

## POST-GREECE

### Trooper Sidney Bayliss, 4<sup>th</sup> Queen's Own Hussars, RAC

Relevant parts of his post-liberation PoW questionnaire are shown overleaf, but significant, interesting, essential and frequently hard-to-read details are highlighted here. The original layout, (mis)spelling and punctuation is preserved as far as is reasonable.

#### Liberated PoW Questionnaire (from National Archives, Kew)

Ser No: *878760* Rank: *Trooper* Surname: *Bayliss*  
 Christian Names: *Sidney*  
 Ship:  
 Unit: *4<sup>th</sup> Hussars*  
 Division: *2<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Div*  
 Date of Birth: *21 - 5 - 20*  
 Date of Enlistment: *9 - 5 - 39*  
 Civilian Profession: *Labourer*  
 Civilian Qualifications: *No*  
 Private Address: *73 Dorsett Road, Friar Park*  
*Wednesbury Staffs England.*  
 Place & Date of Original Capture: *Greece 25 - 10 - 1941*  
 Wounded when Captured? *No*  
 Main Camps in which Imprisoned:  

<i>57</i>	<i>Udine</i>	<i>12 - 11 - 41</i>	<i>31 - 12 - 41</i>
<i>59</i>	<i>Port St Grekko?</i>	<i>1 - 1 - 42</i>	<i>12 - 4 - 42</i>
<i>29</i>	<i>Near - Milano</i>	<i>14 - 4 - 42</i>	<i>4 - 9 - 43</i>
<i>Stalag VIIA</i>	<i>Mooseberg (sic)</i>	<i>12 - 11 - 43</i>	<i>11 - 12 - 43</i>

  
 Working Camps: *Pasing* *22 - 12 - 43* *20 - 5 - 45* *Tiling Timber*  
*Munich* *-----* *-----* *Houses*  
 Serious Illnesses: *-----*  
 Medical Attention: *-----*



Campo 57, Udine, Main Entrance Gate

106128 TOP SECRET  
126843 TOP SECRET  
MIS X

ASC  
PART I

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BRITISH/AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

1. No. 47760 RANK TPR SURNAME BAYLISS  
CHRISTIAN NAMES SIDNEY  
DECORATIONS None

2. SHIP (R.N., U.S.N. or MERCHANT NAVY)  
UNIT (ARMY) 1st Hussars  
SQUADRON (R.A.F. or A.A.F.)

3. DIVISION (ARMY), COMMAND (R.A.F. or A.A.F.) 2nd Armoured Div.

4. DATE OF BIRTH 21-5-22

5. DATE OF ENLISTMENT 9-5-29

6. CIVILIAN TRADE OR PROFESSION LABOURER  
(OR EXAMINATIONS PASSED WHILE P.W.)  
No

7. PRIVATE ADDRESS 73 Dorset Road, Farnham, Wokingham, Staffs, ENGLAND.

8. PLACE AND DATE OF ORIGINAL CAPTURE GREECE 25-10-41

9. WERE YOU WOUNDED WHEN CAPTURED? No

10. MAIN CAMPS OR HOSPITALS IN WHICH IMPRISONED

Camp No.	Location	From	To
57	UDINE	2-11-41	31-12-41
59	PORT ST. GEORGE	1-1-42	42-4-42
29	MEER-MILANO	10-4-42	2-9-42
STALAG 41A	MOOSEBERG	12-11-42	11-12-43

11. WERE YOU IN A WORKING CAMP?

Location	From	To	Nature of Work
PHISING	22-12-43	30-5-45	TRILING DAMBED
MUNICH	2		HOUSE

12. DID YOU SUFFER FROM ANY SERIOUS ILLNESSES WHILE A P.W?

Name of Illness	Onset	Duration

13. DID YOU RECEIVE ADEQUATE MEDICAL TREATMENT?

Trooper Sidney Bayliss's PoW Questionnaire, Page 1 of 3

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE PART II TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

MLG/Ges/

MIS-X

8. Have you

1. No. 872760 RANK TPR SURNAMES BAYLISS

CHRISTIAN NAMES SIDNEY

2. LECTURES before Capture:

(a) Were you lectured in your unit on how to behave in the event of capture? (State where, when and by whom).

YES. FIRST. OFTEN BY OFFICERS

(b) Were you lectured on escape and evasion? (State where, when and by whom).

NO.

3. INTERROGATION after capture:

Were you specially interrogated by the enemy? (State where, when and methods employed by enemy).

NO.

4. ESCAPES attempted:

Did you make any attempted or partly successful escapes? (Give details of each attempt separately, stating where, when, method employed, names of your companions, where and when recaptured and by whom. Were you physically fit? What happened to your companions?)

