

WALT: Write a Television News Script

German POW Escape from Island Farm, Bridgend

Brooke Cantle: Good morning. Our main story this morning is the escape from Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp in Bridgend, Glamorgan, where in the early hours this morning, seventy German prisoners of war escaped to freedom. The

German prisoners escaped group by group through a secret tunnel that began under a prisoner's bed in Hut Nine.

Twenty eight prisoners are still missing - maybe wandering around local woods and streets. Seventy German

prisoners of war tunnelled their way to freedom but forty two of them have been captured. Our reporters, Katie

Jones and Chloe Biddle, are live at Island Farm.

(THROW - Brooke screen)

Katie Jones: PTC: Thank you Brooke. I'm standing here outside Hut Nine of Camp 198 where last night seventy German prisoners escaped from Island Farm using a secret tunnel. The tunnel started beneath a prisoner's bed and went down 2.7

metres. It is believed that the prisoners of war used knives, cans and spoons stolen from the canteen to dig the

escape tunnel over several months.

(Katie walks over to the perimeter fence)

(Clip of prisoners fighting)

V.O: Chloe Biddle: Throughout last night the prisoners sang and they are reported to have been very rowdy. There were quite a lot

of fights and some were so violent that some prisoners of war had to go to the hospital wing at the camp.

PTC: Katie Jones: Some of the escaped prisoners of war from Hut Nine are known to have tried to reach Porthcawl and Birmingham. After they escaped from Island Farm, they started to make their way back to Germany. The prisoners crawled out of the tunnel into a local farmer's field.

(Soundclip - Farmer Garfield Davies)

SOT: Garfield Davies: Yesterday I was ploughing when I noticed some German prisoners looking across at my field. They must have been worried that I would uncover the exit to their tunnel.

PTC: Chloe Biddle: The prisoners are understood to have lit the tunnel using electric lights tapped off the mains supply. They crawled through the tunnel group by group because they knew it could've caved in at anytime. The prisoners kept the roof up by using cut off bed legs but they had to be careful in case any prison guards noticed that the length of the bed legs had been shortened. Each group had only a short amount of time in the tunnel as it was important to make a quick escape.

(UPSOT of the tunnel)

VO: Katie Jones: The only equipment the prisoners had were a handmade compass, identity papers and a map.

(Throw Screen - Katie)

Brooke Cantle: Thank you Katie. Local people have reported sightings of some suspicious people hanging around streets and woods in the area. We have learnt that some prisoners of war stole a local doctor's car.

(Soundclip Of Dr Milne)

SOT: Dr Milne: Last night I reported my car missing to the local police. I had no idea it had been stolen by German POWs.

Katie Jones (PTC) : Police are still searching for the twenty eight prisoners of war who are still at large. The public are urged to
be vigilant and to report any
suspicious sightings.

(Throw Screen - Katie)

Brooke Cantle: Thank you Katie and Chloe reporting live from Island Farm, the scene of last night`s dramatic escape.

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