograph that Paul, who was on a holiday in Guernsey from Jersey, read the story and found my address and came to see me.

I noticed that his right arm was disabled and he was highly emotional and suffering from loss of memory and it was me that advised him to file an application for compensation. He told me he had been in a prison and at one time the room was so hot he was actually given a second help of beer. He said the other prisoners were looking at him.

JULY 20th, 1966

Jack Harper
JACK HARPER

April 12. 1965

Foreign Secretary,

Foreign Office,

London. S.W. 1.

Dear Sir,

With reference to paragraph 8 under notes for guidance, I wish to state that I was a member of the British Royal Air Force during World War 1. for a period of 3 years and was discharged with papers marked very good.

I also served with States of Guernsey Island Police Force for a period of 20 years and during that time received a number of commendations and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

The Force in question comes under H.M. Privy Council.

I also had two sons serving during World War II. Leslie Jack Harper was in the British Army and he was at Cassino Italy and he was a Sergeant Physical training instructor and was selected as escort Sgt to Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery.

The other son Morris Frank Harper was a Corporal in U.S. Army and served in England, France, & Germany.

I also have a Brother & Sister residing in Guernsey, Channel Islands north whom I correspond and hope to visit real soon.

My Brother Fred served in World War II and did my Brother in Law Joe Edwards.

My Son Leslie resides in Yorkshire England and I correspond with him.

With regard to a British passport I was issued same by the Late Honorable Ernest Bevin who was then Foreign Secretary.

I visited Canada on several occasions with that passport before I became an American Citizen.

I also wrote to the British Foreign Office, London, the German Embassy, and U.S. Foreign Office Washington D.C. claiming compensation in January 1961.

I also wrote to the U.S. Embassy Bonn Germany and received replies from all of my letters.

I had also engaged the services of
Dr. Herbert Brauer an Attorney at Law
whose address is 113 Zeil, Frankfurt
on Main Germany and he made inquiries
at the U.S. & British Embassies in Bonn
but without results because no grant
had been made at that time, this was
on January 18, 1961.

I had also consulted with the British
Ice Consul here in Miami and received
some advice from that Gentleman.

I am now totally disabled and
would deeply appreciate if you can
find me qualified in Paragraph 8
for my Application for compensation.

I am Sir,
Yours Very Sincerely
Jack Harper

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 HARPER.

Other names JACK.

Address 11 - N.E. 5 ST. MIAMI.
FLORIDA. U.S.A.

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? Miami
Florida. U S A.

(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) No.

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

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF Dade
Jack Hunter Notary Public,
do hereby certify that Jack Hunter
personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the
due execution of the foregoing instrument. Witness my
and official seal, this 10th
of Feb, 1965

Signature Jack Hunter

Date

NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF FLORIDA AT LARGE

My commission expires NOTARY PUBLIC STATE of FLORIDA at LARGE
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES SEPT. 7, 1967
BONDED THROUGH FRED W. DIESTELHORST

STATEMENT OF JACK HARPER REGARDING COMPENSATION CLAIM

Following is a statement by Mr. Jack Harper regarding injuries received and losses incurred during his incarceration as a political prisoner under the Nazi regime during the years from March 1942 to May 1945:

"I was a British Police Sergeant serving with the Guernsey States Island Police Force in Guernsey, Channel Islands, England; a position I held for 20 years, with 15 commendations to my credit during that time.

At about 6:40 p.m. on Friday, July 20, 1940, I was on patrol duty on foot in the main town, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, when I heard the drone of heavy bombing planes approaching the Island from the direction of France. I looked skywards and saw about 6 Nazi bomber planes which were clearly marked with the Nazi swastika. Guernsey at that time was an open city, and there were no British Forces on the Island at that time except for the Police Force and Special Police who were unarmed.

The Nazi planes circled the town and flew over the harbour bombing and machine gunning tomato laden trucks which were unloading produce for shipment to England.

Incendiary bombs were dropped and the whole area surrounding the town harbour was on fire, including trucks.

