

**GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
CONFIDENTIAL  
CHECK SHEET**

(Do not remove from attached sheets) DS WJS/lh

AG 014.33  
File No: S 711.4 Japan

Subject: Repatriation from Soviet-Controlled Areas

Note  
No.

From: DS

To: G-3

Date: 1 Apr 48

1. Attached is copy of a Memorandum of Conversation regarding a call made upon Major General Kislenko by Mr. Sebald on 1 Apr 48.

2. Pursuant to this conversation, it is recommended that no press release on this subject be made pending a decision regarding discussion of this subject in the Allied Council.

Incl:

Memo of Conversation,  
1 Apr 48.

WJS



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

April 1, 1948

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Japanese from Soviet Areas.

PARTICIPANTS: Major General A. P. Kislenko.  
Colonel N. A. Beznosikov.  
Mr. W. J. Sebald.  
Mr. Cabot Coville.

---

Mr. Sebald and Mr. Coville called upon General Kislenko at the former Soviet Embassy by appointment at 4 p.m. today. After the usual preliminaries, Mr. Sebald stated that the purpose of his visit was to discuss the present situation concerning repatriation. He noted that a letter from General Kislenko to General Headquarters, December 2, 1947, stated that repatriation will be resumed in April, 1948; that a letter from General Headquarters dated 17 March 1948 to the Soviet Member referred to the previous letter and requested a reply some fourteen days prior to actual resumption of repatriation; that the average monthly rate of repatriation since December 3, 1946 now stands at approximately 39,000 per month, whereas the repatriation agreement provides for 50,000 per month; that an offer was made in the Allied Council meeting of October 29, 1947 to repatriate 160,000 Japanese per month. To date no reply has been made to the last noted offer--which is still open--and further, that no reply has been received to the letter of March 17, 1948. Mr. Sebald further stated that the Supreme Commander is deeply concerned over this problem and desires to have the repatriation of Japanese completed at the earliest practicable date. In addition, it was pointed out that the repatriation problem is the cause of considerable misunderstanding between major Allies in Japan and that only by completing the repatriation of all Japanese will this cause of dissension be removed.

General Kislenko replied that his Government also is aware of the importance of the repatriation problem and that considerable thought has already been given to the possibility of an early resumption of repatriation in accordance with the repatriation agreement. Unfortunately, however, weather conditions in the areas concerned are so adverse that it is impossible immediately to resume the repatriation schedule. However, General Kislenko gave his personal assurance that repatriation will be resumed at an appropriate rate which will make up the existing deficit in the repatriation agreement as soon as resumption of repatriation becomes possible.

When reminded

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- 2 -

When reminded that during the month of April 1947, some 58,000 Japanese had been repatriated and that the first ships sailed on April 3, 1947 from Maoka and Nahodka, General Kislenko replied that he felt sure repatriation would be resumed as soon as it becomes possible.

Mr. Sebald asked General Kislenko for his personal assurance that he would do what he can to urge his Government to resume repatriation at once. General Kislenko replied that he had already done so but that as yet no instructions had been received from his Government. He hopes, however, that such instructions will be received shortly.

Further conversation was had on the general subject of repatriation, during which General Kislenko referred to "tendentious propaganda" arising from Japanese sources. Throughout the meeting, however, the conversation was carried on in an informal and friendly fashion.

The impressions gained from the meeting are:

1. That General Kislenko fully appreciates the vulnerability of the Soviet position in the repatriation problem.
2. That General Kislenko genuinely appears anxious to do what he can to expedite repatriation.
3. That the Soviet Government will resume repatriation in accordance with the repatriation agreement at an early date.
4. That the rate of repatriation, when resumed, will probably not exceed 50,000 per month.

W. J. Sebald

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

30 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Shipping Presently Allocated for Repatriation  
from Soviet-controlled Areas.

1. The following extract from CIS periodical summary No. 26 dated 15 March 1948 illustrates the type of letters presently emanating from POWs held in the Soviet-controlled areas and exposed to Soviet propaganda: "Inspired by Soviet allegations that their repatriation schedule has been retarded by Japan and America's refusal to dispatch ships to Siberia, indignation toward the two governments is widespread. The effectiveness of this propaganda is shown in scores of protesting letters from PWs stating that: 'Although two years have passed, the Japanese Government still has not provided us with transportation home.' 'Repatriation is poor because the US Occupation Forces won't send ships to the USSR'."

2. The attached report from Civilian Merchant Marine Committee, the Japanese Government agency operating SCAP controlled repatriation vessels under SCAJAP supervision, CMMC 879 dated 25 March 1948 (Tab A), gives the status of certain SCAP controlled vessels presently earmarked for repatriation from the Soviet-controlled areas. Other shipping, adequate to fully cover repatriation lifts up to 160,000 monthly from Soviet-controlled areas, is currently being utilized in cargo service.

3. While the comments which state that "SCAP and the Japanese Government are responsible for the delay in repatriation due to their failure to furnish shipping" originated in the Soviet-controlled areas, such comments are being received by countless Japanese relatives of the detainees throughout Japan. It is felt that a brief press release at this time indicating that SCAP is ready to resume repatriation as soon as the Soviets announce their intention to do so would be useful in counteracting the adverse effects of these letters and the criticism of SCAP contained therein. The innumerable petitions received by SCAP from the Japanese relatives of POWs are further indication that a substantial group of the Japanese people still are not cognizant of SCAP's continued and concerted efforts to fulfil all repatriation commitments.

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4. **RECOMMENDATION:** That Public Information Officer prepare a press release covering the following points:

- a. The Soviets suspended repatriation 1 December 1947 until the opening of navigation in April 1948. The reason given was the difficult climatic conditions encountered.
- b. No further word has been received to date as to when the Soviets intend to resume repatriation from the Soviet-controlled areas.
- c. SCAP's offer to lift up to 160,000 repatriates as made by Mr. Sebald in the Allied Council for Japan 29 October 1947 is still outstanding and remains unanswered by the Soviets.
- d. In preparation for resumption of repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas, the Japanese Government, under the supervision of SCAP, has prepared reception facilities, food and clothing, to receive and process up to 160,000 repatriates monthly. Adequate shipping lies waiting in idle readiness in ports in Japan. Additional SCAP-controlled shipping that could be utilized in repatriation is being used in the cargo service. SCAP is prepared to lift Japanese repatriates in increments up to 160,000 monthly to fulfil the offer made to the Soviets in the Allied Council for Japan 29 October 1947.

5. **CONCURRENCE:**

*See attached c/p* W. J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section  
*WJ* \_\_\_\_\_ March 1948.

Tab A - as indicated  
in par 2.

*W.H.M.*  
WARD H. MARIS,  
Brigadier General, GSC,  
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-3.

**CONFIDENTIAL**



The following article in  
NIPPON TIMES  
Tuesday, April 13, 1948  
page 3

**TO RESUME REPATRIATION**

**Starting From Soviet-Controlled  
Zones In May, Says Kislenko**

In response to previous inquiries, Maj. Gen. A. P. Kislenko, acting member for the U.S.S.R., Allied Council for Japan, in a letter on April 5 to General Headquarters, SCAP, advised that Japanese repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas would be resumed in May instead of April as had been indicated initially by the Soviets.

General Kislenko stated that "due to unfavorable climatic conditions this year and also taking into consideration transportation and technical facilities, the repatriation will be resumed in May of this year."

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Main Issue Is Disarmament Plan For Japan

## *Far East Commission Deadlocked On Policy*

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7 (AP)—The Far Eastern Commission failed at a session Thursday to break a deadlock over a long term policy for disarming Japan.

The stalemate is attributed largely to Soviet-American differences. These involved, members said, Russia's delay in freeing some 750,000 Japanese war prisoners.

Also in dispute is what weapons Japanese police will be armed with to cope with communist or other Disorders.

A session ended without a vote on several Soviet amendments to a police draft. Prospects were apparently dim for early agreement.

The commission is composed of representatives of the Allies which had an active role in defeating Japan. It has issued 46 policy directives binding on General Douglas MacArthur as the occupation commander, but several weeks debate has failed to bring agreement on the terms of Japan's disarmament.

At odds on five points, the United States and Russia were said to differ chiefly on two:

1)—Whether the commission should rule that a Japanese military unit has been demobilized when it has been disarmed and disbanded. The United States has held out for the view that a demobilization process continued until prisoners reach their homes. Some members said privately the Soviet position would in effect uphold Russia's retention of "slave labor" more than two years after VJ-Day.

2)—Whether the Japanese police should be permitted only pistols and rifles, or authorize other small arms exclusively used by civil police, as urged by the United States. These might include tommy guns and other "mass effect" weapons for use in curbing disorders.

The disarmament differences came to a head following the arrival of the new Soviet Ambassador, Alexander S. Panyushkin, a veteran of Far Eastern affairs. He has attended regular and special sessions and has pressed vigorously for action on several Soviet proposals.

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

GC-0

MJY/tn

30 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Shipping Presently Allocated for Repatriation  
from Soviet-controlled Areas.

1. The following extract from CIS periodical summary No. 26 dated 15 March 1948 illustrates the type of letters presently emanating from POWs held in the Soviet-controlled areas and exposed to Soviet propaganda: "Inspired by Soviet allegations that their repatriation schedule has been retarded by Japan and America's refusal to dispatch ships to Siberia, indignation toward the two governments is widespread. The effectiveness of this propaganda is shown in scores of protesting letters from PWs stating that: 'Although two years have passed, the Japanese Government still has not provided us with transportation home.' 'Repatriation is poor because the US Occupation Forces won't send ships to the USSR'."

2. The attached report from Civilian Merchant Marine Committee, the Japanese Government agency operating SCAP controlled repatriation vessels under SCAJAP supervision, CMMC 879 dated 25 March 1948 (Tab A), gives the status of certain SCAP controlled vessels presently earmarked for repatriation from the Soviet-controlled areas. Other shipping, adequate to fully cover repatriation lifts up to 160,000 monthly from Soviet-controlled areas, is currently being utilized in cargo service.

3. While the comments which state that "SCAP and the Japanese Government are responsible for the delay in repatriation due to their failure to furnish shipping" originated in the Soviet-controlled areas, such comments are being received by countless Japanese relatives of the detainees throughout Japan. It is felt that a brief press release at this time indicating that SCAP is ready to resume repatriation as soon as the Soviets announce their intention to do so would be useful in counteracting the adverse effects of these letters and the criticism of SCAP contained therein. The innumerable petitions received by SCAP from the Japanese relatives of POWs are further indication that a substantial group of the Japanese people still are not cognizant of SCAP's continued and concerted efforts to fulfil all repatriation commitments.

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"G-3 FILE COPY"

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4. **RECOMMENDATION:** That Public Information Officer prepare a press release covering the following points:

a. The Soviets suspended repatriation 1 December 1947 until the opening of navigation in April 1948. The reason given was the difficult climatic conditions encountered.

b. No further word has been received to date as to when the Soviets intend to resume repatriation from the Soviet-controlled areas.

c. SCAP's offer to lift up to 160,000 repatriates as made by Mr. Sebald in the Allied Council for Japan 29 October 1947 is still outstanding and remains unanswered by the Soviets.

d. In preparation for resumption of repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas, the Japanese Government, under the supervision of SCAP, has prepared reception facilities, food and clothing, to receive and process up to 160,000 repatriates monthly. Adequate shipping lies waiting in idle readiness in ports in Japan. Additional SCAP-controlled shipping that could be utilized in repatriation is being used in the cargo service. SCAP is prepared to lift Japanese repatriates in increments up to 160,000 monthly to fulfil the offer made to the Soviets in the Allied Council for Japan 29 October 1947.

5. **CONCURRENCE:**

\_\_\_\_ W. J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section  
\_\_\_\_ March 1948.

Tab A - as indicated  
in par 2.

WARD H. MARIS,  
Brigadier General, GSC,  
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-3.

*Not used per Mr. Sebald's*  
*C N of 1 April 48*  
**CONFIDENTIAL** *[Signature]*



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MJY/jyn  
30 March 1948

MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: Initiated in G-3.
2. The extract from CIS periodical summary No. 26 (par 1 of the attached memo) is typical of countless excerpts from the mails received from Japanese still detained in the Soviet-controlled areas. (Tabs B-K are illustrative.)
3. The attached report from CMMC to SCAP (Tab A) is a routine report and frequently press releases are issued by the Japanese Government based on such reports; however, in view of the policy of the Chief of Staff that all press releases of international significance be approved by his office, it is considered appropriate that this information be forwarded to the Chief of Staff before being routed to PIO.
4. All points to be covered in the proposed release (par 4 of attached memo) have been previously released to the press. However, no SCAP originated release has mentioned the offer to lift 160,000 repatriates monthly since the offer was made in October and covered by the press at that time.
5. Numerous individual Japanese have been making estimates in public addresses in the Diet, editorial columns, etc., as to when, and at what rate, repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas will be resumed. This release will serve to clarify the situation by an official announcement.
6. RECOMMENDED ACTION: That PIO prepare a press release showing that reception facilities and shipping are available in Japan awaiting re-opening of repatriation by the Soviets.
7. CONCURRENCES: \_\_\_\_\_ W. J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section, \_\_\_\_\_ March 1948.
8. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and dispatch of the attached memorandum to the Chief of Staff.
9. COMPLETION: This completes initiated action but does not complete action on this subject.

*Young*  
Young, 26-5945  
*BA*

CONFIDENTIAL

"G-3 FILE COPY"



March 25, 1948.

To: Administrator,  
Naval Shipping Control Authority  
for Japanese Merchant Marine.

Repatriation Vessels, Readiness of.

In anticipation of resumption of repatriation traffic from Saghalien and Siberia, the Civilian Merchant Marine Committee has been making necessary preparations to have the repatriation vessels ready for sea by early April, 1948, the present condition being as follows:

(I) Larger Vessels (2As, etc.)

MEIYU MARU	(MO18)	Standing by at Maizuru
ENSHU MARU	(EO19)	"
EITOKU MARU	(EO14)	"
SHINANO MARU	(SO28)	"
SHINYO MARU	(SO57)	Standing by at Hakodate
EZAN MARU	(EO20)	Ready for sea 28 March at Maizuru
DAIKU MARU	(DO05)	Ready for sea 29 March at Moji
NO. 1 DAITAKU MARU	(DO16)	Ready for sea 5 April at Maizuru
EHICO MARU	(EO04)	Ready for sea 29 March at Hakodate
TAKASAGO MARU	(TO14)	Ready for sea 5 April at Maizuru
EIHO MARU	(EO05)	Ready for sea 17 April at Otaru
CHORAN MARU	(CO29)	Ready for sea 25 April at Maizuru
YAMAZUMI MARU	(YO18)	Ready for sea 30 April at Maizuru

(II) Smaller Vessels

HAKURYU MARU	(HO04)	Standing by at Maizuru
MAMIYA MARU	(MO02)	Ready for sea 30 March at Otaru
SOYA MARU	(SI19)	Standing by at Hakodate
TOKUJU MARU	(TO81)	Ready for sea 1 April at Hakodate
CHITOSE MARU	(CO05)	Standing by at Hakodate
CHOUN MARU	(CO23)	Standing by at Otaru
SHINKO MARU	(SO95)	Standing by at Hakodate
TAKAKURASAN MARU	(TO17)	Ready for sea 30 March at Otaru
UNZEN MARU	(UO14)	Ready for sea 7 April at Otaru
HOKUSHIN MARU	(HO38)	Ready for sea 7 April at Hakodate
HOKUSEN MARU	(HO37)	Ready for sea 15 April at Otaru

The foregoing is hereby submitted for your information.

K. Arita;  
Director,  
General Maritime Bureau,  
Ministry of Transporta-  
tion.

K.U.

