

-17-

Total Camp Area: 29,000 square meters. Floor space: 3270 square meters for POWs. Enclosed by bamboo fence and barbed wire. Former Japanese military barracks, one -story wooden buildings with tiled roofs, cookhouse, infirmary, isolation barrack, bathhouse, latrines, stables for live stock and poultry pens. Electric lights. Water supply is well water, which is boiled.

Officers and sick sleep in beds with straw mattresses. Mosquito nets provided for all.

Infirmary: 7 POW medical officers, including dentist; 8 POW orderlies. Capacity: 60 beds, including TB ward of 10 beds. Number of sick May 1944: 48, including 9 TB; 15 malaria; 5 beri beri.

Deaths: 8, including 3 at KARENKO; chiefly TB, and beri beri.

Library: 14,000 volumes (?), 5,000 turnover monthly.

Deposits end of May: Yen 1,491,815.39.

Work: Officers work 2 to 3 hours daily; 5 hours for other ranks. Rest 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in summer. Daily average number working, April: 87 NCOs and men.

POW vegetable garden of six hectares (pigs, rabbits, 6 cattle; chickens, and ducks).

CAMP NO. 5, SHINKO-SHO: FUJIYAMA-GUN: TAIHOKU-SHU.

Opened June 23, 1943, for highest ranking POWs (who were moved here from TAMAZATO). Visited June 2, 1944. Site visited June 15, 1943, prior to arrival of POWs, by Paravicini.

Capacity of Camp: 32.

Strength: POWs 32.

	<u>British</u>	<u>American</u>	<u>Dutch</u>	<u>Total</u>
Officers	2	3	2	7
Enlisted men	7	3	5	15
Civilian officials	7	0	3	10
	16	6	10	32

Camp newly constructed.

Area of Camp: 11,000 square meters. Floor space allowed POWs, 250 square meters, enclosed by bamboo fence. One-story wooden barracks for orderlies, kitchens, etc. One-story wooden barracks, with screened doors and windows, for housing 16 high ranking POWs in individual rooms. It also contains a library.

Drinking water from filtered well water.

Sanitary Facilities like Japanese army.

Daily

-18-

Daily ration slightly better than the average for other camps. Approximately 3200 calories.

Medical: 1 Japanese medical officer; 1 Japanese medical orderly; 1 dentist; Red Cross hospital; 1 POW medical officer and 2 POW medical orderlies. Serious cases are sent to TAIHOKU military hospital. Sick at end of May 1944: 1 light case of beri beri.

Deaths: None.

Officers receive same pay as Japanese army officers. Yen 18 deducted monthly for mess. Certain civilian internees are destitute, including Sir Percy McElwaine; Sir Henry Trusted; Judge C.R. Smith; Retired Major General Macrea; Lieutenant General Bokker. Financing to be arranged through allowance to certain individuals by protecting Power.

Radio permitted in this camp only.

Work: NCOs and enlisted men work 6 hours daily. Average: 14 working.

Camp No. 5 has no smoking restrictions; limited recreation.

Small vegetable garden cultivated by orderlies; 17 pigs, 4 goats; 18 chickens.

No mail restrictions for high ranking officers.

IRC representative interviewed High ranking prisoners.

CAMP NO 6, TAIHOKU, TAIHOKU-SHI. Opened July 17, 1942. Visited May 29, 1943, June 2, 1944.

Capacity of Camp: 490 POWs.

Strength POWs 1944: 449

	<u>British</u>	<u>American</u>	<u>Australian</u>	<u>Total</u>
Officers	10	-	-	10
Enlisted Men	425	13	1	439
	435	13	1	449

Newly built camp; 10,000 square meter area; POW floor space; 1182 square meters; enclosed by two meter high bamboo fence. Seven one-story mud and bamboo barracks, with thatched roofs and brick floors; four toilets; 2 washhouses; 1 barrack for social room, canteen, office, storeroom; 1 for kitchen and bath; 1 for infirmary; 1 for isolation ward; 1 for workshop; stables, etc.

Water supply is spring water piped to camp and boiled.

Medical: 1 POW medical officer; 1 Japanese medical officer; 2 Japanese NCOs and 1 POW medical orderly; civilian dentist.

Infirmary:

-19-

Infirmary: Capacity 20 beds. Sick at end of May 1944: 21, 1 serious; (8 beri beri, 2 TB, 1 heart disease) in infirmary, others in quarters. Three injured POWs (no details).

To date, 27 deaths, chiefly from beri beri and pneumonia.

Deposits end of May 1944: Officers: Yen 8383.36
Enlisted men: Yen 1557.32.

Work: Mostly farming (not definitely stated). POWs required to work 7 hours per day. Average number POWs working daily (in May): 347.


Bern, No. 5788, September 2, 1944: Advance of Yen 500 made to TAIWAN POWs by Pestalozzi of IRC.

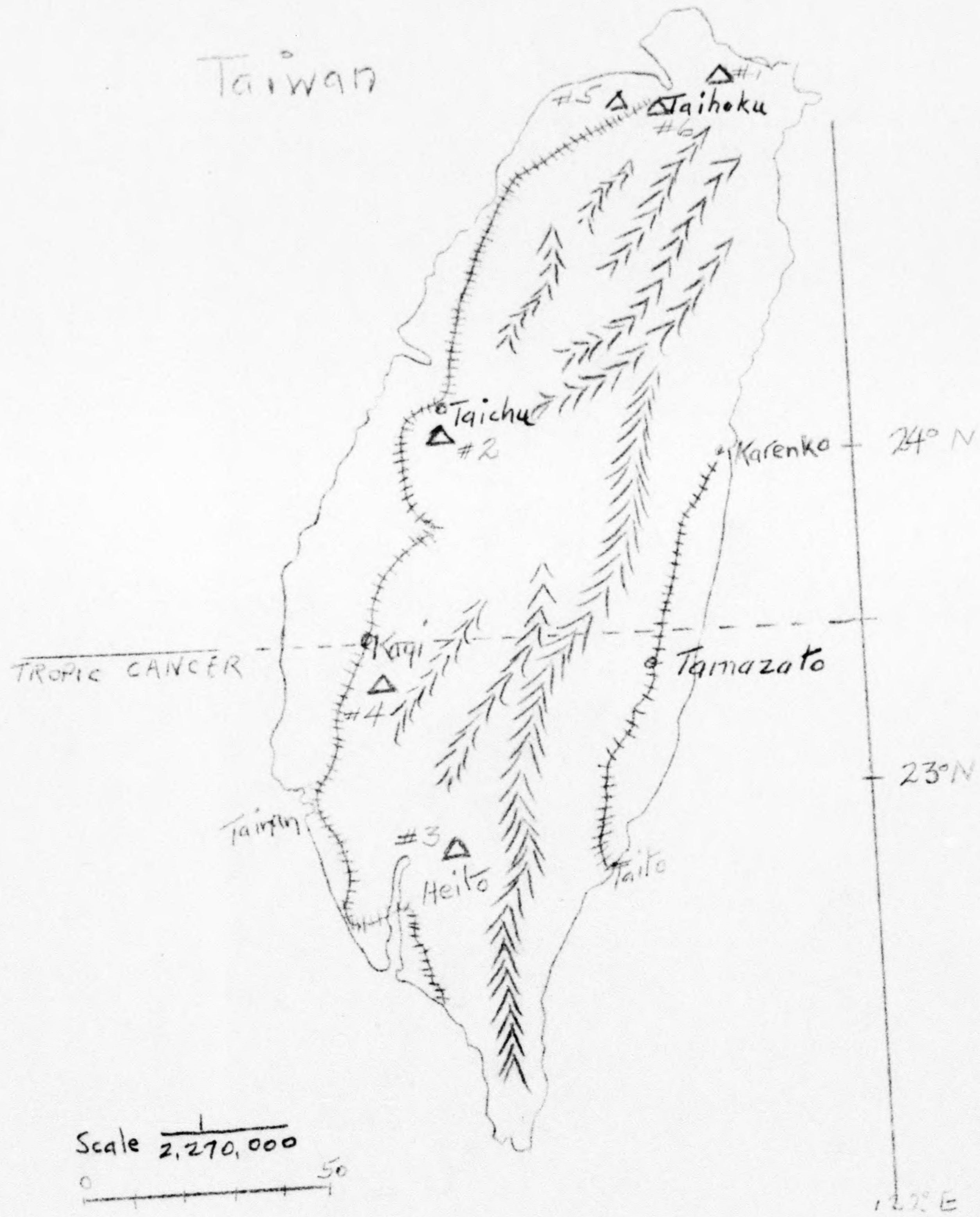
Bern, A-541, undated (September 14, 1944): Report Camp No. 2, TAIWAN moved because of floods.