The bombing and machine gunning lasted for about 30 minutes and as a result a number of British citizens, male and female, were killed and wounded. When the air raid had ceased and the bombing planes had returned to France I proceeded to the town harbour and assisted in the removal of the dead bodies to the mortuary and wounded to the hospitals. I was overcome by smoke fumes but remained on the job.

Two days after the air raid on the Sunday evening at about 7:30 p.m. I was on duty at the Central Police Station, St. Peter Port, when my Police Chief called me by phone and requested me to drive him in the police car accompanied by the Deputy Police Chief and Police Constable Plevin to the airport to meet Nazi Armed Forces which had landed at the airport in Nazi troop carrying planes.

The Police Constable and I were dressed in full uniform including Police helmets and the Chiefs were attired in plain clothes. I proceeded to the States Airport and parked the Police car outside on Main Road, and we all four walked along the driveway leading to the terminal building.

We were approached by scores of heavily armed Nazi soldiers and because of the fact that Guernsey was the first British possession to be occupied by Nazi forces numerous photographs were taken of the four of us by a Nazi officer who had a box camera strapped to his chest. This being perfected for propaganda purposes. Following this I was instructed to drive the Nazi Commanding Officer, My Police Chief, and another Nazi Officer who sat in front with me and was holding a 45-calibre revolver between his legs, to the Royal Hotel, Glatgny Esplanade, St. Peter Port.

I proceeded to the Royal Hotel and was followed by a convoy of cars which had been confiscated by Nazi forces from local residents.

On arriving at the Hotel I was in the custody of the German officer and we sat in the hotel lobby together.

All local press representatives on the Island were called to the hotel and later, with the Nazi officer, I had to proceed to Havelet House, St. Peter Port, and request Mr. Ambrose Sherwill, the Guernsey Attorney General to accompany me to the Royal Hotel; an order from the Nazi Commander.

This having been completed I was instructed to proceed to La Vallon, St. Martins, and bring to the Hotel Mr. Victor Carey, the President and Chief Judge of Guernsey Island. During these journeys I was escorted by heavily armed Nazi forces following in a car.

A meeting was held in the hotel between Island officials and the Nazi Commanding Officer and a bulletin was issued to the Guernsey Press for official publication and the meeting subsequently ended and I was permitted to return to normal duties after returning the Island officials to their homes.

About two weeks before the Nazi occupation of the Island numerous local residents evacuated the Island leaving behind them most of their worldly possessions.

As a result of the evacuation a number of evacuees' homes were occupied by Nazi forces and large quantities of valuable clothing and merchandise were removed from the homes by the Nazi forces and shipped to Germany.

I was on duty at the police office and many times received telephone calls to the effect that Nazi forces were breaking and entering the homes of evacuees and removing their personal possessions and I was powerless to take any action regarding this because the whole Island police force was under direct orders from the Nazi military command and gestapo.

A curfew order was issued by the Nazi command that all local residents be in doors by 10 p.m., with the exception of the local police force, who were permitted by special Nazi orders and pass to patrol the Island from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. From June 1940 to March 1942 these orders were carried out under very trying circumstances and at times some local police officers were shot at during their tour of duty at night.

For about a year of Nazi occupation we were permitted to retain our radio sets and listened attentively to the BBC broadcasts by Colonel Britain who was advising citizens in all Nazi occupied countries to sabotage the efforts of the Nazi Regime by any means possible; such as: vandalism, painting V signs on streets, doors, and Nazi occupied buildings. Larceny was also encouraged to slow down and bring the war to a fast and ending solution.

Local residents, including police officers, began committing all kinds of acts of sabotage; such as: painting V signs in streets and on property. Purloining German sausage and food products of the French Government and brought to Guernsey for Nazi forces consumption. Granulated sugar was placed in petrol tanks of Nazi driven cars owned by Guernsey residents and sabotage became so prevalent that the Nazi High Command was offering monetary rewards for the arrest of person or persons involved but there were no results from this offer.

In March 1942 Police Constable Kingston Bailey and Police Constable Frank H. Tuck were on night duty and at about 1 a.m. they were patrolling Truchot St., St. Peter Port, when they found a Nazi Military Food Store insecure. The store was filled with canned meats and soups made in France. The officers concerned decided to remove some of these products and were in the act of doing so when two members of the Nazi military forces and Gestapo came at them with revolvers drawn. Both officers were detained under Nazi military custody.