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**COPY**

*Russian*

APO 500  
29 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Departure of Soviet Ship "Smolny"

1. Soviet ship, "Smolny" departed Yokohama "South Pier" at 1800 hours on 27 March 1948.
2. Cargo consisted of one 50-ton tug-boat purchased through Boeki Cho and approved by SCAP.
3. Passengers were as follows:  
  
Capt. 1st Rank I. V. OHRIMENKO, ACJ  
Mrs. I. V. OHRIMENKO and daughter Ludmila  
Sgt. M. K. VOROBYEV, ACJ  
Citizen V. Y. KUMANOVSKY, ACJ  
Lt. Col N. G. PAUSOV, IMT  
Major V. I. KURLIANDSKY, IMT  
Lt. L. A. LOBACHEV, IPS  
Citizen (female) L. F. ZELENKOVA, IMT  
Citizen L. A. KUKLIN (Dip Courier)  
Citizen M. G. ZEHOV ( " " )
4. In addition to the above passengers there were 186 crew members from the six lend-lease ships turned back to U. S. Government by the U.S.S.R.
5. Lt. Kor was present as an interpreter and liaison officer.

O. H. KOR

~~16~~  
**COPY** 6



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*Russian  
Side*

March 25, 1948.

To: Administrator,  
Naval Shipping Control Authority  
for Japanese Merchant Marine.

Repatriation Vessels, Readiness of.

In anticipation of resumption of repatriation traffic from Saghalien and Siberia, the Civilian Merchant Marine Committee has been making necessary preparations to have the repatriation vessels ready for sea by early April, 1948, the present condition being as follows:

(I) Larger Vessels (2As, etc.)

MEIYU MARU	(MO18)	Standing by at Maizuru
ENSHU MARU	(EO19)	"
EITOKU MARU	(EO14)	"
SHINANO MARU	(SO28)	"
SHINYO MARU	(SO57)	Standing by at Hakodate
EZAN MARU	(EO20)	Ready for sea 28 March at Maizuru
DAIKU MARU	(DO05)	Ready for sea 29 March at Moji
No. 1 DAITAKU MARU	(DO16)	Ready for sea 5 April at Maizuru
EHICO MARU	(EO04)	Ready for sea 29 March at Hakodate
TAKASAGO MARU	(TO14)	Ready for sea 5 April at Maizuru
EIHO MARU	(EO05)	Ready for sea 17 April at Otaru
CHORAN MARU	(CO29)	Ready for sea 25 April at Maizuru
YAMAZUMI MARU	(YO18)	Ready for sea 30 April at Maizuru

(II) Smaller Vessels

HAKURYU MARU	(HO04)	Standing by at Maizuru
MAMIYA MARU	(MO02)	Ready for sea 30 March at Otaru
SOYA	(SO19)	Standing by at Hakodate
TOKUJU MARU	(TO81)	Ready for sea 1 April at Hakodate
CHITOSE MARU	(CO05)	Standing by at Hakodate
CHOUN MARU	(CO23)	Standing by at Otaru
SHINKO MARU	(SO95)	Standing by at Hakodate
TAKAKURASAN MARU	(TO17)	Ready for sea 30 March at Otaru
UNZEN MARU	(UO14)	Ready for sea 7 April at Otaru
HOKUSHIN MARU	(HO38)	Ready for sea 7 April at Hakodate
HOKUSEN MARU	(HO37)	Ready for sea 15 April at Otaru

The foregoing is hereby submitted for your information.

K. Arita,  
Director,  
General Maritime Bureau,  
Ministry of Transportation.

K.U.

*##*

COPY 25



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G2

COPY

*Russian File*

CAW/AKduM/RMB/b/are

25 March 1948

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CINCFE

DEPT OF ARMY . . . . . PRIORITY

( C-59492 ) for CSGID.

Surveillance sighting conducted by Far East Air Forces on 21 March 48 reports that four Russian vessels sighted in Tsushima Straits area took evasive action when circled by U. S. surveillance aircraft. Evasive action considered very unusual. Sightings for same date, a Russian freighter carrying seven landing craft was sighted riding high in water doing 18 knots heading 355 degrees at 37 degrees 25 minutes north, 130 degrees 02 minutes east.

OFFICIAL:

APPROVED BY:

R. M. LEVY,  
Colonel, AGD,  
Adjutant General

C. A. WILLOUGHBY  
Major General, GSC  
Asst Chief of Staff, G-2

Copies to:

- 1 - CinC
- 1 - C/S
- 1 - G-3
- 1 - JSPOG
- 1 - AG
- 1 - G-2 Ret
- 1 - G-2 T/Int

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COPY 74



**CONFIDENTIAL**

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
G-3 Operations

23 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

SUBJECT: Discussion of Repatriation in the Allied Council  
for Japan.

1. The following information was received by phone 1530 this date from Diplomatic Section (Mr. Burnett) to G-3 (Capt Young):

a. General MacArthur has informed Mr. Sebald that he considers it inappropriate to open the subject of repatriation in the Allied Council for Japan if the Soviets intend to commence repatriation in the near future at the full 50,000 monthly rate.

b. Mr. Sebald has requested that G-3 (Repatriation) advise him informally by telephone Friday morning, 27 March 1948, as to whether or not any Soviet communication has been received by that time relative to lifting the current suspension. Friday is the date that subjects must be filed with the Secretariat for the agenda of the subsequent regular meeting, Wednesday, 31 March 1948; however, Mr. Sebald does not state definitely that the subject will be placed on the agenda in event no further information has been received from the Soviets.

2. Attached DS airgram A-48, March 18, 1948 is applicable (Tab A).

W.C.S.

26 March 1948

ADDENDUM:

3. G-3 (Lt Col Anderson) telephoned DS (Mr. Sebald) 1000, 26 Mar 48 to advise that no communications on the subject of the current repatriation suspension had been received from the Soviets to date. Mr. Sebald stated that Gen. MacArthur had decided last night that repatriation was not to be discussed in the Allied Council Meeting of 31 March 1948.

W.C.S.

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*See Lines 12, 18, 20*

*42*  
*248*



**CONFIDENTIAL**

**COPY**

*Russian file*

AIRGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: USPOLAD, Tokyo

Date of:

Mailing: March 20, 1948

Rec'd:

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

A-48, March 18, 1948.

Reference Department's telegram 58, February 21, 2 p.m.

The matter of the issuance by the Department of a statement regarding repatriation of Japanese from Soviet-controlled areas has been given the careful consideration of this Mission and interested Sections of this Headquarters. I have also discussed the matter thoroughly with General MacArthur who was inclined to the opinion that the matter can best be handled from Tokyo at the present time. General MacArthur is further considering the desirability of placing this subject on the agenda of a future meeting of the Allied Council for Japan, at which time consideration will be given to telegraphing an advance copy of the Chairman's statement on this subject for possible use by VOUSA.

SEBALD

S 711.4

JWBurnett: cgf

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Info copy: G-3

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*Russian  
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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
G-3 Repatriation

22 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Stanton

SUBJECT: SCAP-Soviet trade from Karafuto.

The following information was received as the result of a telephone call to Lt. Col Marshall of ESS, Foreign Trade Division:

a. SCAP-Soviet trade in which coke is lifted from Honto, Karafuto, and Japanese fishing boats are delivered in return is expected to re-open some time in April. Impetus for re-opening will come from the Soviets and no more definite information on re-opening is available.

b. Last year trade amounted to \$10,000,000.

c. When negotiations are re-opened with Soviets on this subject, G-3 will be notified so that subject may be coordinated with the re-opening of repatriation.

B.L.A. *BA*

*41*

*27*



*file*

**SECRET**

From: G-2

To: G-3

Date: DAID/EHFS/LWA/fn  
22 March 1948

2

1. Procedures to obtain the information requested in Comment No. 1 above will be established at the Interrogation Ports.

2. Report containing the information requested in Para 1a, Comment No. 1, will be forwarded by G-2 on a monthly basis, by checknote.

3. Information pertaining to Koreans requested in Para 1b, Comment No. 1, will be forwarded as obtained.

*C. A. W.*  
----- C.A.W. -----

**SECRET**

*BA*  
*2/1*



**SECRET**

RUSSIAN  
File

MJY/tn

AG 014.33 (16 Mar 48)GC-0

Interrogation of Repatriates from  
Soviet-controlled Areas.

G-3

G-2

16 March 1948

1. Upon re-opening of repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas (exact date as yet undetermined), it is requested that the following questions be incorporated into routine interrogations of incoming repatriates from Soviet-controlled areas.

a. What is the extent of medical processing conducted by Soviet authorities at the ports of Nahodka and Maoka? In this connection your attention is invited to paragraph 1, Section V of the SCAP-Soviet Repatriation Agreement of 19 December 1946. It is requested that monthly reports be submitted to G-3 giving the name of the incoming repatriation vessel, date of departure Soviet port, and the extent of Soviet compliance or non-compliance with the above cited provisions.

b. What is the number of Koreans, originating from Korea, South of 38°, presently in Karafuto and the Kurile Islands? How many such Koreans are repatriated by posing as Japanese? Any information relative to these questions, and any other information concerning treatment and location of this minority group would be appreciated.

2. The above information is desired to form the basis for possible future SCAP action.

-----W.H.M.-----

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SECRET

MJY/tn  
15 March 1948

BA

MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: Initiated in G-3.
2. A recently stated G-2 policy dictates that requests for information originated in G-3 must be tendered in writing in order to be honored.
3. A proposed SCAP letter to the Soviets (now in the office of the C/S for approval) protests failure by the Soviet authorities at Nahodka to comply with the medical processing provisions of par 1, Sect V of the Repatriation Agreement, dated 19 December 1946. After delivery of this letter the principle of adequate supervision of the repatriation project requires that continued statistics be compiled as to the extent of medical processing administered by the Soviet authorities in their ports. This information can be most accurately compiled by G-2 (ATIS) interrogation teams who conduct routine interrogation of incoming repatriates from Soviet-controlled areas.
4. A letter, proposed by the DS (now in the office of the C/S for approval) requests information as to the number of Koreans originating from Korea, south of the 38°, presently in Karafuto and the Kurile Islands. It will be helpful in future consideration of this problem and in evaluating the Soviet reply to have estimates of the numbers of such Koreans based upon interrogation of incoming repatriates from those areas.
5. RECOMMENDED ACTION: Requesting that G-2 conduct interrogation as indicated in paragraphs 3 and 4 above.
6. CONCURRENCES: None required.
7. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and dispatch of attached C/N to G-2.
8. COMPLETION: This completes initiated action but does not complete action on this subject.

Young 26-5945

SECRET

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AIRGRAM

COPY

*Russian  
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CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: USPOLAD, Tokyo

Date of:

Mailing: March 20, 1948

Rec'd:

Secretary of State,

Washington.

A-48, March 18, 1948.

Reference Department's telegram 58, February 21, 2 p.m.

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SEBALD

S 711.4

JWBurnett: cgf

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Info copy: G-3

*See List 12, 18*

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
G-3 Operations

19 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

SUBJECT: Relief from Duty with Soviet Embassy of Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko, Ivan Vlasovich.

1. The attached letter from the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, No. 2061, dated 11 March 1948 (Tab A), stated that in the near future they are sending from Tokyo to the U.S.S.R. Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko, Ivan Vlasovich.

2. Upon receipt of the above letter, I directed that an attempt be made informally to determine the reason for the relief of Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko. Mr. Savitsky, G-2 Foreign Liaison, who has had certain personal contacts with Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko, on 18 March 1948 telephoned informally on this matter. Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko stated that he was being returned due to illness of his wife. Upon query as to his replacement he stated that no one has been appointed to date but as soon as appointment was made, he will notify Mr. Savitsky.

3. The officer from G-2 Foreign Liaison who relayed this information stated that in a large proportion of the cases of relief of Soviet officers from the Soviet Embassy, the reason was stated as being the illness of subject officer's wife. However, Captain Ohrimenko's wife has been in Tokyo and might be ill. Also, it was stated that Captain Ohrimenko's answer with respect to his replacement might well have been a typical Soviet evasion calculated to indicate that he was not authorized and would not be authorized to pass on this information.

4. COMMENT: Though Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko has been the Soviet officer most concerned with repatriation matters while attached to the Embassy staff in Tokyo, his transfer is not interpreted as having any particular significance in that regard. Subject letter is the customary notification to SCAP (G-2 Foreign Liaison) of the contemplated departure of a member of the Soviet delegation.

W.C.S.

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ALLIED COUNCIL FOR JAPAN  
TOKYO  
OFFICE OF THE MEMBER  
FOR  
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

TAB A  
Soviet ltr  
No. 2061  
11 Mar 48

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER ALLIED POWERS

CHIEF OF STAFF, MAJOR GENERAL MUELLER

Dear General:

This is to inform you that in the near future we are sending  
from Tokyo to the U.S.S.R. Captain 1st Rank OHRIMENKO, Ivan Vlasovich.

Respectfully yours,

FOR THE MEMBER, ALLIED COUNCIL  
FOR JAPAN FROM THE U.S.S.R.

Lt Colonel /s/ N. BEZNOSIKOV  
/t/ N. BEZNOSIKOV

11 March 1948

No. 2061

Rec'd 11 Mar 48, 1530 hrs

Trans 11 Mar 48, 1605 hrs

Disp 15 Mar 48, 0930 hrs

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN BY:

S. SAVITSKY, G-2, Foreign Liaison

DISTR:

G-2 Action

G-2 CIS

G-2 Adm

G-3 Rep

DS (2)

AG (Signature)

F/L file

35

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*Russian  
file*

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
G-3 Operations

MJY/jyn

19 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

SUBJECT: Relief from Duty with Soviet Embassy of Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko, Ivan Vlasovich.

1. The attached letter from the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, No. 2061, dated 11 March 1948, (Tab A) stated that in the near future they are sending from Tokyo to the U.S.S.R. Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko, Ivan Vlasovich.

2. Upon receipt of the above letter, I directed that an attempt be made informally to determine the reason for the relief of Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko. Mr. Savitsky, G-2 Foreign Liaison, who has had certain personal contacts with Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko, on 18 March 1948 telephoned informally on this matter. Captain 1st Rank Ohrimenko stated that he was being returned due to illness of his wife. Upon query as to his replacement he stated that no one has been appointed to date but as soon as appointment was made, he will notify Mr. Savitsky.

3. The officer from G-2 Foreign Liaison who relayed this information stated that in a large proportion of the cases of relief of Soviet officers from the Soviet Embassy, the reason was stated as being the illness of subject officer's wife. However, Captain Ohrimenko's wife has been in Tokyo and might be ill. Also, it was stated that Captain Ohrimenko's answer with respect to his replacement might well have been a typical Soviet evasion calculated to indicate that he was not authorized and would not be authorized to pass on this information.

W. C. S.

*not used*

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19



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
G-3 Operations

*Russian  
file*

18 March 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

SUBJECT: Statement Concerning Repatriation of Japanese Nationals  
to be Released to Public.

1. Reference is made to the "Proposed Draft Statement for use of the Department of State, Reference Repatriation of Japanese from Soviet areas" as forwarded from G-3 to Diplomatic Section by check note dated 8 March 1948.

2. The following information was received by phone call from Diplomatic Section (Mr. Burnett) to G-3 (Captain Young) on 18 March 1948. Mr. Sebald presented the proposed draft statement as drawn up by G-3 (with some modifications) to SCAP. General MacArthur decided that it was more appropriate if publicity releases on this matter are handled locally. The following alternatives are presently being considered:

a. Release of a statement similar to that proposed by G-3 for use of the Department of State, either over Gen MacArthur's signature or as an official SCAP release.

b. Re-opening of the subject of repatriation in the Allied Council for Japan, using the information contained in subject draft statement. (In this connection Mr. Burnett stated that SCAP's recent disapproval of Mr. Sebald's request to place Repatriation on the Council Agenda for 17 March 1948 was not considered final).

3. Diplomatic Section is replying to the Department of Army radio WAR SVC 8386 (radio relayed from State Department) by air mail letter. A copy of this letter will be sent to G-3 for information.

