

Kosaka Camp (Sendai No.8 Branch Camp) Memo (Mr. Phillip Coon was intened)

1944.12.1 Established as Tokyo No.10 Branch Camp in Kosaka Mine, Kosaka-machi, Akita prefecture.

1945.1.30 The first group (150 POWs) commanded by an American officer, Cap. Thomas David arrived.

1945.3.31 The second group (100 POWs) commanded by a Dutch? officer, Cap. Bombasha arrived.

1945.4.14 Renamed as Sendai No.8 Branch Camp.

1945.5.13 The third group (100 POWs) commanded by a Dutch officer arrived.

1945.8.15 The war ended

1945.9.12 All POWs returned home countries.

●343 POWs (236 Americans, 99 Dutch and 8 British) were being held until the end of the war. 8 American died during imprisonment.

●The camp was located near Motoyama and Oyachi residential area. After the war, the camp site was used as a ground of Motoyama Elementary School. But this school was closed later, and the site is being left wild.

●Kosaka Mine flourished as one of four big copper mines in Japan. Some POWs worked in the machine shops and electrical shops and the rest worked on the mountainside in the northwest of the camp. They were loading dirt into carts and pushing them down the tracks.

●The mine was closed, and Dowa Kogyo (succeeding company of the mining company) is running recycling factories using the smelters. The former office of the mining company and Korakukan playhouse were designated as important cultural properties which remind the glory of the mine.

(Research by Taeko Sasamoto)



Kosaka mine in the prime time



Former mine site