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Mountain Home, Idaho 83647
November 14, 1994

Mr. Brian Lamb
CSPAN
400 North Capitol Street, N.W., #650
Washington, D. C. 20001

*opinion
programming*

Dear Mr. Lamb:

As I watch and hear the ongoing projects of movies, lectures, museums, etc., to remind the world not to forget the treatment of the European Jews by Germany during World War II, I can't help wondering why as much effort is not made to remind the world of the horrendous treatment the American and Allied Prisoners of War suffered at the hands of the Japanese.

True, we 'Remember Pearl Harbor' each year but the memories seem to stop there. Why don't we remind the world of the Death March on Bataan, the medical experiments performed on Allied P.O.W.s by the Japanese Military, the starvation and beatings these prisoners endured? Why is it not known of a P.O.W. Camp in the Tokyo Area, which, when the outcome of the war seemed inevitable, was buried, its Allied Prisoners forced into a ditch and burned alive? These were mostly aviation personnel whose dog tags identified them when the camp was excavated during the War Crimes Trials in Tokyo.

Is the Government reluctant to air these atrocities for fear of Japanese reaction? Don't we recognize the Japanese are still pursuing their aims of world domination, as they affirmed during the war? Today they are accomplishing through economics what they failed to do militarily and we are helping them do this by selling them American businesses, real estate and raw materials (only to later buy the finished products made from those materials).

The American Taxpayer paid for the Post War rebuilding of Japan and has stationed young men and women in Japan prepared to fight and die to protect their culture and way of life. It is incomprehensible to me how our population is allowed to forget these past horrors and be encouraged to accept and defend the Japanese closed society and its Anti-American trades and cultural aims.

My husband is a survivor of the Japanese P.O.W. Camps. He has spoken before students who have no idea of Bataan and think he is making up such wild stories about his incarceration. Vietnam is their only experience with war. They must be made aware of the sacrifices made by their fathers and grandfathers during World War II to make their country and world a safer place in which to grow. Make them aware that those liberties and freedoms need constant care, protection and vigilance.

Please get a copy of: "Prisoners of the Japanese" by Gavan Daws; published by Morrow. This book will surely open your eyes and those who should be aware of these historical facts - the American Public. Americans have a right to know how the Japanese treated their captives, both civilian and military Prisoners of War. In particular note pages: 215, 258/259, 278, 320, 321 and 223. My husband was a War Crimes Witness assigned to the Legal Section, GHQ-SCAP, Tokyo in 1946 and 1947. He had related a few of these unbelievable incidents perpetrated by the Japanese and I still have difficulty in comprehending how some Japanese officers and enlisted personnel lowered themselves to cannibalism and actually enjoyed eating their captives.

Perhaps if you could attend one of the P.O.W. conventions held each year you would learn more than you'd like to know but which you should know. Perhaps you would learn why we should make the American Public learn and never forget the hell their American soldiers and sailors, and, their allied counterparts suffered at the hands of the Japanese. The American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor meet annually and before they all pass away into history with their true life stories untold, you and your counterparts should learn from them and pledge that they and their stories shall never be forgotten. You won't let us forget the holocaust or Martin Luther King but no effort is being made to remember these Americans and their Allies and their contribution to our freedom through their suffering and torture by those we treat as equals today. Wake up and remember!!

Please address any comments, information or questions you may have to my home address, above.

Sincerely yours,