W. C. S.

*See Linn; 12, 20, 23*

*37*  
*18*



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

GC-0

*Russian file*  
MJY/jm

APC 500  
*typed  
17 Mar*

AG 014.33 (17 Mar 48)GC-0

SUBJECT: Termination of the Current Soviet Suspension of Repatriation.

TO: Major General A. Kislenko, Acting Member for U.S.S.R., Allied Council for Japan.

1. The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in reviewing the correspondence that concerns the current Soviet suspension of Japanese repatriation finds that the earliest date that repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas can be expected to be re-opened is 1 April 1948.

2. To assist in planning the allocation of shipping and in order to assure effective manning of repatriation reception centers, information is requested as to the anticipated rate at which Japanese will be released for repatriation each month on termination of the current suspension. It is expected that requests for repatriation shipping will be received by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers at least 14 days prior to the desired date of arrival at Soviet ports.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

Copies to:

C-in-C  
C/S  
G-1  
G-2  
G-4  
DS  
PH&W  
CPC  
ESS  
COMNAVFE

APPROVED BY C/S: 14 March 1948

CONCURRENCE: W.J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section

*Dep 17 March 48*

*35*

*017*



**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Russian  
File*

MJY/jyn

AG 014.33 (12 Mar 48)GC-0

Termination of the Current Soviet  
Suspension of Repatriation.

G-3

C/S

12 March 1948

1. 1. Recommend approval of the following letter and return to G-3 for dispatch:

"AG 014.33 ( Mar 48)GC-0

"SUBJECT: Termination of the Current Soviet Suspension of Repatriation.

"TO: Major General A. Kislenko, Acting Member for U.S.S.R., Allied Council for Japan.

"1. The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in reviewing the correspondence that concerns the current Soviet suspension of Japanese repatriation finds that the earliest date that repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas can be expected to be re-opened is 1 April 1948.

"2. To assist in planning the allocation of shipping and in order to assure effective manning of repatriation reception centers, information is requested as to the anticipated rate at which Japanese will be released for repatriation each month on termination of the current suspension. It is expected that requests for repatriation shipping will be received by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers at least 14 days prior to the desired date of arrival at Soviet ports.

"FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

Copies to:

C-in-C

C/S

G-1

G-2

G-4

DS

PH&W

CPC

ESS

COMNAVFE"

**CONFIDENTIAL**

17



CONFIDENTIAL

AG 014.33 (12 Mar 48)GC-0  
(continued)

Termination of the Current Soviet  
Suspension of Repatriation.

G-3

C/S

12 March 1948

2. CONCURRENCE:

\_\_\_\_\_ W. J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section,  
\_\_\_\_\_ March 1948.

-----W.H.M.-----

Approved by C/S  
14 March 1948

CONFIDENTIAL



**CONFIDENTIAL**

MJY/jyn  
12 March 1948

MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: Directed by the Deputy C/S, FEC.
2. When the attached proposed letter, Inclosure 1 hereto, (with Memo for Record and Tabs A to F thereto) was submitted by G-3, the following changes were directed:
  - a. Excluding reference to the Soviet's average monthly rate having fallen below the 50,000 figure.
  - b. Excluding reference to SCAP's previous offer of shipping to lift up to 160,000 repatriates monthly (as made by Mr. Sebald in the Allied Council for Japan, 29 October 1947).
  - c. Making this letter a simple query for information; including the reference to the customary 14 days notice specified in par 3, Section III of the Agreement of 19 December 1946.
3. RECOMMENDED ACTION: That this letter to the Soviets indicate SCAP's assumption that the current Soviet suspension of repatriation will be terminated 1 April 1948 and contain a query as to rate at which repatriation will be resumed.
4. CONCURRENCE:  

\_\_\_\_\_ W. J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section, \_\_\_\_\_ March 1948.
5. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and dispatch of attached C/N to the C/S.
6. COMPLETION: This completes action as directed by the Deputy C/S but does not complete action on this subject.

Young, 26-5945

16 Mar 1948  
ADDENDUM:

7. Proposed ltr to Soviets approved by C/S, 14 March 1948.
8. RECOMMENDATION: Dispatch of attached ltr to Member for U.S.S.R., Allied Council for Japan.
9. COMPLETION: This completes action as directed by D C/S, but does not complete action on subject.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Young 26-5945

17



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*Russian  
File*

MJY/tn

AG 014.33 (2 Mar 48)GC-0

Termination of the Current Soviet  
Suspension of Repatriation.

G-3

C/S

9 March 1948

1. Recommend approval of the following letter and return to G-3 for dispatch:

"AG 014.33 ( 2 Mar 48)GC-0

"SUBJECT: Termination of the Current Soviet Suspension of Repatriation.

"TO: Major General A. Kislanko, Member for U.S.S.R., Allied Council for Japan.

"1. The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in reviewing the correspondence that concerns the current Soviet suspension of Japanese repatriation finds that the earliest date that repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas can be expected to be re-opened is 1 April 1948.

"2. As of 1 April 1948, the average monthly rate of repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas (for the 15-month period 1 January 1947 to 1 April 1948) will be below that specified in the terms of the Repatriation Agreement dated 19 December 1946. Upon re-opening of repatriation, it is assumed that the Soviet authorities will desire to increase the monthly rate of release at least sufficiently to re-establish the average rate at the 50,000 level.

"3. The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers at the present time has vessels available to lift, upon the customary 14-day notice, Japanese still held in Soviet-controlled areas

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# CONFIDENTIAL

AG 014.33 (9 Mar 48)GC-0  
(Continued)

Termination of the Current Soviet  
Suspension of Repatriation.

C-3

C/S

9 March 1948

in increments up to the maximum rate of 160,000 monthly as offered by the representative of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in the Allied Council for Japan on 29 October 1947.

"4. For purposes of planning the allocation of shipping and in order to assure effective manning of repatriation reception centers, information is requested as to the anticipated rate at which Japanese will be released for repatriation each month on termination of the current suspension.

"FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

Copies to:

C-in-C	DS
C/S	PH&W
G-1	CPC
G-2	ESS
G-3 (return)	COMNAVFE
G-4	

2. CONCURRENCES:

/s/ WJSW. J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section, 10

March 1948.

N. W. Bard, Capt., USN for

/s/ B R. H. Griffin, Vice Adm., COMNAVFE, 10 March 1948.

----- W.H.M. -----  
NOTE: Lets get the job done and quit boondogling. /s/ BARD

CONFIDENTIAL



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MJY/tn  
4 March 1948

MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: Initiated in G-3 to reaffirm SCAP's position on the current suspension of repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas to the Soviets and to provide a basis for planning to meet repatriation shipping requirements in April 1948.

2. Soviet letter No. 1453 dated 2 December 1947 (Tab A) stated that in accordance with Section II, paragraph 4, Repatriation Agreement, dated 19 December 1946 (Tab B), repatriation would be suspended due to climatic and icing conditions from 1 December 1947 until the opening of navigation in April 1948.

3. In response to <sup>SCAP</sup> the announced Soviet suspension of repatriation ~~SCAP~~, ~~in~~ a letter dated 10 December 1947 (Tab C):

a. Stated that SCAP in an effort to aid Soviet authorities to overcome difficult climatic and icing conditions was prepared to dispatch icebreakers to clear Soviet repatriation ports.

b. Offered to dispatch SCAP shipping to any other Soviet ports where the above mentioned difficult conditions would not be encountered.

4. Soviet letter No. 1474 dated 24 December 1947 (Tab D) stated that the current suspension of repatriation would remain in effect. The Soviets declined SCAP's offer of icebreakers, stating that the offer was not acceptable as "the reasons for the suspension of repatriation from the ports of Nahodka and Maoka are not the icing conditions alone but also the difficulty of assembling the Japanese in Soviet ports and severe climatic conditions as well as the overloaded conditions of the rail transport system". The letter concluded by stating that the average rate of repatriation since 3 January 1947 not only conformed to the agreement (Tab B), but exceeded it.

5. During the period 1 - 30 April 1947, 30,468 repatriates were lifted from Maoka and 27,615 repatriates were lifted from Nahodka. The first repatriation vessels sailed from both of these ports on 3 April 1947. It is reasonable to expect that the Soviets could establish concentration of repatriates this spring on approximately the same scale as was realized in April 1947.

6. Mr. W. J. Sebald, SCAP representative in the Allied Council for Japan, on 29 October 1947 made public the facts concerning the delayed repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas (Tab E). He proffered to the Soviets SCAP's offer to lift up to

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## CONFIDENTIAL

160,000 repatriates monthly. This offer is still outstanding and the Soviets to date have neither acknowledged nor replied to it.

7. At the rate of 160,000 monthly the 696,015 Japanese indicated by SCAP estimates (Tab F) to be in Soviet-controlled areas could be repatriated by the middle of August 1948. Using SCAP's figures again, during period 1 January 1947 - 1 April 1948, 596,552 repatriates have been returned from Soviet-controlled areas (not including 28,421 returned prior to signature of the Agreement, 19 December 1946) for an average during the 15 months period of 39,770.

8. RECOMMENDED ACTION: That a letter be dispatched to the Soviets referring to the correspondence on the current suspension and inquiring as to Soviet intentions. Such a letter would be timely in reminding the Soviets that SCAP stands ready to fulfil all repatriation commitments and that responsibility for any further delay in lifting the current suspension will rest solely upon the Soviets. Also, a reply from the Soviets would provide a basis for repatriation planning.

### 9. CONCURRENCES:

/s/ WJS Mr. W. J. Sebald, Chief, Diplomatic Section,  
10 March 1948.

R. W. Bard, Capt., USN for  
/s/ B R. M. Griffin, Vice Adm., COMNAVFE, 10 March 1948.

10. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and dispatch of attached C/N to C/S.

11. COMPLETION: This completes action as initiated but does not complete action on this subject.

37,459  
16) 599,552  
48  
119  
112  
75  
64  
95  
80  
152

Young 26-5945



COPY

TAB A  
Soviet ltr  
No. 1453  
2 Dec 47

ALLIED COUNCIL FOR JAPAN  
TOKYO  
OFFICE OF THE MEMBER  
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER ALLIED POWERS

CHIEF OF STAFF, MAJOR GENERAL MUELLER

Dear General:

I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with Sec. 2, par. 4 of the Repatriation Agreement dated 19 December 1946, repatriation of Japanese War Prisoners from the port of Nahodka and Japanese citizens from the port of Maoka will be temporarily suspended as of 1 December 1947 until the opening of navigation in April 1948, due to difficult climatic and icing conditions.

Respectfully yours,

ACTING MEMBER, ALLIED COUNCIL  
FOR JAPAN FROM THE U.S.S.R.

MAJOR GENERAL /s/ Kislenko

/t/ KISLENKO

2 December 1947  
No. 1453

Rec'd 2 Dec 47; 1500 hrs  
Trans 2 Dec 47; 1513 hrs  
Disp 2 Dec 47, \_\_\_\_\_ hrs

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN BY:

S. SAVITSKY, G2, General Liaison

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TAB B  
Agreement  
19 Dec 46



COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

AG 014.33 (10 Dec 47)GC-0

APO 500  
10 December 1947

SUBJECT: Repatriation from Siberia.

TO: Major General A. Kislenko, Acting Member for U.S.S.R.,  
Allied Council for Japan.

TAB C  
SCAP ltr  
10 Dec 47

1. Reference is made to:

a. Letter from the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, file AG 014.33 (30 Aug 47)GC-0, dated 30 August 1947, subject: Repatriation from Karafuto and the Kuriles.

b. Letter, Acting Member for U.S.S.R., Allied Council for Japan, No. M53, dated 2 December 1947.

2. The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers is prepared to render all possible aid in maintaining the agreed rate of flow of Japanese repatriates from Soviet-controlled areas. It is requested that the decision to suspend repatriation from the ports of Nahodka and Maoka, effective 1 December 1947, be reconsidered, inasmuch as the records of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers indicate that a total of 21,723 repatriates were received from these ports during the period 1 December 1946 to 3 January 1947.

3. In an effort to assist the Soviet authorities in overcoming the difficult climatic and icing conditions referred to in the reference paragraph 1 b, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers is willing to:

a. Dispatch ice-breakers with repatriation vessels to overcome icing conditions in Soviet ports used in the repatriation program.

b. Reiterate the offer made in the reference paragraph 1 a, to include the dispatching of repatriation shipping to any port designated by the Soviet authorities where the difficult conditions referred to in reference paragraph 1 b are not encountered. This offer is made under the same conditions specified in the reference paragraph 1 a as concerns navigational data, necessary draft, etc.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

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ALLIED COUNCIL FOR JAPAN  
TOKYO  
OFFICE OF THE MEMBER  
FOR  
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER ALLIED POWERS

In reply to the letter AG 014.33 (10 Dec 47)GC-0, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander Allied Powers, dated 10 December 1947, we wish to inform you of the following:

1. The decision regarding temporary suspension of repatriation of Japanese effective 1 December 1947, presented in the letter of the Acting Member, Allied Council for Japan from U.S.S. Major General Kislenko, A.P. dated 2 December 1947, remains in effect.

2. The proposal of the General Headquarters, Supreme Commander Allied Powers concerning dispatch of ice breakers for the escort of repatriation ships is not acceptable as the reasons for suspension of repatriation from the ports of Nahodka and Maoka are not the icing conditions alone but also the difficulty of assembling the Japanese in Soviet ports and severe climatic conditions as well as the overloaded condition of the rail transport system.

3. Reference to the fact that 21,723 Japanese were repatriated in the period from 1 December 1946 to 3 January 1947 is not sufficient grounds for the probability of continuation of the repatriation as at that time the contingents of repatriation referred to were assembled at the points of embarkation prior to the setting in of severe climatic conditions in the region of Nahodka and Maoka.

4. During the entire period of repatriation, from 2 December 1946 to 3 December 1947, 625,707 Japanese military and civilian personnel were sent to Japan; this not only conforms to the rate of repatriation established by the agreement of 19 December 1946, but also exceeds it.

Respectfully yours,

FOR THE MEMBER, ALLIED COUNCIL  
FOR JAPAN FROM THE U.S.S.R.

Lt. Colonel, /s/ N. BEZNOSIKOV  
/t/ N. BEZNOSIKOV

✓24 December 1947

No. 1474

Rec'd 24 Dec 47, 1700 hrs.

Trans 26 Dec 47, 0930 hrs.

Disp 26 Dec 47, 1100 hrs.

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN BY:

S. SAVITSKY, G2, General Liaison

33

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TAB D  
Soviet ltr  
No. 1474  
24 Dec 47



TAB E  
Minutes of  
ACJ Meeting  
29 Oct 47



UNCLASSIFIED  
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS AND FAR EAST COMMAND

APO 500  
27 February 1948

SUBJECT: Status of Repatriation.

1. The following tabulations for the periods indicated show the status of repatriation of Japanese and other nationals:

a. Status of repatriation of Japanese nationals for the period from 20 February through 26 February 1948:

Area	Original Strength (Approx)	Evacuated This period	Evacuated To Date	To be Evacuated (Approx)
Australian Areas	138,656		138,654	2
China	1,499,742	61	1,496,501	3,241
Dairen	221,179		218,179	3,000
Formosa	478,499		478,274	225
Hawaii	3,413		3,413	0
Hong Kong	19,197		19,197	0
Karafuto & Kuriles	372,016		173,724	198,292
Korea (North of 38°)	321,752		321,255*	497
(South of 38°)	593,273		593,273	0
Manchuria	1,105,837		1,040,552	65,285
Nearby Islands	62,389		62,389	0
Netherlands East Indies	15,310		15,310	0
New Zealand	797		797	0
North Indo-China	32,019		31,869	150
Pacific Ocean Areas	130,899		130,899	0
Philippine Islands	132,830		132,779	51
Ryukyus	68,000		68,000	0
Siberia	700,000		205,774	494,226
Southeast Asia Areas	710,535		710,426	109
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,606,343</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>5,841,265</b>	<b>765,078</b>

\* Includes 293,959 repatriated via S. Korea.

