

# THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

## NEWS SERVICE

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# NOTE RELEASE DATE

### MEANING OF GERMAN AND ITALIAN PRISONER OF WAR CAMP NAMES

Washington, D.C., June 12 -- The meaning of German and Italian prisoner of war camp names used by Americans taken prisoner by the enemy, whose letters are now reaching their relatives, are explained in the June issue of the American Red Cross magazine "The Courier".

The terminology, in many cases abbreviations of longer terms, by which the German camps are designated are listed in "The Courier" as follows:

LAGER	camp.
STALAG	a permanent camp for non-coms or privates, or a base camp from which labor detachments are sent out.
ZWEIGLAGER	branch camp.
OFLAG	a permanent camp for officers.
DULAG	a transit camp.
LUFTLAGER	a camp for airmen.
DULAGLUFT	a transit camp for airmen
MILAG	a camp for soldiers.
MARLAG	a camp for sailors.
ILAG	a civilian internment camp.
NEBENLAGER or N.L.	a branch camp.

A STALAG is a base camp. Many of the prisoners carried on the rolls of a base camp may actually not be quartered in it but may be living in a dependency of the base camp called an ARBEITS KOMMANDO, or labor detachment. Such detachments are usually scattered over a fairly wide area, and the larger labor detachments are miniatures of the base camp in their construction and organization.

The terminology of the Italian prisoner of war camps is much simpler, according to the American Red Cross, and may be summarized as follows:

Italian prisoner of war camps are indicated by number; for example, Campo P.G. 65, Settore 3, P.M. 3400. A mail address for this camp may be written simply P.G. 65, P.M. 3400, Italy. The P.G. stands for prisoner of war; Settore means section; P.M. stands for military post. C.C. means a temporary camp from which prisoners are sent on to permanent camps.

Prisoner of war hospitals in Italy are also numbered, sometimes with the prefix "ospidale", meaning hospital. Their numbers usually contain three numerals instead of one or two. Civilian internment camps are indicated merely by their geographic location.

Addresses must be used precisely as given in letters from prisoners of war, and if further information is needed relatives may apply to their local Red Cross Chapters.

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