Bern, No. 6788, October 11, 1944: Reports shooting of POW Greelich who attempted escape. (Ref. Department of State No. 2574, July 27).

Bern, No. 6946, October 19, 1944 (Legation, No. 6788 October 11) (IRC No. 2373, October 10 to PIWAR): POW C.D. Greelich, TAIWAN, shot, April 1, inhumed.

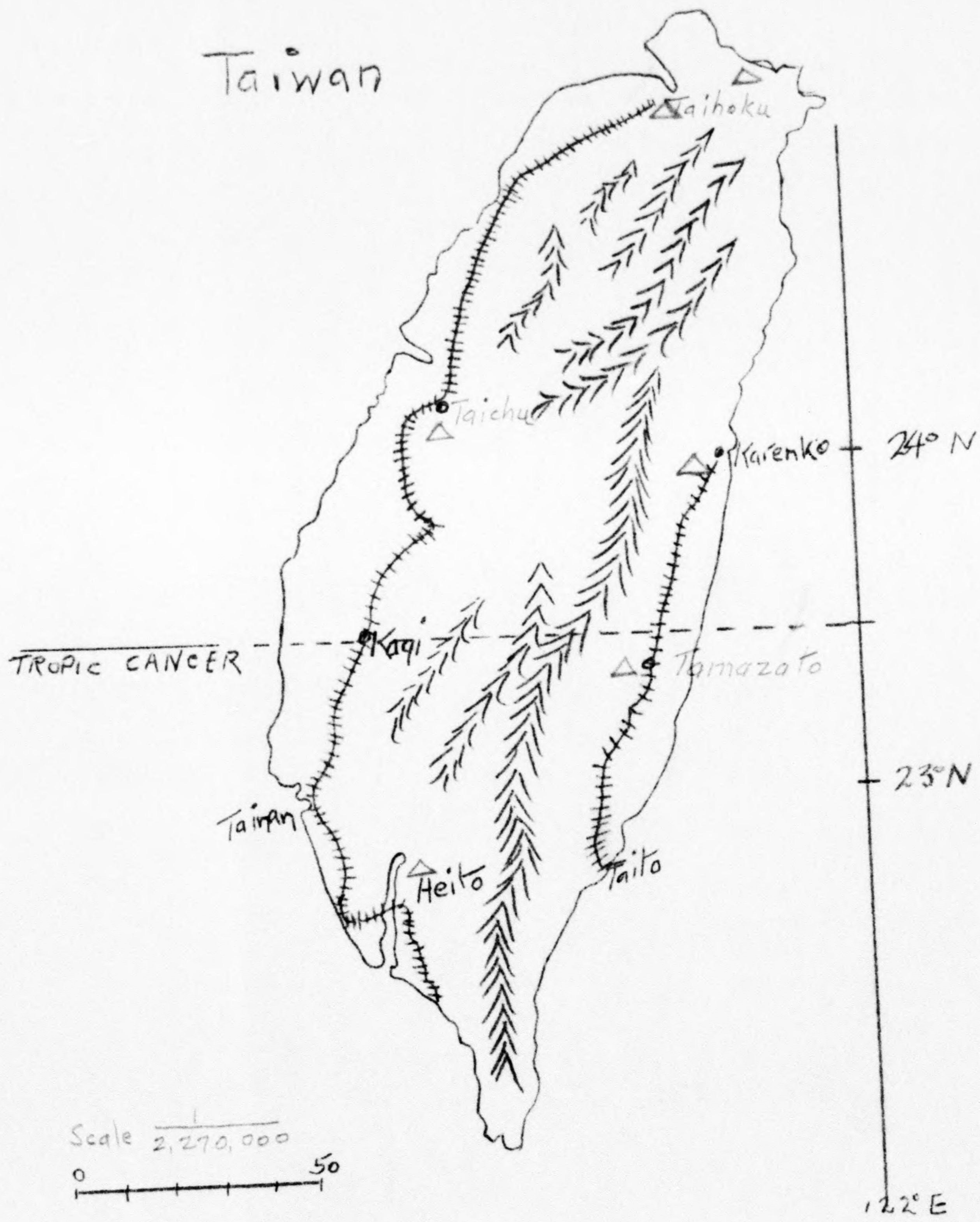
Ankara, No. 2026, October 22, 1944: Reports Champoud's report of 99 pages sent on GRIPSHOLM.


SWP:LSRPHILLIPP:lmv



1944 Camp Visits.

- No 1. Taihoku.
- No 2. Taichu.
- No 3. Heito.
- No 4. Bashugo (Kagi)
- No 5. Taihoku. (High ranking officers).
- No 6. Taihoku.



1943 Camp Visits.

- TAIHOKU
- TAICHU
- HEITO
- KARENKO
- TAMAZATO
- TAICHU-SHU

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

78586
DIP
DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

SWP

EF-1685
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (RESTRICTED)

Bern
Dated June 1, 1945
Rec'd 6:35 p.m.

AP 405
105

Secretary of State
Washington

War
{ Bryan
Brosnan
Sweet
Yudelson

0
AW
BP
file
c. in SWP: y

2995, June 1, 7 p.m.

THAILAND AMERICAN INTERESTS

Navy - 2
Date JUN 5
BP: y

Swiss FONOFF note May 30 states following info obtained by Swiss Consulate Bangkok during unofficial visit to POWS mentioned below: Two American aviators, Captain Albert Abraham ASN 0442349 and First Lieutenant Malcolm MacKenzie 0810691 interned Apr 10, 1945 POW camp at Bangkok. Both participated in airraid Apr 9 over Donmuang. Abraham parachuted 15 miles north west Donmuang and sprained or broke his ankle in landing. MacKenzie fell with plane north west Bangkok but not wounded.

Third American aviator First Lieutenant Dean E. Wimer 0695117 of same raid parachuted west Donmuang and interned Apr 13 at Bangkok. Not wounded.

HARRISON

Anal.	Jmd
Rev.	DJ
Cat.	EEC
Dist.	

JUN 8 1945

711.94114a O.T./6-145

711.94114A O.T./6-145

X

by SWP to

Buyer
Wax-Breese
Sweet-Yudelson
Ray-2

AIRGRAM

90301
SPECIAL PROBLEMS
DIVISION
JUN 14 1945
C in sup
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM
BERN

Dated June 4, 1945.

Rec'd June 13 5pm

JUN 16 1945 B.L.M

RESTRICTED

Secretary of State,

Washington.

A-777, June 4, 1945.

American Interests - Thailand
Legation's telegram 2995 June 1

Swiss note June 1 states that by note dated April 17 Thai Foreign Office officially informed Swiss Consulate Bangkok that the three American aviators listed Legation's telegram under reference were turned over to the authorities charged with the custody of POWs and civilian internees as follows:

1. Abraham on April 9, 1945;
2. Mackenzie on April 10, 1945;
3. Wimer on April 12, 1945.

HARRISON

GT/TJH/hs

John
AB

JUN 27 1945

711.94114A OT. / 6-445

711.94114a OT. / 6-445
OSMAU

PREPARING OFFICE WILL TYPE HERE CLEARLY THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE MESSAGE:

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington

CONFIDENTIAL

PREPARING OFFICE WILL INDICATE WHETHER

Collect

Charge Department:

DEPT.

Charge to

AMLEGATION,

BERN.

2122

6 p.m.

Clear telegram immediately following protests location POW camp Bangkok and labor conditions Bangkok Urtel 3117 June 10 and airgram 454 March 17 (Aminterests - Far East). Request Swiss Govt have Gorge ascertain number AM POWS, if any, killed in March 27 bombing of new port at Bangkok, Urtel 3117, and expedite forwarding names.

711.94114A O.T.
/6-1045

711.94114a O.T. 6-1045

Grew
Acting.
E.T.B.

SENT

ADD.	Dorothea M. Laurion
REV.	MB
CONT.	N
DATE	

JUN 23 5P M.

CS/D

BP
SWP:EPetro:ec 6/16-19/45 JA FE LE A-H
WUB
RMT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

CC-911
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (RESTRICTED)

Bern

Dated June 10, 1945

Rec'd 3:15 p.m.

by SWP to Secretary of State,
Washington.