**Total Soviet-controlled areas 696,015**

Breakdown of Japanese nationals repatriated 20 February through 26 February 1948:

Area	Army	Navy	Civilians	Total
China	12	1	48	61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>61</b>

b. Recapitulation of repatriation from Soviet and Soviet-controlled areas:

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)

TAB F  
SCAP estimate  
27 Feb 1948



Nearby Islands	62,389	62,389	0
Netherlands East Indies	15,310	15,310	0
New Zealand	797	797	0
North Indo-China	32,019	31,869	150
Pacific Ocean Areas	130,899	130,899	0
Philippine Islands	132,830	132,779	51
Ryukyus	68,000	68,000	0
Siberia	700,000	205,774	494,226
Southeast Asia Areas	710,535	710,426	109
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,606,343</b>	<b>61 5,841,265</b>	<b>765,078</b>

\* Includes 293,959 repatriated via S. Korea.

**Total Soviet-controlled areas** **696,015**

Breakdown of Japanese nationals repatriated 20 February through 26 February 1948:

Area	Army	Navy	Civilians	Total
China	12	1	48	61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>61</b>

b. Recapitulation of repatriation from Soviet and Soviet-controlled areas:

(1) No. Shipping spaces re- quested by U.S.S.R.	(2) Period	(3) Shipping spaces fur- nished by SCAP	(4) No. Japa- nese re- patriated	(5) % which Col 3 ex- ceeded Col 1	(6) Comparison Col 4 with 50,000 monthly rate
25,500	3-15 Dec 46	33,200	28,421	20%	--
86,000	1-31 Jan 47	86,700	83,438	1%	+ 33,438
60,000	1-28 Feb 47	67,100	63,693	12%	+ 13,693
90,700	1-31 Mar 47	104,700	90,606	15%	+ 40,606
50,000	1-30 Apr 47	62,700	58,083	25%	+ 8,083
50,400	1-31 May 47	54,400	51,920	8%	+ 1,920
52,200	1-30 Jun 47	53,400	49,125	2%	- 875
52,300	1-31 Jul 47	59,000	46,564	15%	- 3,436
30,000	1-31 Aug 47	35,900	30,418	20%	- 19,582
35,000	1-30 Sep 47	41,400	36,181	18%	- 13,819
37,000	1-31 Oct 47	41,800	35,181	12%	- 14,819
42,222	1-30 Nov 47	50,200	47,667	19%	- 2,333
3,800	1-31 Dec 47*	4,000	3,676	6%	- 46,324
0	1-31 Jan 48	0	0	--	- 50,000
<b>615,122</b>		<b>694,500</b>	<b>624,973</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>--</b>

\*Soviet request made prior to the current suspension.

Incl. 2 to General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and Far East Command G-3 Operations Report No. 1519.

UNCLASSIFIED

TAB F  
SCAP estimate  
27 Feb 1948



## UNCLASSIFIED

c. Status of repatriation from Japan for period 20 February - 26 February 1948:

Repatriates	Original Strength	Evacuated 20 Feb - 26 Feb 48	Evacuated To Date	To Be Evacuated
Chinese	31,712		31,712	0
Formosans	33,507		33,507	0
Koreans				
North of 38°	351		351	0
South of 38°	937,412		937,412	0
Natives of POA	171		171	0
Ryukyuan	174,214		174,214	0
TOTAL	1,177,367	0	1,177,367	0

d. Status of Koreans who have attempted illegal entry into Japan for the period 20 February - 26 February 1948:

Total Number Apprehended	No. returned to S. Korea 20 Feb - 26 Feb 48	No. returned to S. Korea to Date	No. to be Returned
22,110	0	22,019	91

e. Status of repatriation between areas outside of Japan for period 20 February - 26 February 1948:

From	Repatriates	Original Strength	Repatriated 20 Feb - 26 Feb 48	Repatriated To Date	To Be Repat'd
Australian Areas	Formosans	6,584		6,584	0
	Koreans	3,051		3,051	0
China	Koreans	58,581		58,581	0
Dairen-Port Arthur	Chinese	2		2	0
	Koreans	1		1	0
Formosa	Koreans	3,449		3,449	0
	Ryukyuan	17,048		17,048	0
Hawaii	Chinese	11		11	0
	Formosans	25		25	0
	Koreans	2,646		2,646	0
	Ryukyuan	2,322		2,322	0
Hong Kong	Formosans	2,800		2,800	0
	Koreans	302		302	0
Karafuto & Kuriles	Koreans	23		23	0
Korea (No. of 38°)	Formosans	12		12	0
	Ryukyuan	42		42	0
(So. of 38°)	Chinese	1,559		1,559	0
	Formosans	91		91	0
	Ryukyuan	274		274	0



From	Repatriates	Original Strength	Repatriated 20 Feb - 26 Feb 48	Repatriated To Date	To Be Repat'd
Australian Areas	Formosans	6,584		6,584	0
	Koreans	3,051		3,051	0
China	Koreans	58,581		58,581	0
Dairen-Port Arthur	Chinese	2		2	0
	Koreans	1		1	0
Formosa	Koreans	3,449		3,449	0
	Ryukyuan	17,048		17,048	0
Hawaii	Chinese	11		11	0
	Formosans	25		25	0
	Koreans	2,646		2,646	0
	Ryukyuan	2,322		2,322	0
Hong Kong	Formosans	2,800		2,800	0
	Koreans	302		302	0
Karafuto & Kuriles	Koreans	23		23	0
Korea (No. of 38°)	Formosans	12		12	0
	Ryukyuan	42		42	0
(So. of 38°)	Chinese	1,559		1,559	0
	Formosans	91		91	0
	Ryukyuan	274		274	0
Manchuria	Koreans	3,194		3,194	0
Netherlands East	Formosans	82		82	0
Indies	Koreans	450		450	0
	Natives of POA	6		6	0
North Indo-China	Formosans	15		15	0
	Koreans	118		118	0
Pacific Ocean Areas	Chinese	146		146	0
	Formosans	578		578	0
	Koreans	14,014		14,014	0
	Ryukyuan	26,004		26,004	0
Philippine Islands	Chinese	5,993		5,993	0
	Formosans	11,998		11,998	0
	Koreans	1,406		1,406	0
Ryuku Islands	Formosans	21		21	0
	Koreans	1,755		1,755	0
Siberia	Formosans	4		4	0
	Koreans	1		1	0
Southeast Asia Areas	Formosans	17,984		17,984	0
	Koreans	7,398		7,398	0
	Ryukyuan	122		122	0
TOTAL		190,112	0	190,112	0

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*Russian file*  
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AG 000.5 (9 May 48)GC-0

Request for results of special interrogation.

G-3

G-2

9 March 1948

1. Reference is made to the verbal request from G-3 (Capt Young) to G-2 (Maj Disharoon - ATIS) made approximately 18 December 1947, for a special interrogation of repatriates returned from Soviet-controlled areas to Japan aboard the Takakurasan Maru. This special interrogation was requested to substantiate a report of the Japanese Government and thus form the basis for a protest to the Soviet authorities on this apparently inhumane treatment of repatriates.

2. This is to confirm the above verbal request and to further request that the results of subject interrogation be forwarded to G-3 as soon as available.

-----W.H.M.-----

MISD/EHFS/GCR/fn

From: G-2

To: G-3

Date: 15 March 1948

1. Attached is extract from interrogation of repatriate returning to Japan aboard the TAKAKURASAN MARU.

2. Information contained therein has not been evaluated.

1 Incl: Extract ATIS Interrogation

-----C.A.W.-----

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EXTRACT ATIS INTERROGATION #9513

1. In October 1947, at CHINOMIJI (146° - 44°N) Japanese repatriates and their families (number unknown) boarded a SOVIET freighter (name unknown) and departed for KHOLMSK, KARAFUTO via SHIKOTAN and SHIBOTSU ISLANDS. At each stop additional passengers were loaded. It took ten (10) days to reach KHOLMSK (142°04'E - 47°03'N).
2. Repatriates were assigned to crowded, poorly ventilated hatches. Many were physically weak by the time they arrived at KHOLMSK.
3. Passengers policed their living quarters. No other special duties were assigned. Repatriates cooked and consumed their own food which they brought along. During the forty (40) day internment period at KHOLMSK PW camp, able bodied male personnel (18 to 60 years) were engaged in loading and unloading food from freighters eight (8) hours a day.
4. Living quarters were crowded and poorly ventilated. Food was insufficient. During October and November, no clothing or heating facilities were supplied by the SOVIETS. An unknown number of repatriates, especially children and the aged, perished from the cold weather. Dysentery, malnutrition and infectious diseases caused additional deaths.
5. On November 20, 1947, the families boarded the TAKAKURASAN MARU for repatriation to Japan. (Unmarried repatriates were returned to Japan later.) Families were assigned to rooms and freight storage space. Second part of the voyage was far better than the first due to satisfactory food, living quarters and ventilation.

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JAPANESE GOVERNMENT  
Central Liaison Office

TO : GENERAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE SUPREME COMMANDER FOR  
THE ALLIED POWERS.

FROM : Central Liaison Office, Tokyo.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Report concerning Patients on Takakurasan Maru.

C.L.O. No. 9723(RJ)

22 December 1947

TAB C  
CLO 9723(RJ)  
22 Dec 47

There is forwarded herewith, at the request of Repatriation Relief Board, Ministry of Public Health and Welfare, a report concerning patients on a repatriation ship (Takakurasan Maru).

FOR THE PRESIDENT:

/s/ Y. KATSUNO

/t/ (Y. Katsuno)

Chief of Liaison Section  
Central Liaison Office

Enclosure: A report as indicated above.



THE ALLIED POWERS.

FROM : Central Liaison Office, Tokyo.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Report concerning Patients on Takakurasan Maru.

C.L.O. No. 9723(RJ)

22 December 1947

TAB C  
CLO 9723(RJ)  
22 Dec 47

There is forwarded herewith, at the request of Repatriation Relief Board, Ministry of Public Health and Welfare, a report concerning patients on a repatriation ship (Takakurasan Maru).

FOR THE PRESIDENT:

/s/ Y. KATSUNO

/t/ (Y. Katsuno)

Chief of Liaison Section  
Central Liaison Office

Enclosure: A report as indicated above.

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REPATRIATION RELIEF BOARD  
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

12 December 1947

TO : The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.  
FROM : Repatriation Relief Board, Ministry of Public Health and Welfare.  
THROUGH: Central Liaison Office, Tokyo.  
SUBJECT: Patients on a Repatriation Ship (Takakurasan Maru).

Among the 1,673 repatriates on board the S.S. Takakurasan Maru arriving at the Port of Hakodate on 22 November 1947, 324 persons were found to be or became sick, of which 23 died and 75 persons had to be put into hospitals. The report concerning this is hereby presented.

The S.S. Takakurasan Maru took on board 1,673 repatriates at Maoka on 19 November 1947, set to sail at 1600 hours the same day, reached Hakodate at 0700 hours on 22 November 1947, isolation was cleared on 28 November 1947, and the passengers all landed the same day.

The table below shows the kinds of disease, and number of patients in the order of time.

/s/ SOICHI SAITO  
Chief, Repatriation Relief Board  
Welfare Ministry

Enclosure to C.L.O. No. 9723(RJ)

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- 2 -

Kind of Disease	Number of Patients			Number of patients hospitalized				Number of Deaths		
	At time of Embarkation	New cases on Board ship	Total	At arrival at Hakodate	During isolation	After release	Total	Aboard Ship	After Landing	Total
Diphtheria	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Tuberculosis	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	1	1
Respiratory System	53	93	146	2	14	32	48	5	2	7
Gastric-Intestinal	39	28	67	2	14	1	17	3	4	7
Beri-beri	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malnutrition	7	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outward Injuries	6	1	7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Skin disease	28	6	34	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Others	37	15	52	1	2	0	3	7	0	7
TOTAL	178	146	324	5	35	35	75	15	8	23

NOTE: The deaths under "others" above were due to weakened heart. This includes 5 persons over 73 years old and one persons each 3 years and 4 years old.

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The 23 deaths are analysed below in terms of age.

Age group	Number of Deaths	
0 — 2 Years old	10	(11.4% of 87 persons on board of this age group)
3 — 5 Years old	7	
73 — 85 Years old	5	
Forties	2	

The 75 hospitalized patients analysed in terms of age are:

Age group	Number Hospitalized	
0 — 2 Years old	28	58 (77% of total number of patients hospitalized)
3 — 6 Years old	30	
above 7 years old	17	

93% of the repatriates on board this ship were chiefly engaged in salting fish for storage at southern Kurile islands. The food situation was fairly good for these persons up to the time of repatriation. They sailed to Maoka on a freighter between 3,00 to 4,00 tons which had no heating equipment. The trip took 8 days, and during this period no food was furnished by the ship. They relied on the food they carried with them or cooked the foodstuff which they bought on the ship. So the food situation varied from one individual to another, and nutritive and sanitary condition was far from satisfactory.

About 17 days were spent at Maoka camp where there was no heating equipment at 2 to 3 degrees below zero centigrade, no equipment for toilet, washing or bath, and where 6 to 7 persons were crowded into a space of 6 by 6 feet. Food given to them at this camp consisted of a piece of dark bread (size 10cm x 20cm x 3cm) and 10 grams of sugar per person per day. No boiled water or tea was available and drinking water itself was insufficient. Nutritive and sanitary condition was very bad at this camp, and many aged persons and infants suffered from dysentery. It is reported that after the second or third day after arriving at this camp 3 to 4 persons died every day. The facilities for medical treatment at this camp was unsatisfactory, and the number of persons desiring hospitalization was small expecting repatriation in a short time. There seems to have been not much active medical care. It is also reported that the nutritive and sanitary condition on board the repatriation ship from Maoka to Hakodate was good.

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*Russian  
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ALLIED COUNCIL FOR JAPAN  
TOKYO  
OFFICE OF THE MEMBER  
FOR  
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER ALLIED POWERS  
CHIEF OF STAFF, MAJOR GENERAL MUELLER

Dear General:

This is to inform you that in the near future we are sending from  
Tokyo to the U.S.S.R. Captain 1st Rank OHRIMENKO, Ivan Vlasovich.

Respectfully yours,

FOR THE MEMBER, ALLIED COUNCIL  
FOR JAPAN FROM THE USSR

Lt Colonel /s/ N. BEZNOSIKOV  
/t/ N. BEZNOSIKOV

11 March 1948  
No. 2061  
Rec'd 11 Mar 48, 1530 hrs  
Trans 11 Mar 48, 1605 hrs  
Disp 15 Mar 48, 0930 hrs

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN BY:

S. SAVITSKY, G-2, Foreign Liaison

DISTR:

G-2 Action  
G-2 CIS  
G-2 Adm  
G-3 Rep  
DS (2)  
AG (Signature)  
F/L file

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DIPLOMATIC SECTION

Tokyo, March 15, 1948.

Major General A. P. Kislenko,  
Acting Soviet Member,  
Allied Council for Japan,  
Tokyo.

Sir:

The Japanese Government has reported to this Headquarters that various prefectural, town and village assemblies, as well as mass meetings held in certain localities, have recently passed resolutions urging the Japanese Government to make every effort to repatriate Japanese nationals from the Soviet Union and from Soviet-controlled areas.

There is forwarded herewith, for the information of the Acting Soviet Member of the Allied Council for Japan, a list of meetings at which the above-mentioned resolutions were passed.

Very truly yours,

W. J. Sebald  
Chief, Diplomatic Section

Enclosure:

List of assembly and  
mass meetings.

Info copies: CinC  
C/S  
G-2/GL  
G-3 Rep.  
AG Records

M/R: Above forwarded list rec'd  
under cover CLCO memo No. 563  
(FR No. 14) 4 Mar 48. Approved  
by C/S 13 Mar 48.

