

Camp Hay (Australia) Internment Camps

By November 1940, Britain realized the Dunera internees were being wrongly interned and began initiating a policy for their release. Australia would eventually allow them to live outside the camps as long as none would be allowed to remain in Australia after the war.

During this same time period Italian-Australian's were being rounded up all over Australia due to similar fears the Dunera internees faced back in England. The first 1,000 Italian-Australian internees arrived in Hay in November 1940 to a new "Camp 6."

The first Dunera internee left for Brazil in December, 1940. Six Jewish boys aged 16 or 17 left for Palestine in January 1941. By late May 1941, the remaining 1,871 internees had left or were permitted to leave Hay if desired. Of note:

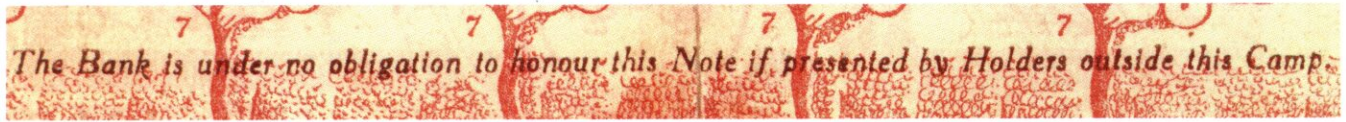
- 5 Dunera internees died while interned (1 in Hay + 4 in Tatura).
- 1,026 went back to the UK (421 enlisted in UK Pioneers & combat units).
- 769 left the camps and worked in Australia or enlisted in "8 Employment Company."
- 120 left for Palestine.
- 23 left for various countries including 6 to Cuba and 6 to Shanghai.
Those who went to Shanghai: GOLDSTEIN Joachim, REINHARDT Hans Robert, ROSENBERG Hugo, STROHEIM Ernst.
Leo ROTH became a cantor and after the war ultimately went to Berlin.
Leonard SILBERSTEIN while in Shanghai gained Portuguese citizenship and returned to the UK during the war.
- 3 men that experienced the "Hellship Dunera" in July 1940, were also survivors of the ill-fated May 13, 1939 "Voyage of the Damned" (S.S. St. Louis from Germany to Cuba and turned away back to Europe).

Camp 7 red-brown two shillings (2/-) signed by Mendl and Stahl Serial# E 40961 (Feller AU-912a)



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The text on reverse of the notes states, "The Bank is under no obligation to honour this Note if presented by Holders outside this Camp" stressing the validity only within Camp 7.



Although approved by Commandant Major Simpson, after only approximately 6 weeks (May-June 1941), the Department of Army confiscated all the notes (scrip) they could find citing violations in The Commonwealth Note Issue Act and The Commonwealth & State Stamp Duty Act.

The Department of Army temporarily issued their own scrip until coins (tokens) were made for use in all Australia and New Zealand internment camps.

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