In consequence of threats of the firing squad and other tortures to which these officers were subjected by the Gestapo and statements made by these officers under remorse and extreme pressure, the whole Guernsey police force were taken into custody by Nazi military forces and detained. A number of police officers were released and eighteen officers, including myself, were detained in a British military fortress at the Citadel, Fort George, Guernsey under Nazi military guard.

The Gestapo, following the detention of Officers Bailey and Tuck, searched all police Officers' homes for French food property of the peoples of the Third German Reich and did not find one solitary item of food. All of the officers detained were taken separately to Nazi headquarters and were questioned by 6 members of the Gestapo and each officer was treated with the utmost brutality.

I was the last officer to be interviewed and interrogated by the Gestapo and during this time I was knocked to the floor, kicked in the stomach by the Jackboot and my face was spit on and I was called a bloody liar by the Gestapo chief in broken English. They accused me of sabotage, and holding meetings with other officers in my home with a view of wrecking the efforts of Hitler's armies of the Peoples Third Reich; all of which I denied. Following more appearances for questioning we were all charged with committing acts of sabotage against the Peoples Third Reich and subsequently tried by a German Nazi Military Court and sent to various concentration camps in France and Germany.

Eighteen Geurnsey police officers, including myself, were placed under military escort in the hold of a French cargo boat and battened down. The boat proceeded to Jersey, Channel Islands. We stayed there overnight and the following morning were transferred to the boat with a number of Jersey political prisoners. We landed at Granville, France, and were taken to Caen, France. Later, Officers Tuck, Friend and myself, in company with a number of French political prisoners, were transferred from France to Landsberg Prison, Germany, and subsequently transferred from Landsberg to Augsburg Prison. From Augsburg, 60-French prisoners, Officers Tuck, Friend and myself, were taken to a slave labour camp at Neoffingen which had been set up for work on German railroads.

We were all put to work with pickforks and shovels on German railroad tracks removing old ties replacing same by new ties. The same work applied to old rails replacing them by new. My personal effects, which included a gold wristlet watch, 18 carat gold ring, civilian clothing, 2 new suit cases, a top coat and 25 pounds in cash, were taken from me at Augsburg. In place of this I was given a thin and ragged jacket, a shirt and trousers and a pair of wooden shoes. I had never used a pick axe in my life before and did not know how to do so. The Nazi labor master, whom I understand was a pre-war strong man in a circus, was in charge of the working gang and was one of Satan's best. For some reason or other he picked on me from the beginning of my incarceration. I would be doing my best to use the pick axe and he would take it away from me; shout in German; show me how to use it; and beat me across the back with the flat side of the axe. He also, from time-to-time, beat me with a six-pronged fork with the flat side across my back. On another occasion he hit me on the head with the flat part of a shovel. When the labour gang was served at noon time with soup and a piece of black bread the labour master would deny me a ration and I had to stand up while the others sat down and ate their rations. This kind of treatment to me occurred many times. When we would return to the Camp at Neoffingen after work, the labour master would inform the camp commandant that I did not work and for that I was denied my supper and chained to a post in a standing position all through the night. In the morning I was released and sent to work without food. As a result of this treatment I became weak and lost weight rapidly -- weighing only 84 pounds. I weighed 190 pounds before this.

At one time when I was working on the railroad track there had been a severe frost during the night and early in the morning I had to pick up a metal plaque and this stuck to my fingers and it tore away the skin from my fingertips on my right hand. I was in severe pain and I showed my fingers to the labour master and he simply beat them with a pronged stick which he was carrying and ordered me back to work. The fingers healed without treatment but the little finger was split open and itchy. I showed it to the camp commandant on Sunday morning at the camp and he picked up a pair of scissors and cut the top of my little finger off. I have the scar to prove this. I collapsed on the floor and he hicked me in the stomach and called me an English swinehund.

On another occasion I was carrying some metal plaques down the track with my both hands. I had to pass the labour master who was peeling an apple with his bayonet and, as I passed him, for his own sadistic pleasure he jabbed the bayonet about an inch deep into my left buttock and I lost a considerable amount of blood by his action.