/s/ JWB  
JWB 26 8841

S 711.4/A 014.33  
JWBurnett:cgf

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LIST OF ASSEMBLY AND MASS MEETINGS

Obirashibe Village Assembly, Rumoi-gun, Hokkaido	12 December 1947
Matsukari Village Assembly, Abuta-gun, Hokkaido	12 December 1947
Kyoto Prefectural Assembly	16 December 1947
Nakatonbetsu Village Assembly, Esashi-gun, Hokkaido	16 December 1947
Nagano Prefectural Assembly	17 December 1947
Toyohira Town Assembly, Sapporo-gun, Hokkaido	18 December 1947
Nashige Town Assembly, Hashige-gun, Hokkaido	18 December 1947
Shibetsu Village Assembly, Shibetsu-gun, Hokkaido	19 December 1947
Furano Town Assembly, Sorachi-gun, Hokkaido	19 December 1947
Nayoro Town Assembly, Kamikawa-gun, Hokkaido	20 December 1947
Yubari City Assembly, Hokkaido	20 December 1947
Sapporo City Assembly, Hokkaido	22 December 1947
Hiroshima City Assembly	22 December 1947
Hokkaido Assembly	22 December 1947
Chiebun Village Assembly, Nakakawa-gun, Hokkaido	25 December 1947
Otoshibe Village Assembly, Kayabe-gun, Hokkaido	26 December 1947
Horobetsu Village Assembly, Horobetsu-gun, Hokkaido	26 December 1947
Date City Assembly, Usu-gun, Hokkaido	27 December 1947
Hakodate Assembly	27 December 1947
Furen Village Assembly, Kamikawa-gun, Hokkaido	27 December 1947
Mitsushi Village Assembly, Mitsushi-gun, Hokkaido	17 January 1948
Yamanashi Prefectural Assembly	8 February 1948

Mass Meeting for Hastening Repatriation of Japanese Nationals Abroad, at Kitaadachi-gun, Saitama Prefecture-	3 December 1947
Mass Meeting of Residents of Kagoshima Prefecture for Acceleration of Repatriation of Japanese Na- tionals Abroad	17 December 1947
Mass Meeting for Hastening Repatriation of Japanese Nationals Abroad at Miyagi Prefecture	18 December 1947
Mass Meeting of Residents of Nagano Prefecture	19 December 1947
Mass Meeting of Residents of Gifu Prefecture	20 December 1947
Mass Meeting of Residents of Chiba Prefecture	20 December 1947
Mass Meeting of Residents of Mie Prefecture	22 December 1947
Mass Meeting of Residents of Gunma Prefecture	22 December 1947

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CIVIL INTELLIGENCE

No. 2017

2. Repatriation from Soviet Areas:

(a) Representation to Soviet Mission: Thirty delegates, including TOKUDA Kyuichi, Secretary-General of the Japan Communist Party, recently petitioned the Soviet Mission in Tokyo to accelerate repatriation of Japanese still held in USSR-controlled areas, a party spokesman has announced. The delegation, which included representative of labor and repatriation groups, also is said to have requested more information on internees. In reply, the Communist announcement declares, Maj Gen Kislenko stated that Japanese in Soviet areas are living under favorable conditions. Denouncing charges of poor treatment, the general is said to have stated that such conditions are believed to prevail only in camps "where the Japanese failed to democratize themselves." He gave assurances that the repatriation control organ at Nakhodka, Siberia, would be improved and promised that Radio Moscow and "other facilities" would furnish information on interned Japanese, the party spokesmen reported. (a)

Comment: This token representative appears to be a result of public pressure on the Communist Party to declare itself openly for accelerated repatriation from Soviet-controlled regions. Up to this point, party members consistently have avoided making any public commitment on the issue.

(b) POW Messages Broadcast: Gen Kislenko's promises of more information about internees probably refer to recent Radio Moscow POW messages. Since Sep 47, radio listeners in Japan have received broadcasts such as the following: "The Japanese detained in Soviet camps have been repatriated to Japan whenever transportation has been available. From now on Radio Moscow will take part of its broadcast time to read messages from former officers and men of the Japanese army in Soviet camps to relatives and friends in Japan." This, or a similar introduction, precedes a listing of internees with a brief personal message from each one. Well-padded with news commentaries, this program of personal messages is broadcast twice daily. (b)

Comment: These broadcasts attempt to create the impression that the USSR has the internees' welfare at heart. At the same time, they are on obvious device to insure an extensive and attentive Japanese audience for Radio Moscow propaganda.

(c) Speeded Repatriation Demanded: A group of former officers claiming to represent almost 2,000 repatriates who returned to Japan aboard the Takasago Maru recently presented to GHQ a petition for expediting repatriation from USSR-occupied territories. The representation, reportedly written as the ship entered Maizuru harbor, expresses concern for more than 400,000 Japanese still interned. "We departed as the third contingent," the petition states, "while along the Siberian railway lines our countrymen were still laboring

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amidst snow storms. In the interior, hardly any of those engaged in the heavy labor of lumbering and rock quarrying have been repatriated."

The petition brands reasons offered by Soviet authorities for repatriation delays as mere rationalization for retaining POWs' forced labor. "The Soviets propagandize that facilities in Japan are not adequate to receive all of these repatriates, that there is a food shortage, and that transportation facilities are insufficient. All these things are merely excuses in order to utilize to the maximum the labor of our compatriots." There are no indications of Soviet willingness to expedite transportation even at the final concentration area, the statement charges. "Another thing that is suspicious to us," it declares, "is that they permit only 2,000 to 2,500 persons to board a reconverted A type transport ship, whereas a minimum of 5,000 to 6,000 persons can easily board the ships." (c)

(d) Spokesman Defends Delay: Although party members generally have maintained noncommittal silence on the delayed repatriation issue, occasionally an ardent Communist, such as IWATA Misago, daughter of a well-known Communist martyr of the 1930s, will attempt to defend the Soviet position. Miss IWATA, who was educated in the USSR and returned to Japan following the war, in a recent public address in Tottori, attempted to clear the USSR of any guilt in delaying repatriation, a B-2 source reports. "The Soviet Union is abiding by the Potsdam Declaration," she is said to have stated. "(It) does not have enough ships to repatriate prisoners faster. Also during winter, the ports in Siberia are frozen, making ship movement impossible." Closely following the party line, Miss IWATA made the Administration the scapegoat for this problem. "It is wrong to denounce the Soviet Government by charging that it is not assuming the responsibility of returning Japanese prisoners," she reportedly stated. "The Japanese Government is to blame for slow repatriation. The Japanese Government has not made it possible for the country to receive repatriates any faster."

The speaker again shifted responsibility to the Japanese Government in reply to a blunt question regarding possible party mediation. "Some people have asked the Communist Party to ask the Soviet Union to speed repatriation," the report quotes her as saying. "Since the Communist Party is not the state organ, it cannot negotiate directly with a foreign country," she reportedly stated. "The Japanese Government must do the negotiating." (d)

Comment: Such party explanations have failed to placate public dissatisfaction with repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas. Press comment has been especially critical in rejecting Communist rationalization. Considering USSR suspension of repatriation from 15 Dec to 1 Apr on the excuse that Nakhodka and Maoka ports freeze over, "Yomiuri" recently pointed out that Dairen was used successfully for embarkation from Jan to Mar 47. In fact, during this time, the paper declares, repatriation volume exceeded that stipulated in the Potsdam agreement. It also brought out the fact that icebreakers have been offered to Soviet authorities to facilitate repatriation. These statements, since confirmed (Intell.



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Summary 2000), gave point to the disclosure that the actual monthly total of Japanese repatriated from Soviet territory has been less than the 50,000 agreed upon, in spite of the fact that 13 per cent more than the volume of shipping requested by the USSR has been assigned.

- (a) S/I, "Representations for Speeding Up Repatriation," CIS
- (b) S/I, "Radio Broadcast Concerning Welfare of Japanese in Occupied Areas Transmitted to Families," CIC Area 9
- (c) ATIS Translation, "Petition from Repatriates on Takasago Maru"
- (d) S/I, "Iwata Misago," CIC Area 7

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*Russian file*

*ok'd  
4 Mar*

MJY/jyn

Date: 8 March 1948

From: G-3

To: DS

2.

1. The attached draft statement is furnished pursuant to your check note for use in preparing SCAP's reply to Department of Army radio WAR SVC 8386 of 22 February 1948. It should be noted that the subjects of the SCAP-Soviet trade agreement (in which the Soviets provide coke and coal at the port of Honto, Karafuto), and of the Soviet letter (No. 1474) dated 24 December 1947 declining SCAP's offer of icebreakers, have not previously been released to the press. ESS has concurred in release of information on subject trade agreement.

2. The entire draft statement is considered CONFIDENTIAL until released by the Department of State.

3. It is felt that on no other subject of U.S.-Soviet disagreement is the Soviet position more indefensible than on this unwarranted detention of prisoners of war.

4. Wide publicity of this subject will invite world attention to SCAP's continued and concerted efforts to fulfill commitments of the Potsdam Declaration in expediting the repatriation of Japanese POWs from Soviet-controlled areas. Publicity on this matter will have the added significance of effectively countering certain Soviet propaganda.

5. It is recommended that consideration be given to the release of the proposed draft statement on or about 1 April 1948 so as to coincide with the earliest date that Soviet re-opening of repatriation can be expected.

1 Incl: Draft statement.

-----W.H.M.-----

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CONFIDENTIAL

DS/WJS/JWB/cgf

S 711.4

Proposed Statement for Dept. of State Use Re  
Repatriation Japanese from Soviet Areas.

DS

G-3

2 Mar 48

1. 1. Reference final sentence State Dept. radio No. 58, February 21, 2 P.M. (WAR SVC 8386, AG Control No. 10204), requesting draft statement for State Department use, when appropriate occasion arises, regarding repatriation of Japanese from Soviet-controlled areas.
2. DS would welcome from G-3 its views on this subject and/or a draft statement in this regard.

/s/ DCB for

-----W.J.S.-----

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DRAFT STATEMENT ON REPATRIATION FROM SOVIET CONTROLLED  
AREAS ~~TO BE RELEASED BY DEPARTMENT OF STATE~~

The following statement concerns a problem of world wide interest and application; the problem of the unwarranted delay in the repatriation of approximately 700,000 Japanese still held in Soviet-controlled areas.

Of the 6,606,343 Japanese estimated to be overseas at the conclusion of the war, 5,841,265 have been repatriated by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, in implementation of the directive of the Potsdam Declaration which stated: "The Japanese military forces, after being completely disarmed, shall be permitted to return to their homes with the opportunity to lead peaceful and productive lives." The directive was later expanded for humanitarian reasons to include Japanese civilians overseas at the conclusion of hostilities. Of the 765,078 remaining to be repatriated (1\*), 696,015 are held by the U.S.S.R. in Soviet-controlled areas and 65,285 are in those portions of Manchuria controlled by Chinese Communist forces. Retainees in these two areas comprise over 99% of all Japanese remaining to be repatriated.

As of 1 December 1946, when mass repatriation had been virtually completed from all other areas, no Japanese had been repatriated from Soviet-controlled areas. Finally, culminating more than six months of extended negotiations, pursuant to an agreement signed 19 December 1946 by Maj. Gen. Paul J. Mueller, as the representative of SCAP and Lt. Gen. K. N. Derevyanko, as the Member of the Allied Council for Japan from the U.S.S.R., repatriation of Japanese from specified Soviet ports was begun at an established rate of 50,000 per month. During the course of the above negotiations, SCAP controlled shipping to lift up to 360,000 repatriates per month was offered. The figure finally agreed upon was the maximum acceptable to the U.S.S.R., limited by the use of smaller Soviet ports only, the refusal of the Soviets to furnish any fuel oil for repatriation vessels, and other considerations not stated by the Soviet representatives. All shipping used in repatriation is furnished and manned by the Japanese Government and all costs incident to repatriation are to be borne by the Japanese Government.

On 29 October 1947, a report on repatriation (2\*) delivered in the Allied Council for Japan by the chairman and SCAP representative, Mr. W. J. Sebald:

a. Revealed that the Soviets had failed to meet the quota of 50,000 repatriates monthly since June 1947, contrary to the Agreement of 19 December 1946.

b. Made public Soviet attempts to influence Japanese held in their labor camps by false and mendacious propaganda aimed at engendering distrust of SCAP's sincerity in effecting their repatriation in particular, and at creating animosity to the aims of the Allied Occupation of Japan in general.

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c. Revealed the Soviet failure to furnish SCAP with requested statistics on names, numbers and deaths of Japanese held in Soviet-controlled areas.

d. Revealed the scope of the problem as it affects millions of Japanese in every hamlet of Japan; their continuing interest in its solution as evidenced by an unending flow of petitions and letters requesting early repatriation.

e. Made in the name of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers an offer to furnish shipping to lift up to 160,000 repatriates per month; it was revealed that SCAP had available, using Japanese sources only, the shipping, fuel (coal) and reception facilities to initiate this comprehensive repatriation program within 48 hours. The offer is still outstanding but has been neither acknowledged or replied to by the Soviets.

The Soviets replied to Mr. Sebald's speech by stating that they considered the subject of repatriation outside the purview of the Allied Council for Japan and that their failure to repatriate 50,000 monthly since June 1947 should not be commented upon as their average over the entire period since December 1946 was slightly in excess of the 50,000 rate.

Approximately one month after SCAP's offer to accelerate repatriation, the Soviets in a letter dated 2 December 1947 stated that repatriation would be suspended due to climatic and icing conditions from 1 December 1947 until the opening of navigation in April 1948. The Soviet correspondence and actions on the subject of this suspension make boldly apparent the duplicity inherent in their treatment of the repatriation program.

a. Late in November SCAP received a Soviet request to send shipping to lift coke during the month of December 1947 from a Soviet port in Karafuto, under the terms of an existing trade agreement, despite the implication in their letter of 2 December 1947 that navigation in these waters was impossible until April.

b. SCAP replied to the Soviet suspension in a letter dated 10 December 1947 offering icebreakers to clear Soviet ports and stating that SCAP controlled shipping could be dispatched to any other ports where "the difficult icing and climatic conditions" would not be encountered.

c. Contrary to the implication of their first letter, the Soviets replied to SCAP's offer of icebreakers in a letter dated 24 December 1947 which stated that the offer was unacceptable as the suspension was caused not only by the icing conditions of the ports alone, but also by difficulties in assembling Japanese at the Soviet ports and the overloaded condition of the Soviet rail transportation system. It was stated that the decision to suspend repatriation would remain unchanged. No reply was made to SCAP's offer to send shipping to other Soviet ports. It should be noted that the best Soviet-controlled Asiatic port, Vladivostok, which could be kept ice free and which is backed by the best rail net, is closed to all foreign shipping.

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As of 1 April 1948, the earliest date that repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas can be expected to be re-opened, the average rate of repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas (for the 15-month period 31 December to 1 April 1948) will be 39,770 which is below that specified in the terms of the Agreement of 19 December 1946.

These are the facts concerning repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas. It is felt that world opinion should be focused upon the continuing sociological problem presented in the retention of almost 700,000 Japanese in Siberia, Karafuto and other Soviet-controlled areas, more than two and one-half years after the conclusion of hostilities. This problem directly affects the lives of millions of Japanese; but indirectly it affects free men all over the world as it impinges on the principles of human liberty and the freedom, rights and dignity of the individual.

1\* It is recommended that the latest SCAP figures for repatriation be made available to correspondents ~~(sent to Department of Army as unclassified inclosure #2 to General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and Far East Command G-3 Weekly Operations Report).~~

include

2\* It is recommended that a copy of the Minutes, 44th Meeting, Allied Council for Japan, 29 October 1947 be made available to correspondents.