3117, June 10, 3 p.m.

AMINTERESTS THAILAND

Swiss note June 7 states Swiss Consul Bangkok forwarded following re POWS detained Bangkok on occasion eighth shipment relief in kind to POWS Thailand: between 500 and 1,000 POWS quartered warehouses Newport Bangkok including white or mixed race and some Japanese. Appear apathetic but give impression good health. Work in port but certain groups perform labor Jap camps in city. Clothing comprises shorts and cloth shoes with rubber soles. Wear hats of every description. FEW have no footwear about one-fourth bareheaded. Mar 27 bombing Newport killed undertermined NR POWS but not believed large.

*Tel. Bern June 13, 1945
June 13, 1945
BP cc
Tel. Bern June 16, 1945
BP cc
JUN 23 1945
Office of
EASTERN AFFAIRS
JUN 22 1945
DIRECTOR
Department of State*

711.94114A OT/6-1045

HARRISON

RB

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Cat.	
Dist.	

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
JUN 21 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NOV 13 1945

X

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

VE-615

INCOMING TELEGRAM

PLAIN

92284

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

6/26/45
Soensen

7/6/45 Bern

Dated June 14, 1945

Rec'd 12:31 p.m.

Interested persons notified

Secretary of State,
Washington.

3173, Fourteenth
AMINTERESTS THAILAND

Legations A-777 June 4.

Foreign Office notes June 12 state Swiss Consulate

Bangkok telegraphed following for Louis Charles Abraham,
214 West Austin Street, Marshall, Texas: "safe and well.
Church service available. Miss you all, Albert"

Following for Mrs. Dean E. Wimer, 1376 South
Thurmold, Sheridan Wyoming: "am prisoner in hands of
Thailand Government. Am treated well and as happy
as can be expected. Please try not to worry it does
no good. Darling am praying that war will end soon
then can come home to you again. Dean"

Following for William M. Mackenzie, 502 Aberdeen
Drive, Greenville, South Carolina: "prisoner of Thai-
land. Health fine. Do not worry. Miss you but will
see you after war. Love to all, Marc"

HARRISON

REP

DCR 0700

FILED

JUL 17 1945

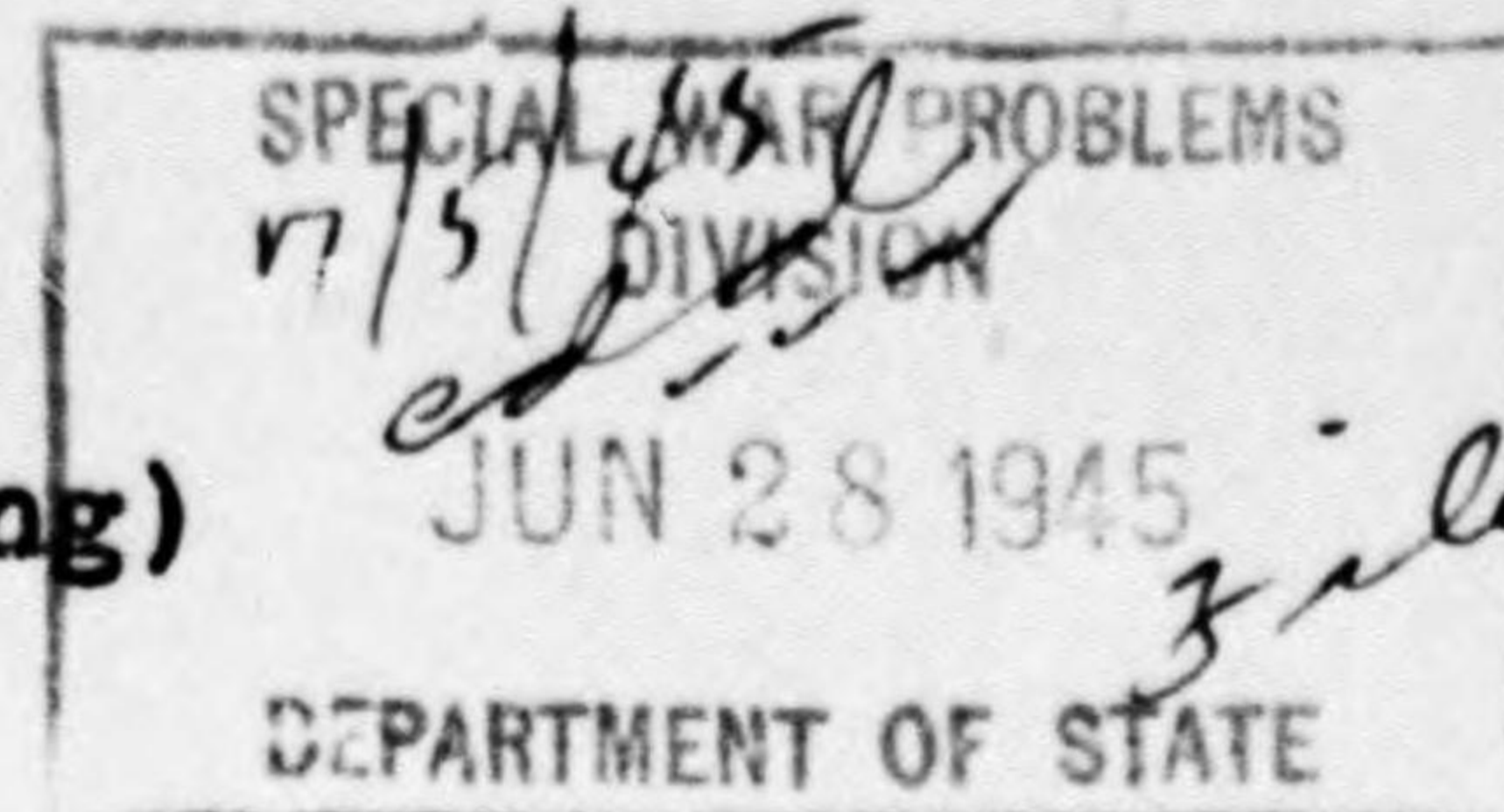
17

711.94114A OT/6-1445

2325

X

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
WELFARE SECTION
(Room 214 Walker Johnson Building)



TO: DCR -- Telegraph Room -- 489

It is requested that the following message be transmitted by teletype to Navy Communications for the Chief Cable Censor and that his reply be communicated to SWP as soon as possible.

TO NAVY COMMUNICATIONS FOR RELAY BY TELETYPE TO CHIEF CABLE CENSOR

SWP No. *2325* Date June 26, 1945

PRIORITY OF CENSORSHIP REQUESTED

Note for Censor: Following messages transmitted through the Swiss Consulate at Bangkok and the American Legation, Bern.

TO: Louis Charles Abraham, 214 West Austin Street, Marshall, Texas
QUOTE Safe and well. Church service available. Miss you all, Albert. UNQUOTE

TO: Mrs. Dean E. Wimer, 1376 South Thurmond, Sheridan, Wyoming
QUOTE Am prisoner in hands of Thailand Government. Am treated well and as happy as can be expected. Please try not to worry it does no good. Darling am praying that war will end soon then can come home to you again, / UNQUOTE
Dean.

TO: William M. Mackenzie, 502 Aberdeen Drive, Greenville, South Carolina
QUOTE Prisoner of Thailand. Health fine. Do not worry. Miss you but will see you after war. Love to all, Marc. UNQUOTE

V V W
SWP:VW

AGB WMC16
ms 9078

SD V WNC NR 5

FOR STATE DEPT BY TELETYPE

MSG SWP 2325. MAY B E PASSED

1140A YV 27 JUNE

INT R PLSE

.....

DSL-2
(6-4-45)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SPEEDLETTER

In reply refer to

SWP 711.94114A OT/6-1445

Date: July 6, 1945

This form of communication is used in the interest of speed and economy. If a reply is necessary, address the Department of State, attention of the Division mentioned below.

SPEEDLETTER

TO: [Mrs. Dean E. Wimer,
1376 South Thurmond,
Sheridan Wyoming.]