YES. TWICE. BUT ONLY OUTSIGHTS OF CITY. THE CONTROLL. CAUGHT ME BOTH TIMES.

5. SABOTAGE:

Did you do any sabotage or destruction of enemy factory plant, war material, communications, etc., when employed on working parties or during escape? (Give details, places and dates).

NO

6. COLLABORATION with enemy:

Do you know of any British or American personnel who collaborated with the enemy or in any way helped the enemy against other Allied Prisoners of War? (Give details, names of person(s) concerned, camp(s), dates and nature of collaboration or help given to enemy).

NO

7. WAR CRIMES:

If you have any information or evidence of bad treatment by the enemy to yourself or to others, or knowledge of any enemy violation of Geneva Convention you should ask for a copy of "Form Q" in which to make your statement.

NO

(Note: Form Q is a separate form having information on "War Crimes" and describes the kinds of offences coming under this title.)

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M.I. 6/Gen.  
MIS X

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE PART II. TOP SECRET.  
(continued)

8. Have you any other names or any kind you wish to bring to notice? YES.

PETER THE PRINCE OF GREECE - GENERAL ARMY  
COMRADES. FLEW TO THE MOUNTAINS. WE LIVED WITH  
WITH THE PEOPLE FOR SIX MONTHS. BUT RECAPTURED.  
IT WAS A GREEK. INFORMER. LEO CARPENTER  
LOS. WAS THE MAN FOR OUR RECAPTURE. HIS  
HOUSE IS BETWEEN ITALON AND CATHMATH.

SECURITY UNDERTAKING.

I fully realize that all information relating to the matters covered by the questions in Part II  
are of a highly secret and official nature.

I have been explained to me and fully understood that under Defence Regulations or  
UKAR, 1917 I am forbidden to publish or communicate any information concerning  
these matters.

ASC.  
Greene

On 12. 5. 45 signed S. Bayliss.

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### **Sid's Pertinent Additional Comments:**

*"After the fall of Greece, several of my comrades fled to the hills. We lived with the people for six months, but recaptured. It was a Greek informer Leo Caraberos? was the man for our recapture. His house is between Italon and Calamata."*

### **Campo 57, Grupignano, Udine, Italy**

From the "grupignano.com" website:

Campo 57 was a WWII Prisoner of War camp that interned principally Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) non-commissioned soldiers with smaller numbers of British, Indian and South African men. The camp was situated close to the city of Udine, in the Province of Friuli in Northern Italy. Friuli itself lies in the foothills of the Alps and was close to the Yugoslavian border.

Prisoners were transported to campo 57 by train with the last leg of transportation terminating at Cividale. The POWs were then marched through the hamlet of Premariacco to the site of the camp. The camp itself was set on flat terrain proximal to the river Natsionne. Surrounding the camp was predominantly farming land.

On the chosen site for campo 57 was a chapel known as San Mauro or Grupignano. The chapel was torn down to allow construction of the camp but was rebuilt by prisoners of war in 1943. The chapel still stands today and inside bears the signature of the POWs that rebuilt the chapel of Grupignano.

### **Campo 59, Servigliano, Italy**



**Campo 59 as it was at the time**



Camp 59 on the Internet:

A comprehensive American website on Campo 59 exists at “[camp59survivors.wordpress.com](http://camp59survivors.wordpress.com)”. Here follows a brief extract.



“After the Armistice (between Italy and the Allies) of September 8, 1943, 3,000 Allied prisoners escaped through the opening they had dug on the west side of this camp. They will forever be grateful for the immediate and courageous generosity shown by the Italian people.”

Indeed, it is our hope that these kindnesses will be remembered by the servicemen’s families for generations to come. Despite the number of prisoners recorded on the plaque, the number of escapees is generally thought to be closer to 2,000. Some escaped though the hole knocked though the brick wall at the rear of the camp, others escaped through the front gate, which was opened on the night of September 14, 1943.

According to the International Red Cross, Camp 59 was one of 52 main camps in Italy, served by 18 hospitals and a number of work camps. Although many prisoners were transferred north to Germany after the signing of the Italian Armistice, as many as 50,000 men left the camps in an attempt to reach freedom. Some were sheltered by the poor Italian farmers—the *contadini*—of the Tenna Valley. Others made their way north to Switzerland or south to the Allied lines.

*Copyright for stories and personal images rests with the contributors to the Survivors of Camp 59 site. These images, provided by Ian McCarthy of Associazione Casa della Memoria, show the camp as it appears today.*



**Inside the walls (today used as a field for sports)**



The patched escape hole in the wall, but still the barbed wire on top



Two surviving buildings outside the camp walls that were used as barracks for guards and/or storage



The brick-built infirmary



Memorial plaques



**Stalag VIIA, Moosburg, Bavaria, Germany**



**Welcomen – Moosburg Main Gate**