1 Incl: G-3 Weekly Operations Report.

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MJY/jyn  
4 March 1948

MEMO for RECORD:

1. BASIC ACTION: C/N, DS to G-3, dated 2 Mar 48 which requests G-3 comments and/or draft statement in connection with DA radio WAR SVC 8386 of 22 Feb 48 (par 3).
2. SCAP (Sebald) radio to DA (pass to Dept of State) C-58447 (Tab A) called attention to SCAP's efforts to effect the repatriation of Japanese held in Soviet-controlled areas and indicated SCAP's desire that world opinion be focused on this subject.
3. DA radio WAR SVC 8386 of 22 Feb 48 (Tab B) referred to SCAP rad (par 2) and requested that SCAP furnish a draft statement to be issued by the Dept. of State.
4. In a discussion 1 Mar 48 in which G-3 offered to aid in preparation of subject draft statement, Mr. Sebald stated that he felt that G-3 was in the best position to prepare such a statement but that Gen. MacArthur had directed that the radio originate with the Political Advisor. This is the background for the DS check note request. It is felt that the opening and conclusion of the statement must be broad and comprehensive in scope to warrant its release by the Dept of State.
5. All material in the attached draft statement has been previously released with the exceptions noted in the forwarding C/N. Mr. Colton, Chief, Shipping Branch, Foreign Trade Division, ESS, concurs in the release of information on the SCAP-Soviet trade Agreement which has always been an open agreement.
6. Mr. Sebald intends to discuss this statement with Mr. Kennan and to forward it to the C/S for approval.
7. RECOMMENDED ACTION: Forwarding attached draft statement.
8. CONCURRENCE: ESS (Mr. Colton) 4 Mar 48.
9. RECOMMENDATION: Approval and return to G-3 (Opns) for handcarry of attached C/N.
10. COMPLETION: This completes action on DS C/N and on this subject.

Young, 26-5945

CONFIDENTIAL

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

**INCOMING MESSAGE**

**CONFIDENTIAL  
ROUTINE**

*File with action*  
WJS/ble  
3 February 1948  
25  
*510101  
Dypl.*

TAB A  
C-58447  
3 Feb 48

SCAP (SEBALD)

061029

DEPT OF ARMY . . . . . ROUTINE

C-58447

25, February 3, 1948, (PASS TO DEPT. OF STATE)

Reference Department's release dated January 31 concerning repatriation prisoners of war.

Based upon USIS report of restatement U.S. position by Department in communication to International Committee of Red Cross, no specific reference apparently was made to repatriation Japanese prisoners of war presently held by Soviet Government.

It would materially assist SCAP in his efforts to effect repatriation Japanese prisoners of war from Soviet-controlled areas if upon appropriate occasion Department would make suitable announcement of interest U.S. Government for humanitarian and other reasons in effecting expeditious return to Japan of almost 700,000 Japanese still held by Soviet authorities in Siberia, Karafuto, and other Soviet-controlled areas. It is felt here that this problem is incapable of solution unless world opinion is focused upon Soviet Government's unwillingness accept SCAP's offer complete this repatriation by earliest possible date (see Verbatim Minutes Allied Council for Japan, forty-fourth meeting, page 8).

SEBALD

OFFICIAL:

APPROVED:

R. M. LEVY,  
Colonel, AGD,  
Adjutant General.

W. J. SEBALD  
Chief  
Diplomatic Section

Info copies to:

C-in-C  
C/S for approval  
G-2  
G-3  
AG Records

M/R: (see p. 2)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*20*  
**COPY** *12*



CONFIDENTIAL

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BASIC: Rad, SCAP to DEPT OF ARMY (PASS TO SEC STATE) 3 Feb 48

M/R:

1. According to USIS (Dept. of State Radio Bulletin dated 31 Jan), Dept of State has reiterated its views that all POWs should be returned to their homes at earliest possible time. This restatement of U.S. position was made in a communication sent to International Committee of Red Cross by Dept. of State.
2. In the communication, as recd in Radio Bulletin, no specific mention was made of Japanese POWs held by Soviets. It is felt that SCAP's effort to effect early repatriation would be greatly assisted by an appropriate announcement of U.S. Gov't position in this regard.
3. At 44th meeting, ACJ, offer was made by SCAP to repatriate all Japanese from Soviet-controlled areas within five months.
4. Above telegram is designed to obtain State Dept's assistance in marshaling public opinion against Soviet Russia on this problem.
5. Approved by C/S 4 Feb 48.

WJS 26-7011

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INCOMING MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL  
ROUTINE

22 Feb 48

TAB B  
WAR SVC  
8386  
22 Feb 48

FROM: DA

TO : SCAP (ACTING POLITICAL ADVISER)

INFO: CSUSA

NR : WAR SVC 8386 (RELAYS MSG TRUE TOO 211942 Z from STATE DEPT)  
(STATE SERIAL 58 FEB 21, 2 PM SIGNED MARSHALL)

Dept's release primarily responsive numerous congressional and other inquires re German POW's (urtel 25 Feb 3). (Relatively few inquiries re Jap POWs). However, Dept considers its reply to ICRC reiterating US position favor if "early repatriation of all enemy POWs wherever they may be held" clearly applicable Jap POWs in Soviet custody and should be helpful your purpose.

Department appreciates your view that pressure world opinion factor in inducing Soviets meet commitments but questions whether issuance at this time of statement stressing Soviet shortcomings this respect might not prejudice SCAP efforts to obtain early resumption operations and increased rate of repatriation; however, since you in best position judge reaction there, Dept, if desired, will issue further statement when appropriate occasion arises. For this purpose, suggest you submit draft statement in sense you consider most likely accomplish desired results.

NO SIG

ACTION: DIPLOMATIC

INFORMATION: COMMANDER IN CHIEF, CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, G-3, AG

NOTE: Ref tel Nr 25 dtd Feb 3 is C-58447 (Diplomatic).

10204

ROUTINE  
CONFIDENTIAL

TOO: 220026 Z  
MCN: 71163

CONFIDENTIAL

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

FSS  
rem

INCOMING MESSAGE

ERW

ROUTINE

22 Feb 48

FROM : DA

TO : SCAP (ACTING POLITICAL ADVISER)

INFO : CSUSA

NR : WAR SVC 8386 (RELAYS MSG TRUE TOO 211942 Z FROM  
STATE DEPT) (STATE SERIAL 58 FEB 21, 2 PM SIGNED MARSHALL)

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NO SIG

ACTION : DIPLOMATIC

INFORMATION : COMMANDER IN CHIEF, CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, G-3,  
AG

NOTE : Ref tel Nr 25 dtd Feb 3 is C-58447 (Diplomatic).

10204

ROUTINE

TOO : 220026 Z

MCN : 71163

"Paraphrase not required. Handle as CONFIDENTIAL correspondence per para 51 i and 60 a (4) AR 380-5."

Handling and transmission of literal plain text of this message as correspondence of the same classification has been authorized by the War Department in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 16-C, 18-E, 53-A, 53-D (1) (2) (3), and 60-A (1) (2) (3) (4), AR 380-5, 6 March 1946.

COPY No.

16-50735-1 GPO



REFERENCE SHEET

BASIC: Ltr fr Mrs. T. Sugimoto requesting a ltr be fwded to her husband, Mr. Herbert Stock in Dairen, a detainee held by Soviets.

ACTION: TANEN: C/N to G-2 (CCD), fwd ltr for censorship. 26 Feb.  
C/N to G-2 (Jap Ln), requesting our ltr be translated and fwded to Mrs. Sugimoto returning \$1.00. 26 Feb.  
C/N to AG thru G-2. ~~2nd~~ Above C/N changed as this.  
Ltr direct to Mrs. Sugimoto with translated ltr attached. 27 Feb.

FILED UNDER: Misc

DATE FILED: 27 Feb.

*Russier*

11



REFERENCE SHEET

REFERENCE FILE: Russia

BASIC: Ltr fr Japa National, K.T. to C-in-C requesting that a ltr  
be fwded to her husband detained in Dairen.

DATED: 19 Feb 48

ACTION TAKEN: Hand carry ltr to G-2 (CCD) for proper disposal, 24 Feb.

FILED UNDER: Misc

DATED FILED: 25 Feb 48

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MILITARY SITUATION

No. 2026

Comment: Information of Soviet supply activities in Siberia is obtained almost entirely from repatriate interrogations, and military trends sometimes can be detected by a review of interrogation reports. Apparently the supplying of eastern Siberian areas and the building up of supply depots at ports in the Maritime Province was an important Soviet project during 1947. Considering the transportation difficulties in Siberia, it is logical that large supply depots are confined to areas having access to the Trans-Siberian Railway. Principally these areas are in the vicinity of Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Komsomolsk, Sovetskaya-Gavan and Nikolaevsk. The bulk of Soviet material destined for Sakhalin, the Kuriles, and Kamchatka is shipped from ports in these areas. Attention is diverted, however, to other areas in Siberia such as the Yakutsk area on the Lena River, approximately 1,000 miles northeast of Lake Baikal, and the Magadan area on the north coast of the Sea of Okhotsk, by their conspicuous absence in reports concerning Soviet supply activities. The burden of supplying these far flung areas falls for the most part on ports in the Maritime Province and on the Sea of Okhotsk shipping routes. Previous reports have indicated that these areas are being developed and this would necessitate shipment of supplies (Intell. Summary 2000). Available information indicates that the Soviets are making an effort to link these Northeastern Siberian areas with Western Siberia via a more direct route than the Trans Siberian Railway (Intell. Summary 1955). A new rail route possibly would run from Magadan north west to Yakutsk, thence north of Lake Baikal, and finally join the Trans Siberian Railway at a point west of Lake Baikal.

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPERIOR COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
AND  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

WES

ROUTING SLIP

FROM: P10 (Voss) DATE: 19 FEB 1947  
TO:

Commander-in-Chief _____	Ordnance _____
Aide-de-Camp _____	Prov Marshal _____
Chief of Staff _____	Pub Relations _____
Deputy C of S AFPAC _____	Quartermaster _____
Deputy C of S SCAP _____	Signal _____
Secy, General Staff _____	Sp Services _____
G-1 _____	Transp _____
G-2 _____	
G-3 <u>✓✓✓</u> _____	Civ Comm _____
G-4 _____	Civ I&E _____
Adjutant General _____	Civ Int _____
Antiaircraft _____	Civ Prop Cust _____
Cent Purch _____	Civ Transp _____
Chaplain _____	Diplomatic _____
Chemical _____	E&S _____
Civ Personnel _____	Gen Acct'g _____
Engineer _____	Gen Proc _____
Fiscal _____	Government _____
Hq Comdt _____	Int'l Pros _____
I&E _____	Legal _____
Inspector General _____	Nat Resources _____
Judge Advocate _____	Public H&W _____
Medical _____	Stat & Rpts _____

FOR:

Approval _____	Note and Return _____
Comment or _____	Dist'n Desired _____
Concurrence _____	Signature _____
Information <u>✓✓✓</u> _____	Dispatch _____
Initials _____	Attachment of _____
Issuance of Orders _____	Reference _____
Necessary Action _____	File _____

Attn: Capt. Young,  
Repatriation



*Russian  
File*

*-16-*

*No 7*

REMAINING JAPANESE IN SOVIET ZONE  
MAY BE REPATRIATED BY YEAR-END

(Noon Edition)

Kyodo

TCKYC, February 19---The repatriation of the remaining estimated 690,000 Japanese nationals who are still stranded in Soviet-occupied areas may be completed by the end of this year, according to the Yomiuri.

This would be possible, it said, if the number of persons repatriated monthly after April is stepped up to 100,000, which appears feasible from results attained last year.

While repatriation activities have been suspended during the period from December until April, an increased repatriation program at the rate of 100,000 person monthly from April would enable complete repatriation of those still marooned in Soviet zones by the end of the year.

-more-

*-16-*

*48*



Reamining-----2

NOON

Under the past arrangement,  
50,000 persons were transferred every  
month.

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2. Communist Pressure on POWs:

(a) Non-Communists Prosecuted: A General Assembly Court (Tai Shu Kanpa) in Siberian POW camps has been prosecuting Japanese internees believed to be anti-Communist, according to unconfirmed information (F-6) from repatriates. The court is said to designate as "anti-communistic" all who are opposed to or will not co-operate with Communist movements or who are not affiliated with any Communist organization in the camp. The tribunal, it is reported, also tries POWs with a low labor output or those who do not make an obvious effort to increase their efficiency. Repatriates have reported that the assembly hears charges against the defendant and, finding him guilty, usually sentences him to hard labor.

The prisoner then is made to sign a pledge which includes full co-operation with the POW camp's Communist movement, support of the Japan Communist Party, advocacy of communistic government in Japan, and overthrow of the Emperor, according to these reports. (a)

Comment: Such coercion through trials is consistent with previous information regarding secret police activities in POW camps, particularly by Youth Action Corps members (Intell. Summary 1910). Although undoubtedly effective in producing immediate and at least surface co-operation among POWs, this tactic does not seem to be practiced generally. Most Soviet administrators apparently prefer the more lasting results of courting favor by indoctrination and improved treatment (Intell. Summary 1999, 1989, 1960).

(b) Indoctrination Efforts: The usual indoctrination program includes organizing groups of Communist sympathizers among the Japanese, such as the Democratic Group (Minshu Gurupu) and Friends' or Comrades' Societies (Tomo No Kai), to promote Communism among fellow POWs. One recent repatriate observed the co-ordination among several of these groups during his internment. In one Chita camp, according to his unconfirmed report, a Japanese Leftist, HAKAMADA, alleged brother of HAKAMADA Satomi, Japan Communist Party Central Committeeman, organized a Comrades' Society which was active in promoting the Communist movement. HAKAMADA, it is reported, later became an official of the Chita Higher Headquarters (Chita Koto Shireibu), which, as central Soviet headquarters for all POW camps in the district, disseminated all directives. At another Chita camp to which the informant was transferred later, a Democratic Group is said to have carried on the function of the Comrades' Society and also to have sponsored a Democratic School (Minshu Gakko). Instructors at this school attended the so-called Short-Term Course (Koshu Kai) at the first-mentioned camp before qualifying to teach principles of Communism, informant states. (b)

Comment: The Democratic Groups and Comrades' Societies seem to vary with the needs and resources of each particular camp; elaborate organizations with subsocieties for lectures, debates, entertainments, and research have been reported, as well as simple discussion groups. (c) Their objective, promotion of the Communist cause, never varies.