JUL 8 1945

GPO 16-44742-1

Department has received through official channels following message for you:

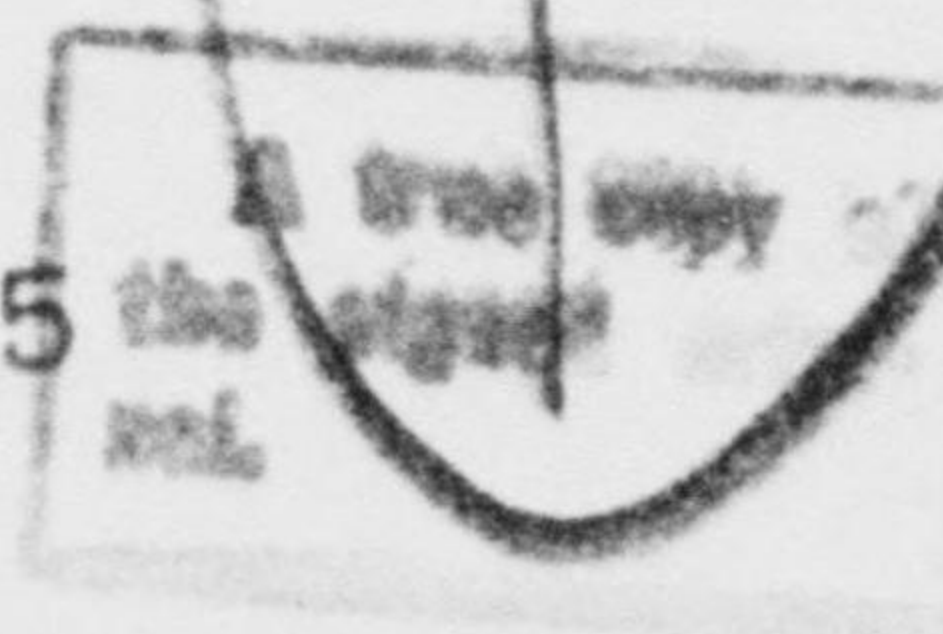
"Am prisoner in hands of Thailand Government. Am treated well and as happy as can be expected. Please try not to worry it does no good. Darling am praying that war will end soon then can come home to you again. Dean."

Gilson G. Blake
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Handwritten routing slip with name *Dorothea M. Laurion* and initials *AM*

SWP:VVwaters

7-6-45



711.94114A OT/6-1445

DSL-2
(6-4-45)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SPEEDLETTER

In reply refer to

SWP 711.94114A OT/6-1445

Date: July 6, 1945

This form of communication is used in the interest of speed and economy. If a reply is necessary, address the Department of State, attention of the Division mentioned below.

SPEEDLETTER

To: []
Mr. William M. Mackenzie,
502 Aberdeen Drive,
Greenville, South Carolina.]

JUL 9 1945

711.94114A OT/6-1445

GPO 16-44742-1

Department has received through official channels following message for you:

"Prisoner of Thailand. Health fine.
Do not worry. Miss you but will see you after war. Love to all, Marc."

Gilson G. Blake
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

DCR GPC UNIT
Aval. *Dorothea M. Laurien*
Rev. *Ar*
Cat.
Dist.

V V W
SWP:VWaters

7-6-45

DSL-2
(6-4-45)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SPEEDLETTER

In reply refer to

SWP 711.94114A OT/6-1445

Date: July 6, 1945

This form of communication is used in the interest of speed and economy. If a reply is necessary, address the Department of State, attention of the Division mentioned below.

SPEEDLETTER

TO: [Mr. Louis Charles Abraham,
214 West Austin Street,
Marshall, Texas.]

JUL 9 1945

GPO 16-44742-1

Department has received communication from American Legation, Bern, Switzerland, reporting that Swiss Consulate at Bangkok, Thailand, requests following message be delivered to you:

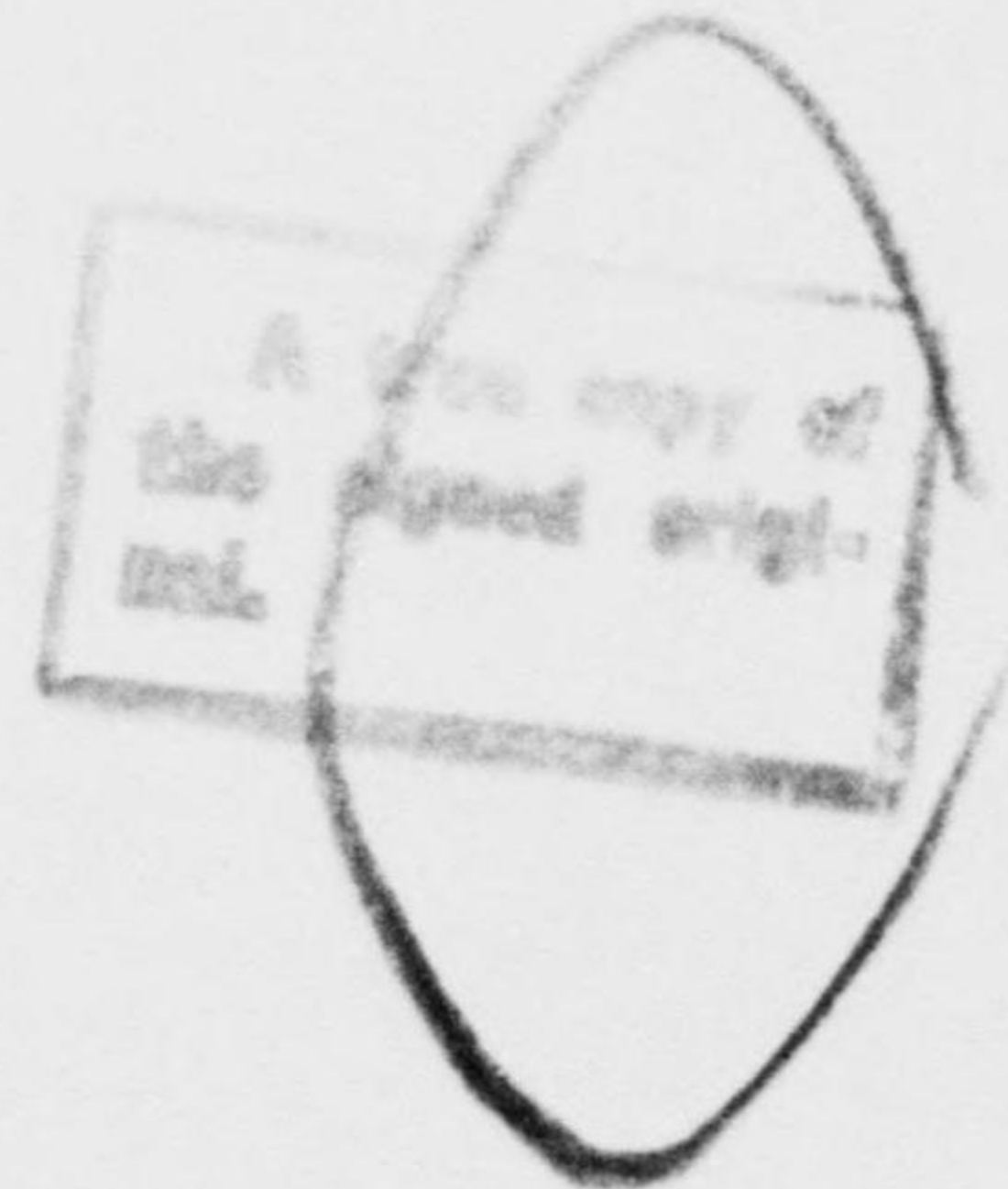
"Safe and well. Church service available. Miss you all, Albert."

Gilson G. Blake
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Anal. Dorothea M. Laurion
Rev. AB
Cat. _____
Dist. VVW

SWP:VVWaters

7-6-45



711.94114A OT/6-1445

AIRGRAM

by SWT
 Bryan
 W. B. B. B. B.
 Sweet
 Gudeleon
 Date JUL 4 1945 *Civism*
 Dated June 15, 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

Rec'd : June 27, 6p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

SPECIAL W. & C. BLENKS
 DIVISION
 JUN 28 1945
 Civism
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

A-807, June 15, 1945.

American Interests - Thailand
Department's airgram A-161 April 8, 1944.

390.1115/10937

Given below is substance Swiss note dated June 13 communicating information telegraphed by Swiss Consulate Bangkok:

American POW William Doyle McGarry has been missing from the Bangkok camp since April 15, 1945. He was last seen at 7 p.m. April 14. Except for the clothing which he wore, he appears to have left at the camp all of his clothing, money and personal effects. McGarry's disappearance has not been disclosed because the Japanese are not aware thereof. Only the camp authorities and the Thai police, whose investigations remain unavailing, have knowledge of this matter. In transmitting this information the Swiss Consulate at Bangkok has expressed the view that it would appear judicious officially to ignore this disappearance.