I remained in this camp at Neoffingen for a period of about two years, during which time I was starved and beaten so many times that my mentality became impaired and my health was broken and I was transferred with two French prisoners to Kassheim Prison in 1944. I was later taken to a labour camp with other prisoners and worked in a shell case factory near Kassheim. I remained there until February 1945 and as the war was nearing its end all prisoners in the camp were ordered to march back to Kassheim prison -- a distance of about 60 miles. When back in Kassheim one morning the labour master who was in charge of us at the Shell Factory ordered all prisoners in my room to parade outside to receive leather shoes; replacing wooden shoes. I was in the toilet at the time of the order and when I entered the room all the other prisoners had left the room to be fitted with leather shoes. When they returned the labour master began to scream at me; dragged me out in the hallway and knocked me down on the flagstone. As a result of this I injured my left leg temporarily and this left me with a permanent limp. I was dragged to the sick bay -- being unable to walk -- where I remained without any medical treatment by the Nazi doctor. At 4 a.m. one morning a prison official came into the sick bay and ordered me to get up and follow him to the admission room which I did and I saw most of my fellow prisoners sitting around waiting for removal back to Landsberg Prison where we were all sent. When at Landsberg I was placed in the hospital section of the prison and remained there until liberation by the United States Army in May 1945.

After I was liberated I remained with the U. S. Army and did service for them as a honorary Staff Sgt. in charge of Food Supplies at Kaiser Wilhelm Kaserne, Mannheim, Germany, after being fed and restored to fairly reasonable health, for which I say Thank God and God Bless America. My service in the U. S. Army was to take care of and feed displaced persons numbering at that time ten thousand.

I subsequently returned to Guernsey and my son Morris Harper who was a member of the U. S. Army wrote me and invited me to join him in the U. S. A. I also had a son Leslie Harper serving in the British Army during World War II. I entered the U. S. A. December 16, 1946 and I am now an American citizen.

I obtained employment as a heat treat operator at Chevrolet Division General Motors, 1001 E. Delavan Avenue, Buffalo, New York, which I held for a period of 15 months and had to resign because I lost the use of my right arm and had to enter a hospital for surgery which the specialist diagnosed as a tubercular condition in my right shoulder, caused by beatings and malnutrition. I was operator on and a piece of bone was removed from my left hip and grafted into my right shoulder. I now have partial use of my right arm but can only partially raise it. I was hospitalized for a period of 3-1/2 years at Perrysberg Sanatorium, New York, and my right arm and shoulder was in a cast for 2-1/2 years. I am now partially disabled and cannot pass the physical requirements for factory employment in U. S. labour.

During my stay in the hospital in the U. S. A. I received a letter from Frank Tuck, who is a resident in Liverpool, England, concerning the treatment meted out to us, especially myself, and I enclose a photo copy of Tuck's letter. I did not dictate anything in this letter because I did not know where Tuck was, but he finally succeeded in tracing me and forwarded the letter. I cannot provide the names of the prison camp officials but regarding the sadistic tortures meted out to me at their hands, all 60 French political prisoners and 3 British police officers, 2 now because one is dead, can bear witness as to the truth of my statements as can members of the U. S. Army as to my physical condition on Liberation Day.

Jack Harper

JACK HARPER

COMPENSATION EXAMINATION

CANADIAN SUBJECT

26 August 1965

Patient is a 65 year old white male chronically ill being examined for various residuals of disease connected with his internment in Nazi concentration camps. He originally weighed about 190 pounds - when he left the camp he was about 84 pounds, suffering from malnutrition, tuberculosis and frost bite of both feet and right hand. Following such, he developed tuberculosis of the right shoulder and had ankylosis of this area for this condition around 1947. His pulmonary tuberculosis has been inactive recently. However he does have hematogenous spread from time to time and around March 1965 was found to have a positive kidney culture in the urine. There are no specific complaints in the G.U. tract at this time and no definite involvement. On physical examination, for complete history and findings and possible x-ray findings, reference is made to the records of Jackson Memorial Hospital being followed this year. This has been supplemented also by follow-up in the T. B. Clinic, Dade County. He has been under tuberculosis chemotherapy for this during this year and was also found to have anemia and blood changes which are still being followed. I am rechecking blood count to see if there is more than just a secondary anemia. Pat