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(c) Labor Schools in POW Camps: Combined efforts of the Soviet Political Department and the "Japan Newspaper" (Nippon Shimbun) developed labor schools (Rodo Gakko) in the Muli District POW camps, according to another repatriate's unconfirmed report. The schools, it is said, were to enlighten POWs on conditions in the USSR and Japan, as well as to educate them in communism and socialism. The "Japan Newspaper", supplemented by pamphlets, reportedly was to serve as text material in the proposed classes. The schedule also was said to have included lectures on Soviet Government, Theories of Communism, Materialism, Fascism, Faults in the Japanese Government, Farm Problems in Japan, and Causes of the East Asia War. Instructors in the labor schools were hand-picked delegates from various camps who first attended the Short-Term Course in order to unify school programs in the various camps, source reported. (d)

(d) Intensive Short Course: The Short-Term Course, often referred to as the training school for party organizers among internees, was an intensive lecture-indoctrination program, according to one repatriate who attended the school in Khabarovsk. He explained that representatives from every camp in Siberia attended lectures daily from 0800 to 1700 for one month. Instructors, he said, included Japanese graduates of Tokyo and Kyoto Imperial Universities, two of whom were staff writers of the "Japan Newspaper". Lectures source claims to have heard at the school fall under three general headings: (1) USSR Situation, which illustrated the need for revolution in Czarist Russia and the great benefits enjoyed under Bolshevik Communism; (2) International Situation, which assessed prospects for "democracy" in various nations and posed the U.S. as the chief opponent of the democratic trend and (3) Japan Situation, which purported to explain the organization of the Tenno system, history of capitalism and the outlook for socialism. In the evenings, movies, informal speeches, and discussions further emphasized points presented during the day, according to this unconfirmed report. (e)

(e) Communist Books Distributed: The Moscow Foreign Language Publishing Co has published Communist books in Japanese for distribution in libraries of all Siberia internment camps, according to a fairly reliable source. The books are about 1,000 pages each and appear in sets of four: Thesis of Marx and Lenin, Soviet Constitution, History of Communism and the USSR, and Disposition of the Proletariat, CIC has been informed. Prisoners who show interest in the books are said to receive a complete set for their personal study and research. However, officials confiscate all copies of these books at Nakhodka, source explains, since returnees may not bring books to Japan when repatriated. (f)

(f) POWs Become Soviet Citizens: One unconfirmed report (F-6) states that approximately 2,000 Japanese POWs have decided against returning to Japan and have taken Soviet citizenship. These former soldiers are working on collective farms and railroads from the east coast of Siberia as far west as the Kazark Republic, it is said. Some allegedly have become officers in the Soviet Army. All are reported to have bows and arrows tattooed on their right arms to signify that they were prisoners of war, but refuse to reveal their identity or their birthplace. (g)

Comment: This report, if true, is not necessarily proof of conversion to communism; many of these men probably prefer a military type of life, to which they have become accustomed, to the great readjustment

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entailed if they return to their country and to families who believe them dead. That many reportedly are married to Soviet women is another contributing factor. Previous unconfirmed information has disclosed similar circumstances among residents in Karafuto who had obtained Soviet citizenship. (h)

- (a) S/I, "General Assembly Court (Tai Shu Kanpa)," CIC Area 10
- (b) S/I, "Tanimura Takeshi," CIC Area 10
- (c) S/I, "Friendship Society at the Dauenda No. 6 POW Camp," CIC Area 9
- (d) S/I, "Labor Schools (Redo Gakko) in the Muli District POW Camps,"  
CIC Area 10
- (e) S/I, "Regional Short Course School Held at Khabarovsk," CIC Area 5
- (f) S/I, "Distribution of Communist Books in Siberia," CIC Area 9
- (g) S/I, "Japanese Prisoners of War Becoming Citizens of Russia," CIC Area 0
- (h) S/I, "Soviet Citizenship Obtained by Karafuto Residents," CIC Area 37

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84 REFERENCE SHEET

(NOT USED)

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER: MISC

USS Gen Mann, June, Advise.  
Request PD San Fran assign space San Fran Yokosuka via  
Address 4000 South 15th St Philadelphia Pennsylvania  
Patricia A Swenney dau age 20.  
Kathryn P wife age 45.  
of rank 20 Jun 48. Dependents as follows.  
Your 100925 Z. Capt Andrew P Lawton, 29735, USN date

DIS OK

1-0 : NOITCA

INFORMATION: G-3, AG, 12500

NOTE: Reference message DTG 100925 Z 18 CTWCHK R #5013 (0-1).

MISSISSIPPI : 00T  
82/15 ADA : MOM

57616

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP

No. 25  
15 February 1948

Russian  
file

### 3. Reactions of Repatriates

General: A total of 111 laudatory letters were posted by detainees in the USSR, as opposed to 224 dispatches from repatriated PWs. Although the majority of returnees write critically of their ex-warders, approximately 50 express approbation for the Soviets. These figures indicate a slight shift in the proportion of favorable and derogatory comment as compared with last month when mail was marked by an unprecedented volume of Vladivostok intercepts commending Soviet authorities on PW camp administration (See Periodical Summary No. 24, 15 Jan 48).

a. Siberian Ports Crowded with Repatriates: PWs Blame US, Japan: Correspondents appear to be increasingly concerned over the slow repatriation of internees from communist zones. Soviet suspension of shipping around November until later this year, reportedly because of ice-bound harbors, is mentioned in several intercepts. (l) Influenced by Soviet propaganda, a growing number of PWs are inclined to blame Japan and the US for the lack of transportation. (m) A Saitama writer, who criticizes the USSR for failure to fulfill a commitment to repatriate 50,000 persons per month, declares that "Russia is disseminating counter-propaganda charging that the Occupation Forces and Japan have intentionally delayed their repatriation program by failing to provide adequate accommodations and provisions for returnees." (n) Referring to an undesignated spot in Siberia, an internee writes that "the port here is overcrowded with tens of thousands of repatriates owing to the shortage of ships from Japan". (o) Other intercepts impugn the Soviet Government: "After I returned home, I learned that there had been a sufficient number of ships to transport Japanese from Siberia. Why does the USSR procrastinate so?" (p) "While the Allied Council is making sincere efforts to repatriate Japanese prisoners of war, the attitude of the Soviet infuriates us."

b. Former Japanese Officers Subjected to Prolonged Internment: Estimates as to the number of captives held in various sectors of the Soviet Union are numerous. The most consistent report is that from 600,000 to 700,000 Japanese remain in the USSR. (r) Information on the plight of ex-officers (return of the majority of whom seems to have been postponed indefinitely by the Soviets) is varied. One correspondent claims that 1,600 company grade officers were repatriated from Elabka, USSR, on 17 Nov (s), while another returnee states that 600 field grade and 10,000 company grade officers now incarcerated in Russia will not be sent home until next summer. According to the same source, of the 650,000 former officers and men of the Kwantung Army interned in the USSR, 200,000 have been repatriated and 450,000 remain. "Field grade officers have not been permitted to go home." (t) April is cited by an ex-internee now in Tokyo as the date high ranking Japanese officers are scheduled to be returned.

(1) IS/NAG/4097  
OSA/53379  
TOK/PPB/10941  
(m) OSA/53586

(n) TOK/62321  
(o) TOK/62713  
(p) FUK/20753  
(q) OSA/53110

(r) TOK/PPB/10968, 10936  
(s) TOK/61774, OSA/53528  
(t) TOK/62318

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(u) In a Vladivostok-postmarked letter, a captive remarks that "we are pretty sure to be the last ones repatriated, for we are all ex-officers."

(v)

c. Commissioned Men Receive Preferential Treatment, Indoctrination:

That commissioned men are receiving preferential treatment, most of them in special settlements like Elabka and Maruslyansk in European Russia, is confirmed by countless references. (w) One such detainee reports being "transferred from primitive, cave-like barracks at Rada, Siberia, to magnificent two to three story buildings at Elabka in the Tartar Republic, southeast of Moscow." (x) As depicted by former inmates, the routine in these special centers is far from strenuous, i.e., "The 3,000 to 4,000 officers confined at A Camp, Elabka, had two holidays a week. In their leisure time, they devoted themselves to political or scientific research or amused themselves playing chess, mahjong, etc...." (y) "Thought propaganda seemed to have been emphasized more than labor in the officers camps." "z" According to intelligence furnished by a repatriated ex-major in Hokkaido, "former officers who have finished their internment duties are now being concentrated around Khabarovsk for unknown reasons. Ex-general officers are now being thoroughly educated in communism and will not be repatriated until the desired effect is seen in them." (a)

d. Improved Treatment Credited to Soviets' "Kind Consideration":

It is obvious, from the diversity of postal data, that conditions vary according to the camp and locale. Nevertheless, more than 100 letters attest to the fact that Soviet PW policy has undergone drastic reforms. An improvement in food and living facilities was marked by some repatriates and internees early in 1946. (b) A Japanese recently incarcerated at Karaganda in Central Asia recalls that "at first, the food was poor, and many died of tuberculosis and malnutrition, but supplies have been much better since Apr 47. During the winter we were issued furcoats and cotton-wadded working clothes, and our rooms were well heated." (c) The comment that "I am receiving better treatment than last year" is recurrent (d), and several inmates claim to have gained weight during internment. (e) Innovations cited by correspondents include working wages for PWs and increased recreational activities: "Performances are given regularly by musical and theatrical troupes; we see movies twice a week and have social meetings on Sunday." (f) "Yesterday we attended an athletic meet." (g) "There is to be a grand contest for cultural accomplishments." (h) Top pay, according to one intercept, is 400 rubles (approximately \$80) a month. (i) Another writer remarks that "since we receive more than ¥100 a month, we are able to keep well supplied with cigarettes. (j) Other letters tell of comfortable quarters ("We are housed in a large white building adjoined by a hospital and surrounded by an extensive garden.") (k) and new provisions for transportation between camps. (l) As has been noted before, intercepts from Siberia are intoned with extravagant praise of the Soviet authorities in the style of the following extracts: "due to the warm courtesy of the USSR, I am suffering no hardship;" "under the

(u) TOK/62339	(x) TOK/63191	(b) TOK/35592	(h) OSA/53178
(v) TOK/62720	(y) TOK/62318	(c) OSA/53260	(i) TOK/PPB/10949
(w) NAG/27445	(z) TOK/63191	(d) TOK/62568, 35601,	(j) TOK/62607
OSA/58574	(a) TOK/2156	35592	(k) TOK/62720
		(e) TOK/62547, 62562	(l) TOK/62607
		(f) TOK/62597	(m) TOK/62537, 62605
		(g) TOK/62671	62610



kind protection of the Soviet officials, we are leading a happy and comfortable life;" "generously assisted by the Soviets, I am undergoing hard training with a burning desire to establish a free and prosperous Japan." (m)

j. US Maligned, Prisoners Told of Chaotic Conditions in Japan: It is possible, on the basis of postal material, to trace the propaganda line employed by the USSR. Japanese-language newspapers distributed in the detention camps paint a deceptively dismal picture of living conditions under the Allied Occupation. Internees are told that commodity prices in Japan are 70 times higher than during pre-war days, that unemployment is rampant and the food shortage acute. (w) As a result, repatriates admit having difficulty reconciling their preconceptions with what they find to be the actual situation in Japan. (x) "Japanese interned in the USSR," affirms one repatriate, "are informed through the newspaper circulated in Siberia only of those events in Japan and the world at large that are favorable to the Soviet Union." (y) It is also apparent that destructive criticism is aimed at the Allies and the US in particular. (z) One conjecture served up by the Soviets and digested by a good many internees is that the US intends to reduce Japan to a colony. (a) "They maligned the American and Japanese governments in their newspapers and leaflets so often that we became tired of their propaganda," writes an ex-PW. (b) In a particularly abusive vein, a Siberia confinee claims that "the most gangrenous evil in present-day Japan is the US Occupation policy." (c)

k. Japanese Said Inducted into Manchuria Eighth Route Army: Reports from Manchuria are contradictory. Evacuees from Communist-held areas tell of unspeakable privations and atrocities allegedly committed by Chinese and Soviet troops. One writer describes a riot in Gunghua in which half of the Japanese male inhabitants were massacred and declares that he and his family "struggled frantically to keep alive" during the year preceding their repatriation. (d) On the other hand, Japanese engineers and technicians detained in Manchuria (estimated at 3,000 in Mukden, 10,000 "in non-Communist sectors" write that they are well paid and treated with consideration. (e) A number of communications mention that Japanese troops are serving with the Eighth Route Army. According to one intercept, "some 20,000 Japanese soldiers were assigned to the Communist Army upon termination of the war, and Japanese civilians were later inducted because of the high casualty rate." (f) Another correspondent reports that he has indirectly received word of a Japanese officer now attached to the Eighth Route Army Medical Corps but that outbound communication is prohibited Japanese members of the Communist Army. (g)

(w) TOK/62657, 26527,	(d) TOK/61774
62627	(e) OSA/54045
(x) IS/TOK/21289	TOK/62995
(y) OSA/53957	(f) TOK/63074
(z) TOK/PPB/10768	(g) TOK/63074
(a) OSA/53036, TOK/62574	
(b) OSA/53649	
(c) TOK/54775	



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COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

FIRST REGION

No. 25  
15 February 1948

(4) JCP Receives Newspapers From Soviet Embassy: Takahashi Katsuyuki, in the editorial department of the "Akahata", JCP organ newspaper in Tokyo, receives copies of the Russian newspapers "Pravda" and "Izvestia," from the Soviet Embassy, CIC sources revealed on 7 Jan 48.

Takahashi is reported as turning these newspapers over to Party couriers who carry them to Osaka for translation and hence to outlying areas for dissemination. Allegedly, there is no regular courier schedule from Osaka to Tokyo as far as receiving the papers is concerned. Any member who can be trusted, contacts Takahashi who gives him the papers. These are taken to Osaka where Furuhashi Ginnosuke, Investigations Dept., Osaka Branch, JCP, translates them. The informant said that the newspapers are received irregularly by the Soviet Embassy. (b)

(5) Koreans Smuggle Arms Into Japan: Komai Tohei, member of the House of Councillors from Nara Prefecture, is alleged to have said that ships involved in arms smuggling dock at Mushigahama City, Yamaguchi Prefecture, according to informants.

Although the ships are primarily utilized to smuggle Koreans into Japan, small arms are distributed to certain of the Koreans aboard, just prior to debarkation. Partial confirmation of this was noted when pistols were found on several Koreans recently apprehended in Yamaguchi Prefecture for illegal entry into Japan. (c)

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(b) M/R OSA 9-363 (5b) Case HUC  
(c) M/R KYO 10-623 (5b) HUC

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PERIODICAL SUMMARY

CIVIL CENSORSHIP  
COUNTER INTELLIGENCE  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
SUMMATION

Issue No. 24

Copy No. 11

Sakhalin Japanese Sign Labor Contracts, Baited With Bonuses:

Approximately one third of the intercepts on Sakhalin tell of Soviet efforts to discourage repatriation of Japanese laborers. Whereas some letters describe the plight of Japanese civilians as not unlike that of persons in bondage, other writers report that Japanese eligible for repatriation have chosen to remain on Sakhalin, preferring work in the coal mines to the prospect of unemployment in Japan. It is also noted that some of the remaining residents believe that war between the US and USSR is imminent and cherish the hope that Sakhalin will be returned to Japan or claimed by America. (y) A returnee in Hokkaido reports that while "repatriation from Sakhalin seems to be semi-voluntary," employers of Japanese try to detain them by every possible means. He cites an instance in which railway workers were sentenced to several years imprisonment on a trivial charge, but released when they signed service contracts of from one to two years. The same writer remarks that "most of the Japanese remaining in Sakhalin seem to harbor no antipathy for the Soviets, but regard them as agreeable individuals." (z) There are a number of letters to the effect that: "Japanese interned in Karafuto have signed long term employment contracts with the USSR. However, as volunteers are few, the Soviets are trying to attract signees by promising payment of a ¥3,000 to ¥5,000 cash bonuses upon termination of their contracts." (a) Another version is that: "If the Japanese refuse and to sign three to five year labor agreements, their rations are stopped and they are jailed for sabotage." (b)

(y) TOK/35584

(z) TOK/35584

(a) FUK/TP/9493

(b) TOK/PPB/10504

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Anti-Communist Sentiment Reflects Influence of Repatriates:

Derogatory references to the communists are more numerous among intercepts on morale than pro-communist reactions. A considerable amount of anti-pathology springs from the USSR's failure to keep apace with other countries' repatriation schedules. An even greater number of writers pass judgment on the basis of incriminating reports circulated by Japanese recently interned in Soviet zones. The following comments are representative:

Tokyo: "I am highly indignant over the inhumane treatment accorded our countrymen by the Soviets and pray for their earliest repatriation. No true Japanese would ever become a communist." (j) Address illegible: "Those damned Russians have betrayed Japan! They occupied her territory without any damage to themselves; moreover, they still detain some 800,000 Japanese in the USSR. Hateful Stalin! I am impatiently awaiting a chance to wreak our vengeance on them." (k)

"The word 'communism' always inspires the same sense of hatred in me that I feel for fascism." (l) Nagasaki: "Communism is utterly intolerable for Japan; we must win America's confidence above everything else." (m) Shiga: "Although father is opposed to it, I have recently become a communist. I can't help feeling, however, that the people around me abhor communism without having any adequate knowledge about it." (n)

Other dispatches express disquietude over the possibility of a communist coup in Japan or the prospect of a war engendered by the USSR. These letters take the following tack -- "Japan is about to be swallowed up by a surging wave of communism. We must fight against it." (o) "We both know that Japan's real foe is the red imperialism of the Soviet Union, and, in an emergency, I am prepared to take up arms and annihilate the enemy." (p)

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(j) IS/TOK/21211  
(k) IS/TOK/21109  
(l) IS/OSA/2658-b  
(m) IS/FUK/1720  
(n) IS/OSA/8701  
(o) IS/FUK/1725  
(p) IS/TOK/20961

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Repatriates Bitter; Working Individually and in Groups:

Typical of the feeling of many repatriates is the letter of a Hiroshima bookseller: "I sometimes put up posters denouncing the Communist Party by the side of my bookstore. I will continue to put up posters. . . . to revenge the bitter treatment I received from the Communists in Manchuria." (n) The president of a newspaper company, returned in Nov 46 from Manchuria, is planning to initiate a nation-wide anti-Communist movement by calling on repatriates now residing in all parts of Japan. (o) Other returnees, in letters to newspapers and magazines, pledge their time and effort to ousting Communism. An unofficial survey of repatriates from Saghalien shows strong anti-Communist sentiment. (p)

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(o) TOS/897

(p) TOS/X-62

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Political Situation

Conditions in Manchuria:

Repatriates from China and Manchuria have stated that 70 to 80 thousand ex-Japanese soldiers have voluntarily joined the Nationalist Army in China because they are anti-Communist, they are offered 50,000 Chinese dollars a month in pay and they feel that they will be able to return to Japan sooner by joining the Nationalist Army. Many of these soldiers are escapees from the Chinese Communist Army which they were forced to join without pay or sufficient food. Those Japanese who were formerly with the Chinese Communist Army stated that the latter were using Soviet vehicles and that Soviet soldiers were fighting with the Communist Army. They could not tell whether the Soviets were officers, enlisted men or intelligence personnel.