Anal.
 Rev.
 Dist.
 DCR - G.P.C. Unit
 [Handwritten signatures]

GT/TJH/hs

HARRISON

711.94114A OT/6-1545

711.94114a O.T./6-1545
CS/MAJ

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

93349

~~BP~~ fordist.

~~SWP~~

LC-1249
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (CONFIDENTIAL)

Bern
Dated June 15, 1945
Rec'd 8:27 p.m., 16th

~~DER~~

Secretary of State,
Washington.

3192, June 15, 6 p.m.

THAILAND AMINTERESTS

FONOFF note June 13 states Swiss Consulate

Bangkok informally advised of arrival POW camp

Bangkok June 7 First Lieutenant James Kenneth Kintz

ASN 0756611. POW unwounded but suffering dysentery necessitating hospitalization.

Official confirmation follows when received.

HARRISON

RR

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
C. of P. in SWP
JUN 15 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A O T/6-1545

DUR - GP-C Unit
And Dorothy M. Laurion
For
Out
Dist

JUN 26 1945

FILED

711.94114a OT/6-1545

X

Comité International
de la Croix Rouge à Genève, Suisse
Délégation aux Etats-Unis
d'Amérique



International Committee of the Red Cross
in Geneva, Switzerland
Delegation to the United States
of America

1645 Connecticut Ave. N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

EJS

June 18, 1945

Réf. C/x

MEMORANDUM

File up
C. in SWP

To: Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division
Department of State
Washington D. C.

For your information I am herewith enclosing copy of a cable
we have received from the International Committee of the Red
Cross in Geneva:

no. 1658, concerning transfer of POW and CI camps in Bangkok
for reasons of military safety.

7/11.94.
O.T./6-1845

[Signature]
THE DELEGATE IN THE UNITED STATES
of the
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

APR 20 1945
Dorothea M. Laurion
Rev. *AP*
Col. *aus*
Dist.

JUL 5 1945



7/11.94/140
6-1845

COPY OF INCOMING CABLEGRAM:
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
DELEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Réf. C/x

Cable received from: Intercroixrouge
Genève, Suisse

June 14, 1945
Date sent: June 18, 1945
Date received:

1658 SALZMANN CABLED MIDAPRIL ARRIVED GENEVE ELEVENTH JUNE THAT FOLLOWING AIRRAID FIFTH MARCH DURING WHICH FOUR EXPLOSIVE BOMBS FELL INTO AREA POW AND CI CAMPS UNDER THAI CONTROL BOTH CAMPS WERE TRANSFERRED TO VAJIRAVUDH COLLEGE BANGKOK ON SECOND APRIL STOP SITE NEW CAMPS APPROXIMATELY SIXHUNDREDFIFTY METRES NORTHEAST OF THRONEHALL AND FIFTEENHUNDRED METRES NORTH OF TURFCLUB

INTERCROIXROUGE K9596

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

PREPARING OFFICE WILL
TYPE HERE-CLEARLY THE
CLASSIFICATION OF THE
MESSAGE:

Collect

Charge Department: DEPT.

Department of State

PLAIN

Charge to

Washington

AMLEGATION,

76

JUN 23 1945

BERN.

2123 TWENTY-THIRD

2.B.

Request Swiss Govt have Gorge deliver the following message textually to the Jap Govt and to inform the Dept of the date of its delivery:

QUOTE The United States Government has been reliably informed that the Japanese authorities in Thailand have quartered prisoners of war in warehouses located at the new port of Bangkok and have forced them to labor at the railway station and on the docks of that city.

The Japanese Government voluntarily undertook to apply the humane provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention in its treatment of prisoners of war and civilian internees. In spite of its solemn obligation the Japanese Government has failed to apply the provisions of Articles 9 and 31 of that Convention in its treatment of prisoners of war in Thailand.

The United States Government again strongly protests against the disposition by the Japanese Government of prisoners of war in an area in close proximity to docks, railroad yards and other military objectives and ~~their employment~~ on labor having a direct relation with war operations. The United States Government solemnly warns the Japanese Government that the United States Government

711.94114A O.T./6-2345

711.94114a O.T.
76-2345

CS/D

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

PREPARING OFFICE WILL
TYPE HERE CLEARLY THE
CLASSIFICATION OF THE
MESSAGE:

Collect

Department of State

PLAIN

Charge Department:

Washington

Charge to

77

to Bern

- 2 -

Government will hold the Japanese Government responsible
for any failure on its part to protect the lives and
health of American nationals in Japanese custody. UNQUOTE

Grew
ACTING
E.T.B.

And.	<i>Dorothea M. Laurion</i>
Rev.	<i>AB</i>
Cat.	<i>B.R.T.</i>
Dist.	

JUN 23 1945 P.M.

CM

SWP:BPetro:ec

6/18/45

JA

FE

LE

A-H

[Handwritten initials and signatures]

to SWP

by SWP to

AIRGRAM

..... Bryan
..... War - Busse
..... Sweet
..... (Gudelson)

FROM

DC/R

Bern

Dated June 25, 1945.

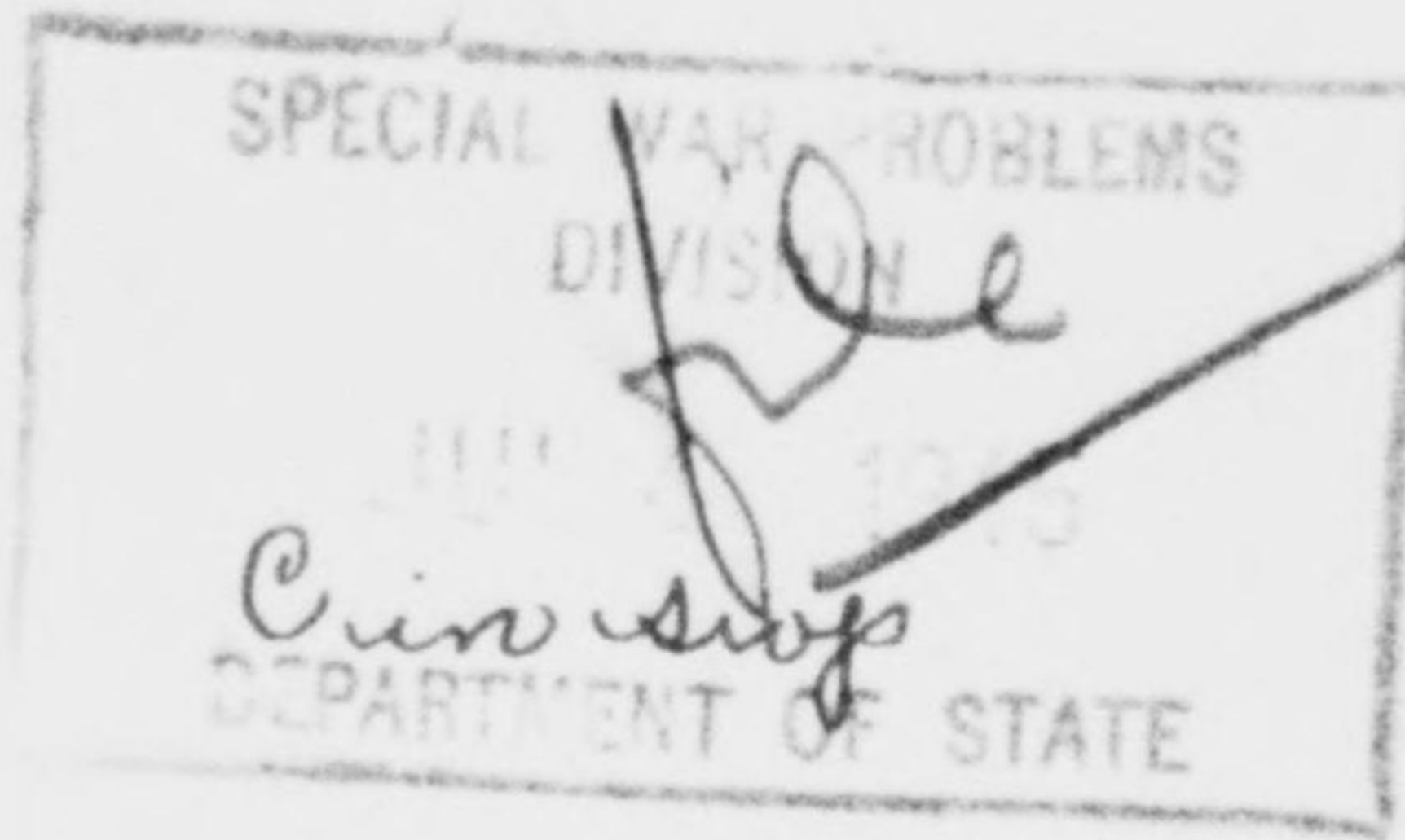
Rec'd: July 3, 5p.m

Date JUL 6 1945 *Am. m.*

CONFIDENTIAL

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-837, June 25, 1945.