Patient is about 5'11", weighs 146 pounds. He is right handed. He still shows residual malnutrition and he has never regained his normal weight, strength and stamina. He has residuals of frost bites, of both feet and the right hand. There is some vasomotor disturbance with coldness, sweating and atypical color changes in response to various stimuli, cold, warmth, elevation and dependency. This is associated with some maceration and superficial secondary infections of some of the toes. These will flare up occasionally. He also has a feeling of numbness in the right hand without any definite neurologic deficit. Both feet and the right hand tend to blanch on cold stimuli with areas of light violaceous mottling. They are always cold and sweaty. These three extremities with periods of excessive hyperemia, throbbing and some pain when exposed to heat or dependency. External genitalia are normal. There is no enlargement or tenderness of the kidneys to percussion except that - superficial slight pallor. There are no positive hematologic findings. Blood count is being checked for this. There is no cyanosis, clubbing or edema. There is no evidence of cor pulmonale. Patient does have residuals of an old pulmonary tuberculosis, malnutrition and associated emphysema with moderate decline in pulmonary reserve. He has some evidence of pulmonary insufficiency. He cannot walk more than 1-2 blocks on level ground without becoming short of breath. There is no enlargement of the liver or ascites. There is no orthopnea or distended cervical veins.

1.

Awards Reference: 8447

HARPER, Jack
Examined at VAH, Coral Gables, Fla.
on 8/16/65 - bc

FOREIGN OFFICE

APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION FOR DISABLEMENT
RESULTING FROM NAZI PERSECUTION



FOREIGN OFFICE,
Claims Department,
Charles House,
5 Lower Regent Street,
London, S.W.1.

Date of issue of form 28-5-1965

Reference HNP-1358

NOTE.—The particulars given by the applicant on this form will be checked from official records

1. Name HARPER, Jack
(Surname first in BLOCK CAPITALS)
2. (a) Permanent address 11 N. E. 5th Street, Miami, Florida, U. S. A.
(b) Present address (if different) - -
3. Date of birth January 16, 1900
4. National Insurance Number

SS	066	24	4898
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5. If you served in the Armed Forces, please give particulars of last period of service:
(a) Unit or Ship RAF (b) Rank AcII (c) Official No. 253754
6. Have you at any time claimed or been granted any pension, gratuity or allowance for injury or disablement sustained as a soldier, sailor, airman, member of the Mercantile Marine, fishing, pilotage or light vessel service, Home Guard, or for a war injury sustained as a civilian? (Yes or No) NO If so, please give particulars of the award and, if known, the reference on the official notification
7. Have you received any payment in respect of any injury sustained since 1945? If so, please give particulars NO
8. What is the nature of the wound, injury or disease for which you claim? Disabled right shoulder and arm -- Tubercular
9. If a wound or injury, give a brief account of where and how it was inflicted Primary cause through beatings received with pick axes, shovels and forks across my back and shoulders during incarceration 2-1/2 yrs. at Neoffingen Camp, Bavaria, Germ.
10. If a disease, when and where did you first begin to suffer from it? Buffalo, New York, U.S. A. 1947 (December).
11. Did you suffer from the condition claimed or anything like it before your subjection to Nazi persecution? None whatsoever -- was a Police Sergeant
12. Do you claim that your disability—
(a) Was caused by Nazi persecution? Yes
(b) Although existing previously was made worse by Nazi persecution?
13. Please give the full name and address of your present doctor (private or N.H.S.)
Doctor Brunner, Dade County Health Dept., N. W. 12th Avenue, Miami, Fla.
20052 4734 Dr. Goldberg, Jackson Memorial Hospital, N. W. 10th Ave.
Miami, Florida, U. S. A.

14. Please give below particulars of any medical treatment you have obtained.

If living overseas, state your address in the United Kingdom at the time of any medical treatment in the United Kingdom.