Repatriates from northern Korea and Manchuria stated that Korean, Chinese and Japanese Communist are being sent from Hunchun, Manchuria, to various points in Japan. Prior to and during the war, the people of Hunchun and Russian across the border were inter-marrying. Many Japanese and Koreans were taken by the Soviets and Communized and then sent to Japan to work with the Japanese Communists according to the stories of those repatriates. It was also claimed that wide roads and railroads have been constructed to connect Hunchun with some of the larger cities in Siberia. (a)

(a) S/I OSA 9-584, Subj: "Conditions in Manchuria."

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### 3. Social and Civil Conditions

#### a. Organizations

(1) Black Cat Group: Formed into a secret society reported to be closely allied with the Soviet MVD, Japanese girls were trained by the Soviets in the latter part of 1945 for work as intelligence agents. Soon after the Russian Army moved into Mukden, Manchuria, the Communist 8th Route Army was ordered by the Soviet forces forcibly to take certain Japanese girls (number unknown) from Mukden to Tetsurei. Transported under the guise of nurses, these girls in most instances were single, without parents or relatives in Manchuria, who had been reduced to working as waitresses, maids, dance hall girls, prostitutes, etc.. After a brief stay at Tetsurei, the girls were moved to Houkomon, approximately 75 miles north of Mukden, where they are alleged to have received their intelligence education.

At this point the girls were formed into the ultra-secret Black Cat Group (Kuro Neko Dan). Very little is known about the type of training which they received but it is believed that spying and methods of assassination were included. Two Japanese reported to have assisted in the training program are Okazaki (fnu) and Yasaki (fnu), males.

Girls who satisfactorily completed this indoctrination were dispatched to major cities in Manchuria. In teams of twos and threes, the women entered assigned cities under various disguises. Some pretended that they were taken hostage by the Communists and had escaped; others joined soldiers or males who were fleeing toward the nationalists and entered as wives or relatives of the unsuspecting escapees; some returned while the Russian Army was occupying these regions and still others during the Chinese Communist Army occupation.

The aims of the groups appear to have been the detection of anti-Soviet Japanese and Japanese intelligence agents of the Nationalist Army, and, after discovery, the assassination of those persons in conjunction with other secret pro-Soviet organizations. Types of jobs for which these girls were socially and temperamentally suited worked in well with the overall scheme. Some girls worked in dancehalls or cabarets, others as servants and others as prostitutes.

It is also reported that many of these women returned to Japan as regular repatriates some time in late 1946 and during Jun and Jul 47. None belonging to this organization were found among repatriates from the first four ships from Hulutao which arrived at Sasebo in Oct 47.

Very little information concerning the Black Cat Group can be found. It is alleged, however, that Japanese girls have been caught and executed as spies by the Chinese Nationalist authorities.

This information was obtained from Oya Kaishin, a Japanese repatriate from Hulutao, Manchuria, who arrived Sasebo Repatriation Center in Oct 47 (a)

(3) Communists Lead Repatriates' Organization: A Communist organization, the Kita Arima Repatriates Regeneration Society (Kita Arima Hikiagesha Kosei Renmei) plans to unite all repatriates in the area into an organization that will be forceful enough to gain the necessary public support to provide suitable vocational aid to repatriates. At its first meeting held in Kita

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Arima Village, Nagasaki Prefecture, on 25 Oct 47, leaders of the newly formed organization emphasized that the society would not be concerned or influenced by any political movement. However, Nogi Fujio, chief promoter for the formation of the new society and newly elected director of the organization, is a member of the CP and the leader of Communist activities in the area. Honda Tsuyoshi, another Communist, was elected to an official position. The informant reports both Honda and Nogi plan to use their positions to gain repatriates' confidence in the CP. (c)

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- (a) S/I NAG 2B-544, Subj: "Black Cat Group".  
(c) S/I NAG 2A-1038, Subj: "Kita Arima Repat. Regen. Society".

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COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

SECOND CIC REGION: IX CORPS

1. Espionage

Repatriate Briefed By Soviets: Japanese repatriates, formerly interned in Manchuria and Siberia have been briefed by Soviet officials in an attempt to set up an intelligence-gathering net in Japan, according to information gained from Kohari Enjiro, a repatriate now living in Hirosaki City, Aomori Prefecture.

Kohari, while interned in Nakhodka, Siberia, was approached by LT. GOROFUNI (phonetic), a Russian officer who instructed him to gather all possible information concerning the following subjects, and report it by various means, to the Soviets:

- a. Living condition of demobilized Japanese soldiers.
- b. Feeling the Japanese people have toward General MacArthur's policies.
- c. Occupation Forces' attitude toward demobilized soldiers.
- d. Methods and type of interrogation undergone at the repatriation centers in Japan.

In addition to reported on these matters, Kohari was instructed to:

- a. Form a "democratic" organization around the Peoples' Prefectural Societies (Kenjim Kai), an organization composed of internees formed by the Soviets in Nakhodka.
- b. Conduct a "democratic" movement to fight the reactionary, capitalistic government.
- c. Prepare a place of contact in Tokyo where demobilized soldiers returning to Japan could meet him.
- d. Contact Tokuda Kyuichi (Prominent JCP member).

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6 February 1948

Filed under: SEASAC File

Subject: Japan - Psychological Reactions

1. Reactions of Repatriates

- (j) PWs heckles British, Contend repatriation delays are deliberate.
- (k) Prisoners pen threats, report riots, strikes, attempted sabotage.

For above info, see Civil Censorship Summary, Issue No. 24, Copy No. 11.



FL/DLN/JMS/mw

Establishment of Regular Mail Service  
Between POWs in USSR and Japan

G-2

G-3

7 February 1948

1

Forwarded as a matter pertaining to your section.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2:

1 Incl:  
Transl Sov Ltr #2026  
dtd 6 Feb 48

----- D.L.W. -----

1-7  
80m



9

3



ALLIED COUNCIL FOR JAPAN  
TOKYO  
OFFICE OF THE MEMBER  
FOR  
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER ALLIED POWERS  
CHIEF OF STAFF, MAJOR GENERAL MUELLER

Dear General:

In regard to the request presented in the letter of GHQ, SCAP, AG 311 dated 30 January, we wish to inform you of the following:

The Soviet patrol ship #30, which arrived at the Tokyo port on 4 January 1948, delivered several thousands of letters from Japanese Prisoners of War in U.S.S.R., addressed to their relatives in Japan. All these letters have been submitted by the Office of the U.S.S.R. Member of the Allied Council to the representative of the Foreign Correspondence Section of the Central Tokyo Post Office on 20 January 1948, and receipt obtained.

The General Headquarters request on future delivery of mail from Soviet ships arriving to Japan has been brought to the attention of the proper Soviet authorities.

Respectfully yours,

For the Member, Allied Council  
for Japan from the U.S.S.R.

Lt. Colonel /s/ BEZNOSIKOV  
/t/ M. BEZNOSIKOV

6 February 1948  
No. 2026  
Rec'd 6 Feb 48, 1630 hrs  
Trans 6 Feb 48, 1720 hrs  
Disp 7 Feb 48, 1045 hrs

DISTR:  
G-3 Action  
G-2 Adm  
DS (2)  
FL File

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN BY:

S. SAVITSKY, G2, Foreign Liaison

9  
3



COPY

*Russian  
file*

Diplomatic Section

DS/WJS/JDE/bo

MEMORANDUM

Tokyo, February 3, 1948.

There are forwarded herewith for the information of the Soviet Member, Allied Council for Japan, the following petitions, requesting the early repatriation of Japanese nationals from areas under the control of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

1. Petition from the Kyoto Prefectural Assembly signed by the Chairman and addressed to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.
2. Petition from the Kyoto Prefectural Assembly signed by the Chairman and addressed to the Chairman of the Allied Council for Japan.
3. Petitions from Chiba Prefecture addressed variously to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, "American Embassy" and "Soviet Embassy".
4. Petition of Mitsuo Kitagawa, President of the Gumma-ken Family League to Promote Repatriation supported by a reported 20,000 signatures and seals, and accompanied by an English translation furnished and signed by petitioner.
5. Petition signed by the Mayor of Ito City, Shizuoka Prefecture, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Ito Municipal Assembly, 22 Assemblymen and the Chairman of the Ito City League to Promote Repatriation, together with an English translation furnished and signed by three of the petitioners.

Enclosures:

As stated above.

S 711.4

A 014.33

To the

Soviet Member,  
Allied Council for Japan,  
Tokyo.

*2*

COPY *2*



COPY

Copies to:

C/S  
G-2  
G-2/GL  
G-3  
AG Records

- M/R: 1. Inclosures mentioned above are fairly bulky and have been retained in DS.
2. It is believed advisable at this time to remind the Soviet Member of the considerable volume of petitions being received by sending him those mentioned above which have been received in GHQ in the last month.
3. Approved by C/S on 28 Jan 1948.

JDE 26-8942

COPY 2



*Solicit*

DS/WJS/blc

S 711.4  
AG 014.33

Repatriation of Japanese from Soviet-  
controlled Areas.

From: DS

To: C/S  
Thru: G-3

Date: 2 February 1948

1

1. According to a USIS report (Department of State Radio Bulletin dated 31 January), Tab A, the Department of State has reiterated its view that all prisoners of war wherever they may be held should be returned to their homes at the earliest possible time. In the communication in which this position was stated no specific mention was made of Japanese POWs still held in Soviet-controlled areas.

2. It is felt that a suggestion should be made to the Department of State to the effect that upon appropriate occasion a suitable announcement should be made concerning the interest of the United States Government, for humanitarian and other reasons, in effecting an expeditious return to Japan of all Japanese POWs still held in Soviet-controlled areas.

3. Attached as Tab B is a draft telegram to the Department of State from Acting US POLAD to the above effect.

4. Request G-3 concurrence and C/S approval to dispatch telegram as drafted and return of attached documents for final DS action.

2 Incls:

Tab A, Radio Bulletin

Tab B, Draft telegram.

-----W.J.S.-----

BLA/tn *HH*

From: G-3

To: C/S

Date: 3 February 1948

(2)

1. It appears from attached USIS report (Tab A), that Department of State may not be fully cognizant of SCAP's continued and concerted efforts to effect the repatriation of Japanese POW's from Soviet-controlled areas.

2. G-3 concurs in action as proposed by the Diplomatic Section.

-----W.H.M.-----

*Approved by*  
*C/S*  
*5 Feb 48*



DRAFT TELEGRAM  
CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: SCAP (SEBALD)

TO : DEPT OF ARMY (PASS TO DEPT OF STATE).....ROUTINE

Reference Department's release dated January 31 concerning repatriation prisoners of war.

Based upon USIS report of restatement U.S. position by Department in communication to International Committee of Red Cross, no specific reference apparently was made to repatriation Japanese prisoners of war presently held by Soviet Government.

It would materially assist SCAP in his efforts to effect repatriation Japanese prisoners of war from Soviet-controlled areas if upon appropriate occasion Department would make suitable announcement of interest U.S. Government for humanitarian and other reasons in effecting expeditious return to Japan of almost 700,000 Japanese still held by Soviet authorities in Siberia, Karafuto, and other Soviet-controlled areas. It is felt here that this problem is incapable of solution unless world opinion is focused upon Soviet Government's unwillingness accept SCAP's offer complete this repatriation by earliest possible date (see Verbatim Minutes Allied Council for Japan, forty-fourth meeting, page 8).

SEBALD

OFFICIAL:

APPROVED:

R. M. LEVY  
Colonel, AGD  
Adjutant General

W. J. SEBALD  
Chief  
Diplomatic Section

Info copies to:

CinC  
C/S (for approval)  
G-2  
G-3

M/R:

1. According to USIS (Dept of State Radio Bulletin dated 31 Jan), Dept of State has reiterated its views that all POWs should be returned to their homes at earliest possible time. This restatement of U.S. position was made in a communication set to International Committee of Red Cross by Dept of State.

2. In the communication, as recd in Radio Bulletin, no specific mention was made of Japanese POWs held by Soviets. It is felt that SCAP's efforts to effect early repatriation would be greatly assisted by an appropriate announcement of U.S. Govt's position in this regard.

3. At 44th meeting, ACJ, offer was made by SCAP to repatriate all Japanese from Soviet-controlled areas within five months.

4. Above telegram is designed to obtain State Dept's assistance in marshaling public opinion against Soviet Russian on this problem.

WJS 26-7011

CONFIDENTIAL



BLA/tn  
3 February 1948

MEMO for RECORD:

1. **BASIC ACTION:** DS in C/N #1 requests G-3 concurrence in submitting to C/S for approval a proposed radio to Dept of State (Tab B). Proposed radio:

a. Requests State Dept announcement, at appropriate time, of official U.S. Govt interest, in effecting expeditious return of Japanese POW's held in Soviet-controlled areas.

b. States that opinion here is that problem is incapable of solution unless world opinion is focused upon Soviet's unwillingness to accept SCAP's offers of increased repatriation shipping.

c. Is designed to obtain State Dept's assistance in marshaling public opinion behind acceleration of Japanese POW repatriation program.

2. According to United States Information Service report (Tab A), it appears US Dept of State is perhaps not fully cognizant of SCAP's continued and concerted efforts to fulfil commitments of the Potsdam Declaration in expediting the repatriation of Japanese POW's. No specific mention is made of Japanese POW's still held in Soviet-controlled areas in the attached USIS report.

3. It is felt that inviting State Dept attention to SCAP's previous efforts in this regard will contribute to effecting an expeditious solution to the Japanese repatriation problem.

4. **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** That assistance of Dept of State be requested in focusing world attention on SCAP's continued attempts to accomplish repatriation commitments as proposed in DS radio (Tab B).

5. **CONCURRENCES:** None required.

6. **RECOMMENDATION:** That G-3 indicate concurrence in forwarding DS proposal to C/S for approval.

7. **COMPLETION:** This completes G-3 action on basic C/N from DS to C/S.

Anderson 26-5945

BA