American Interests - Thailand

Legation's airgram A-807, June 15.

711.94114 a.o.T. / 6-1545 SWP

Regarding disappearance of William Douglas Mc Garry from Bangkok camp

Foreign Office note June 22 states according to telegram Swiss Consulate Bangkok, American prisoner of war Major DAVID NEEL KELLOGG, POW No. 102, disappeared June 14 under circumstances similar to those given Legation's A-807. Swiss Consulate observed that while motives McGarry's disappearance uncertain and state of mind of McGarry did not totally exclude suicide, in case of Kellogg there is no doubt that this involved pre-meditated and prepared escape.

As Swiss Consul has already observed regarding McGarry's escape, it is of greatest importance that these two cases remain secret because if divulged, there might be serious results for other prisoners of war and civilian internees.

711.94114A O.T. / 6-2545

711.94114 a.o.T. / 6-2545

OCT 16 1945

FILED

CS / D

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Out.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Dist.	<i>[Signature]</i>

GT/dmh

Y

John R. Mott, Chairman
New York

A. Koehlin, Vice Chairman
Basle, Switzerland

Tracy Strong, General Secretary
New York

Associate General Secretaries
D. A. Davis, New York Henri Johannot, Geneva

WAR PRISONERS AID of the YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
under the auspices of the
WORLD'S COMMITTEE of the YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

New York Office: 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

June 28, 1945

Mr. Bernard Gufler, Asst. Chief
Special War Problems Division
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
7/3/45 DIVISION
D.A. Davis
JUN 29 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Dear Mr. Gufler:

The enclosed correspondence regarding War Prisoners Aid service in Indo China and Thailand completes the information which we recently received from the Far East.

This is for your records.

Yours sincerely,

D. A. Davis

DAD:DH

711.94114A OT/6-2845

NOV 23 1945

FILED

CS/MAJ

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED
JUN 29 1945
FBI - NEW YORK

NATIONAL OFFICES

ALGIERS, ALGERIA
Darel Koudia, Parc Gatlif
S. MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
City Road and Sturt St.
TORONTO, CANADA
21 Dundas Square
CHUNGKING, CHINA
38 Chung Hsueh Chieh
DUTCH GUIANA served by
GEORGETOWN, BR. GUIANA

CAIRO, EGYPT
Sharia Ibrahim Pasha 60
LONDON, ENGLAND
4 Great Russell Street
HELSINKI, FINLAND
Vuorikatu 17
PARIS, FRANCE
29 Rue St. Didier

BERLIN, GERMANY
34 Wilhelmstrasse
CALCUTTA, INDIA
5 Russell Street
KINGSTON, JAMAICA
76 Hanover St.
TOKYO, JAPAN
Swedish Legation

NAIROBI, KENYA
c/o Barclay's Bank
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
6A Calle de Balderas 79
WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND
114 The Terrace
JERUSALEM, PALESTINE
P. O. Box 294

JOHANNESBURG, S. AFRICA
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War Prisoners Aid is a participant in the National War Fund, Inc.

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WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New YorkSTRICTLY
CONFIDENTIALINDO-CHINALetter No. 1
May 9, 1945

Copy of letter to His Excellency W. Bagge, Chairman of the War Prisoners Aid YMCA Committee, Tokyo, Japan from Hon. Hans Burkhardt, WPA YMCA representative in Saigon, Indo-China.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that on the 25th of April, while I was out, a note was brought to our office by a Japanese Army Officer. This note, written on H.B.M.'s stationery, reads as follows:

P.O.W. Camp
Saigon.
24/4/44.

The President
International Red Cross Society
/French Red Cross Society/
Saigon.

Dear Sir,

We have been kindly permitted by the camp commander, Lieutenant Yamada, to hold weekly concerts, and it was suggested by him that I should direct an appeal to you for the loan of some musical instruments.

We have plenty of talent in the camp, and the loan of an old piano, violin, saxophone, chromatic mouth-organ, accordion, or any other instrument would be greatly appreciated. We have a clarinet, but have no needs for it.

Any help that you could give us in this matter would be gratefully received by the prisoners in this camp.

W.R.D. Moore, Captain
Officer Commanding
No. 3 Branch Prisoners
in Saigon.

As I learned a few days later, this letter was first brought to the French Red Cross Society who however did not receive it, stating that it should be remitted to Mr. Hirsbrunner.

Mr. Hirsbrunner being away from Saigon on a holiday, and considering the request contained in the P.O.W. camp's letter to be of the Y.M.C.A.'s resort, I took this matter up immediately. Thanks to the help of Consul Takaya, I was able to arrange for a meeting with Lieutenant Yamada on the 26th of April. Lt. Yamada repeated to me the wish expressed by his prisoners and stated that he would highly welcome a quick supply of the musical instruments. To my question whether indoor games, such as chess etc. were also allowed, Lt. Yamada's reply was: "Yes, please." He added that there are 3000 prisoners in his camp. I thanked Lt. Yamada and promised him to do the needful as quickly as possible. We agreed that as soon as I had the instruments and other relief-goods ready at our office, Lt. Yamada would have them fetched by an army truck.

With my cable of the same day, I informed your Excellency of this situation and was very pleased to receive - on the 30th of April - your authorisation to proceed immediately to the purchase of the relief goods asked for by the camp.

- 2 -

On the 4th of May, Lt. Yamada called on me at the Office in order to inform me of the prisoners' desire to receive a few Badminton sets. He also enquired about the musical instruments and stated that he would like to fetch on the following day those which I had got already so as to present them to the camp on Sunday. As I had just received your telegraphic instructions of the 3rd of May concerning the marking of the relief-goods, I hesitated somewhat at first, but after some consideration I decided to comply with the request, and I trust that in this way, though there might be some lack in the form, I have acted in the spirit of the Work. All relief-goods have been marked with an indelible hot iron mark.

NEUTRAL COMMITTEE

Y. M. C. A.

P.O.W. Relief Work

which I hope answers the purpose pending the arrival of your detailed written instructions.

On the 6th of May at 11 a.m., Lt. Yamada called again at our office. Some soldiers and a few prisoners took delivery of the relief-goods and carried them away on their truck. Lt. Yamada signed me a receipt and stated that the prisoners were very grateful for the relief given them by the Y.M.C.A. I told Lt. Yamada that I shall make free to inform him as soon as I have got the other musical instruments asked for. At present, I am negotiating for a second violin. On Thursday next, I shall probably be able to acquire a flute at a public auction, and I hope that within about a fortnight the camp's orchestra will be more or less complete. In any case I am glad that thanks to Lt. Yamada's kind disposition something could be done for the numerous prisoners at Saigon.

Herewith enclosed, I beg to hand you

- 1/ copies of telegrams exchanged
- 2/ copy of my letter of 26/4/44 to Lt. Yamada
- 3/ copy of my letter of 26/4/44 to Capt. W.R.D. moore
- 4/ copy of list of relief goods remitted on 6/5/44
- 5/ account of my disbursements up to this day.

I have the honour to remain,

Excellency,

Your obedient servant,

/s/ Hans Burkhardt

His Exc. W. Bagge,

Swedish Legation

Tokio.

- 3 -

Copies of telegrams.From Tokyo. 18/3/1944.

Re proposed relief work Indochina by neutral committee YMCA stop as necessary obtain consent Chief Commandant of Warprisoners Camp in Thailand who also managing Indochina camps we have instructed Swedish Consul General Bangkok approach commandants office to request permission stop reverting when reply from Bangkok - Bagge

From Saigon. 26/4/1944.

Japanese Commander of local warprisoners camp asks quick supply of musical instruments for prisoners weekly concerts stop chessboards etc. also allowed stop camp captain Moore writes plenty of talent in camp asking for piano violins accordions etc. stop could probably buy piano at about three thousand piastres estimate total disbursements eight to tenthousand for three thousand men telegraph if you agree stop..... - Burkhardt

From Tokyo. 28/4/1944.