Full names and addresses of doctors and hospitals	Nature of illness	Dates of admission or first attendance	Dates of discharge or last attendance
(1) DOCTORS Any doctor (private or N.H.S.) if different from the doctor named at 13 above.			
(a) Before your subjection to Nazi persecution:			
(b) Since your subjection to Nazi persecution:			
(2) HOSPITALS (see Note below)			
(a) Before your subjection to Nazi persecution:			
(b) Since your subjection to Nazi persecution:			

NOTE.—Give the name and address of each hospital (but not of the hospital doctors) and add "I.P." or "O.P." to indicate whether the treatment was "in-patient" or "out-patient". If you are at present receiving hospital treatment, show this at (2) (b): the entry in the last column should be "Not yet completed".

15. Add here any further statement you wish to make in support of your claim. If this space is insufficient and a separate sheet is used this should be signed and dated by you and securely attached to this form.

Was never in a hospital before World War II and I weighed 190 lbs. in 1940.

In 1945 when liberated from Prison Camp I weighed 84 lbs.; hence the cause of my general ailment during the past 20 years.

I am still an out-patient of Jackson Hospital, Miami Florida, under the care of Dr. Goldberg.

DECLARATION

NOTE.—Before signing the Declaration please make sure that the questions have been answered correctly (dashes or ticks are not sufficient). This will save correspondence and delay.

I HEREBY DECLARE that to the best of my knowledge and belief the answers to the questions of this form are true and complete. I HEREBY AUTHORISE the doctors and hospitals named to make the relevant medical records available at the request of the Foreign Office to help the consideration of my claim for compensation as a victim of Nazi persecution. I ALSO CONSENT to other Government Departments supplying extracts from any records which are held by them and which are required by the Foreign Office in dealing with this claim.

Sack. Mayer.
(Usual signature of applicant)

Date 6/15/65

THE FOLLOWING is a statement by JACK HARPER regarding
PAUL GOURDON: 41

In July 1945 all Guernsey political prisoners were placed in the hold of a cargo boat including myself and we proceeded to Jersey where a number of political prisoners from Jersey were also placed on board and one of them included Paul Gourdon.

We proceeded to Granville, France, and subsequently to Germany. When in Germany we were split up into groups and sent to various slave-labor camps. Paul Gourdon was in my group and we went to Neoffingen, Bavaria after being processed at Augsburg Prison.

We were put to work on the railroad track with pick, axe, fork, and shovel, digging a trench; this was in August, 1945. We were working in pairs and Paul Gourdon was my partner. On the second work day Paul suggested we make a run for it because we had the woods at the back of us and the guard at our end would go up in the signal box for his beer.

The following day I agreed to have a go at it. We dropped our picks and ran through the woods. After five (5) days living on the land we were crossing a field and had to pass a signal box when I heard a voice shout halt! I looked back and saw a young man armed with a rifle. Paul and I started to run for it and he kept ahead of me. I could hear the bullets coming very close to me so I hollered to Paul to keep going and I threw my hands in the air. The German came up and butted me with the rifle and we went back to the signal box where I was placed in the coal hole.

Later a German policeman came and took me to the local police station. I was unable to tell them where I escaped from so I was transferred to a number of prisons in Germany until they located me.

Paul was not caught and kept on running. I was subsequently returned to Augsburg prison and received twenty-eight (28) days solitary confinement with bread and water. After a few days in the hole the Germans took me out in the yard for exercise where I saw Paul Gourdon. I told him to go get behind me, which he did, and he told me that he had gotten to the Belgian Border and was fed by a farmer but later the farmer turned him in to the German police.

I was returned to Neoffingen slave camp and was beaten many times. Paul never came back so I thought he had been placed in the oven. It was not until October 1965 when I was in Guernsey on a visit and the Guernsey Press reporters came to me for a story which they published with my photograph that Paul, who was on a holiday in Guernsey from Jersey, read the story and found my address and came to see me.

I noticed that his right arm was disabled and he was highly emotional and suffering from loss of memory and it was me that advised him to file an application for compensation. He told me he had been in a prison and at one time the took so good he was actually given a second help ing; however, at the same time the took so good he was actually given a second help ing.

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JULY 20th, 1966

Jack Harper
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