Your cable twenty sixth authorize buying articles mentioned stop you can proceed purchase immediately will remit yen fifteen thousand when permit obtained greatly appreciate your efforts - Bagge

3/5/1944

All relief goods must be marked with usual YMCA mark detailed instructions sent by airmail - Bagge

Saigon, 9th May 1944.

- 4 -

Saigon, 26th April 1944.

Lieutenant Yamada,
Commander of Prisoners of War Camp,
Saigon.

Sir,

I have the honour to thank you for the kind transmission of a note from Captain W.R.D. Moore, No. 3 branch, prisoners in Saigon, asking for the loan of some musical instruments.

I shall be pleased to comply with this request in the name of the Y.M.C.A. Neutral Committee for P.O.W. Relief Work, May I ask you kindly let me know when and where I may deliver to you the musical instruments asked for, and would you also please tell me whether you could authorize your prisoners to receive some chess-boards, foot-balls etc. for their pastime.

Looking forward to the pleasure of your reply, I am,

Sir,

Respectfully yours

Hans Burkhardt,
Representative Neutral Committee YMCA
for P.O.W. Relief Work

- 5 -

Saigon, 26th April 1944.

Captain W.R.D. Moore,
No. 3 branch, Prisoners of War Camp,

S a i g o n

Sir,

By courtesy of Lieutenant Yanada I have received your request for musical instruments.

In the name of the Y.M.C.A.'s Neutral Committee for P.O.W. Relief Work I shall be glad to comply with your wish and am taking contact with your Camp Commander for the supply of the instruments asked for.

If you can obtain your Camp Commander's agreement to receive also some chess-boards, foot-balls etc., I am at your disposal for their supply.

Believe me to be,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Hans Burkhardt

Representative Y.M.C.A. Neutral
Committee for P.O.W. Relief Work

- 6 -

H. Burkhardt
29, Quai de Belgique
Saigon.

Saigon, 6th May 1944.

List of musical instruments and other
articles remitted to-day for P.O.W. camp.

1 piano
1 violin with bow - 6 spare strings
1 guitar - 6 spare strings
1 banjo - 4 spare strings
6 mouth organs
6 Badminton rackets
12 Badminton balls
50 chess - games

These relief goods are the property of the Y.M.C.A. Neutral Committee for P.O.W. Relief Work. They are recommended to the best of cares of their users. In case of a transfer of the camp to some other locality, the goods should either be given back to the Y.M.C.A. or the Y.M.C.A. should be advised that the goods are removed with the camp.

R e c e i v e d

Saigon,

May 1944.

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New YorkSTRICTLY
CONFIDENTIALINDO-CHINALetter No.2
May 15, 1944

Copy of letter of His Excellency W. Bagge, Chairman of the War Prisoners Aid Y.M.C.A. Committee, Tokyo, Japan from Hon. Hans Burkhardt, WPA YMCA representative in Saigon, Indo-China.

Saigon, 15th May, 1944

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that another three musical instruments, Viz.

- 1 violin,
- 1 mandoline and
- 1 chromatic accordeon

have been sent to the local P.O.W. camp on the 13th inst. A copy of my respective bordereau is herewith enclosed. The original signed by Liaison Lieutenant Ogoshi, is kept in my file. The instruments have been marked with an indelible hot iron mark "Neutral Committee Y.M.C.A. P.O.W. Relief Work."

Under this cover, I also beg to send you my disbursements account No. 2. I should like to add that the accordeon - a good second hand "Hohner" instrument, was rather hard to get. Its owner asked \$1200.-- for it, but finally agreed to sell it at \$1000.--. The violin and the mandoline - both fine Italian instruments - could be had at \$400.-- and \$130.-- respectively, prices which I considered as very reasonable. I still could not buy any wind-instruments, but am continuing my searches. A saxophone was offered at \$1400.--, a price which I considered out of proportion with the value of the instrument.

On the 10th of May, Lt. Yamada, commander of the camp, called on me and brought me the good news that the first concert, with the few instruments delivered on the 7th inst., had already been held on Sunday the 8th inst., and that every Saturday there will be rehearsal and concert on Sunday. Lt. Yamada also informed me that the prisoners now at Saigon will probably be transferred to Japan and that they will successively be replaced by new contingents coming from the South. The number of men thus to transit through Saigon will amount to about ten thousand.

I should like to receive your Excellency's instructions as to the policy to be observed with the Y.M.C.A.'s relief-goods. So far, I have mentioned on some other locality, the relief-goods should either be given back to the Y.M.C.A. or that the Y.M.C.A. should be advised if the goods are removed with the camp. As it would of course not be possible to provide each successive contingent of prisoners with a small orchestra, I would suggest that the musical instruments remain in the local camp until the transfer of the last contingent.

I have the honour to remain,

Excellency,

Your obedient servant,

/S/ Hans Burkhardt

His Exc. W. Bagge,
Swedish Legation, Tokyo.

x/ my bordereaux that in case of a transfer of the camp to

- 2 -

Y.M.C.A.
P.O.W. Relief Work
H. Burkhardt
29, quai de Belgique
Saigon.

Saigon, 13th May 1944.

List of musical instruments
remitted to-day for P.O.W. camp.

1 violin with bow and spare strings
1 mandoline with spare strings
1 accordeon

These relief-goods are the property of the Y.M.C.A. Neutral Committee for P.O.W. Relief Work. They are recommended to the best of cares of their users. In case of a transfer of the camp to some other locality, the instruments should either be given back to the Y.M.C.A., or the Y.M.C.A. should be advised that the goods are removed with the camp.

R e c e i v e d

Saigon, May 1944.

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York

STRICTLY
CONFIDENTIAL

INDO-CHINA

Letter No. 3
June 15, 1944

Copy of letter to His Excellency W. Bagge, Chairman of the War Prisoners Aid YMCA Committee, Tokyo, Japan from Hon. Hans Burkhardt, WPA YMCA representative in Saigon, Indo-China.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter No. 1 of the 4th ulto. and to thank you for the confidential statement concerning the YMCA work for the benefit of prisoners of war. Your advice and instructions have been very carefully noted and I am relieved to see that already prior to their arrival I have acted in accordance with the same, except as regards the shape of the branding iron. I also have omitted to send you certified vouchers in support of my disbursements accounts, but am now handing you these under this cover and trust that you will find the same in good order. For a few instruments which I have purchased from private persons, as well as for some minor disbursements for spare strings reeds, baskets for transport, I am not holding an original receipt; I have put these items on a separate list which I hope will likewise have your approval.

On the 23rd of May, I have remitted some more relief goods to the camp, among which the saxophone which had been specially asked for. The violin, as well as the other goods mentioned on the list have been given to me - free of charge - by some local sympathizers with our work. Not yet remitted to the camp are two flutes, one of which I have acquired at \$200.-- on the 24th ulto., whilst the other one was given by a private person a few days later. I am trying to remit these instruments to the camp at some early opportunity, but I am sorry to have to report at this juncture that the favourable situation which prevailed when I started with the work has taken a turn in the wrong direction and seems to be at a dead-lock at present. On the 22nd of May, I had an interview at the Japanese Liaison Bureau at which camp commander Yamada and also two higher officers were present. I was given to understand that they would allow me to give the relief-goods "in my individual capacity", as "the YMCA was not known to the Army", I was also asked whether I could leave away the YMCA mark on the goods. Without entering on the first point, I replied that I had instructions as to the marking and that I would refer to the Committee on this subject. I got the impression that the interference comes from some higher side, all the more so as on the following day - after the first and so far only shipment of Red Cross goods and comforts made by Mr. Hirsbrunner, also in his "individual capacity" - Mr. Hirsbrunner was told "that the Army did not want any more now", and would he please tell me so too.

I decided to leave matters quiet for some time and went on a holiday which I had intended to take at an earlier date and then had postponed on account of the sudden start of the YMCA work.

Upon my return to Saigon, I found your Excellency's telegrams of the 1st and 5th of June, reading as follows:

- 1/6/44 - ours April twenty-eight have remitted Yen 15075 - Swedlegation
- 5/6/44 - Enstedt cables from Bangkok quote Japanese Embassy advise permission granted supply YMCA recreation goods exclusively to war prisoners in Indochina on condition articles suitable for war prisoners and not contrary regulation of military discipline and espionage stop regarding comforts to civilian internees Embassy will communicate later unquote - Swedlegation

- 2 -

The Yokohama Specie Bank, Saigon, have advised me of the arrival of your telegraphic transfer of Yen 15075.--, but so far I have been unable to cash your remittance on account of the local exchange controller's opposition. I have explained the situation to this gentlemen and hope that soon he will agree to accept the transferred yen and permit me to cash the corresponding piaster amount. At first, he insisted on Swiss Francs.

From your wire of the 5th inst. I was glad to learn that the Swedish Consul General at Bangkok has been advised by the Japanese Embassy that the permission for the supply of YMCA recreation goods to the prisoners of war has been granted and I have taken due note of the terms under which this authorisation has been given. I shall now anew contact the Japanese Liaison Bureau and hope to soon be able to report to you favourably.

As regards the civilian internees, I would add that in this country - although they are confined to a camp - they regularly receive funds through the intermediary of the Swiss Consulate, they have their own effects, furniture, recreation goods etc. with them in the camp, they can go out at regular intervals and do therefore - at least for the present - not need any assistance from the YMCA.

I have the honour to remain,

Excellency,

Your obedient Servant

/s/ Hans Burkhardt

Swedish Legation,
T o k y o.

- 3 -

H. Burkhardt
29, quai Belgique
Saigon.

Saigon, 22nd May 1944.

Lieutenant I. Yamada, Commander of P.O.W. Camp,
through courtesy of Liaison Lieutenant Ogoshi.

S A I G O N

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have the following relief-goods ready for the prisoners's camp:

1 saxophone
1 violin
6 packs of playing cards
1 parcel music books
3 games

I should thank you to have these articles fetched tomorrow morning between 9 and 12 o'clock local time, if possible.

I could further find within two or three weeks' time the following musical instruments:

1 violin cello
1 clarinet
1 flute
1 alto sax-horn
2 piston cornets

Not knowing whether there are players of these instruments among your prisoners may I ask you to enquire in the camp which of the above instruments are desired.

I should further like to know whether Japanese language study books, drawing material, boxing gloves and eventually a ping pong set would be welcomed.

Looking forward to the honour of your reply,

I beg to remain
dear sir
Respectfully Yours

- 4 -

H. Burkhardt,
29, quai de Belgique,
Saigon.

Saigon, 23rd May 1944

List of Musical Instruments and other relief-goods remitted for
P.O.W. Camp.

1 Saxophone alto - with reeds
1 Violin with bow and spare strings
1 Parcel music books /old/
6 Packs of playing cards /old/
2 Games /old/

Received
Saigon, 23rd May 1944.

List of Disbursements
without
original receipt

purchase of:

1 violin complete with bow and case	\$ 400.--
1 mandoline	130.--
1 flute	200.--
spare strings \$9.10	
" 4.20	
" 5.--	18.30
baskets for transport	4.60
cost of wire of 26.4.44	145.40
	<u>\$ 898.30</u>

certified true and correct
Saigon, 15th June 1944

/s/ H. Burkhardt

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York

I N D O - C H I N ASaigon, May 9, 19441st Disbursements Account

Cost of Telegram of 4/26/44	IC \$	145.40
Purchase of:		
1 Piano "Moutrie" second hand		2,800.-
1 Violin, bow, case, second hand		250.-
1 Guitar, new		120.-
1 Banjo, second hand		100.-
Spare Strings		16.10
6 Mouth Organs, new, at 18.		108.-
50 Chess Games at 10. - plus stamp duty		500.42
6 Badminton rackets, stringed		366.-
12 Badminton Birds		60.-
Cost of Two Baskets for Transport		2.60
	IC \$	<u>4,468.52</u>
		=====

Closed on 9th May, 1944

HANS BURKHARDT

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York

I N D O - C H I N A

Saigon, May 15, 1944

End Disbursement Account

Brought forward from 1st Account	IC \$ 4.468.52
Purchase of:	
1 Chromatic Accordion "Hohner" second hand	1.000.-
1 Violin complete with Bow & Case " "	400.-
1 Mandolin	130
Spare Strings	4.20
Transport	2.-
Cost of Iron Stamp	23.06
	<u>IC \$ 6.027.78</u>
	=====

Closed on 15th June, 1944

Closed on 15th May, 1944

HANS BURKHARDT

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York

STRICTLY
CONFIDENTIAL

THAILAND

Report No. 1
Dec. 31, 1943

The appointment of the undersigned, as representing the Neutral Committee of the International Young Men's Christian Association having been confirmed in a telegram dated 24th July 1943, preliminary steps were immediately taken preparatory to relief work activities amongst prisoners-of-war and civil internees in Thailand. Certain delays ensued, however, before required consent could be obtained from the Authorities concerned, and it was not until 9th November that the Commandant of prisoner-of-war camps in Thailand gave his approval, through the Japanese Embassy in Bangkok, of the YMCA relief scheme. Similar approval was obtained from the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 24th December.

It should be explained in this connection, that until date all prisoners-of-war in Thailand are under the exclusive charge of the Japanese Military Authorities, while the civil internees are in the hands of the Thai Authorities and confined to one single camp in Bangkok.

"1.--, artists and drawing materials and food stuffs should be excluded from the supplying goods."

2. It shall be clearly assured that the donation to the Prisoners of War through your good offices is conducted not because of an alleged failure on Japanese part of giving reasonable treatment and also is not contradictory to the regulations and disciplines of the Camps, and that the donations do not include any things or matters tending to agitate War Prisoners, or of anti-Axis propagandistic nature."

In so far as concerns the civil internees an extensive supply of books is already available in the Camp, while regarding the prisoner-of-war camps I am still in contact with the Japanese Authorities endeavouring to bring about a relaxation of the restriction as to supplies of books. It may be mentioned in this connection, that I have in hand a donation of about 300 fiction books, to be used for this or similar purpose.

As to the assurance, mentioned under 2, and which was required in writing, a statement as per enclosure 1 A was finally approved of by the Japanese Authorities, as filling the requirements, and has been attached to each packing list.

Already prior to the formal permission from the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, facilities had been given by the Civil Internment Camp Authorities to discuss informally with representatives for the internees the question of suitable supplies. The civil internees here are, however, generally speaking, well provided for, and they have therefore chosen to fore-go the benefits deriving from the YMCA relief scheme, as offered them, in the favour of the prisoners-of-war in Thailand. Certain minor gifts and articles have, however, been supplied to the Civil Internment Camp (ref. encl. 1B). Receipt of such goods has, in each instance, been acknowledged by the spokesman for the internees.

With regard to supplies for the prisoners-of-war it has not been possible to ascertain from the camps what would constitute desirable goods, and I have been given no opportunity of meeting or contacting any prisoners-of-war so far. The choice of suitable articles has also been greatly narrowed down both by the limitations imposed as to the goods allowed, and by the scarcity of such goods available in the market.

- 2 -

Until to-day only one shipment to prisoner-of-war camps has been effected, comprising 10 identical lots intended for 10 different camps, with contents of each lot as per encl. 1 C.

It can be said that for the present, it will hardly be possible to obtain locally any further articles of similar nature, except in insignificant quantities and at very greatly increased prices.

As seen from the above, my main attention has been devoted to supplies for the prisoners-of-war, as is only natural. I am in frequent and close touch with the civil internees and am well aware that their needs for recreation etc. are well satisfied, while, as stated, I have not been able to take any contact with prisoners-of-war, and so have no personal knowledge of the conditions prevailing in their camps. It can safely be assumed, however, that any aid to recreation, physical or mental, which can be extended to them is likely to be highly appreciated. Unfortunately it would seem, as already mentioned, that the supply of suitable goods for the purpose is practically exhausted in the local markets, but no efforts are being spared to find acceptable articles for further shipments.

I have made it a point, in the execution of the work, to keep in contact with the Swiss Consul, who is in charge of the British and American interests in Thailand, as well as with the local representative for the International Red Cross, and have received from both these gentlemen useful and encouraging suggestions.

I have also, as a matter of formality, advised the President of the local Branch of the YMCA of the work undertaken, explaining its aim and purpose and the limits within which same is to be confined.

In addition to the statements attached hereto, accounting for the funds received by me, copies of certain correspondence are also appended as a matter of information (encl. 1D). While I trust the accounts statements will be found self-explanatory, I beg to mention for good order's sake, that I do not wish to avail myself of the very kind offer made to me of a pecuniary remuneration for this work, the execution of which I consider a reward in itself.

Bangko, 31st December 1943.

Folke G. Enstedt

- 3 -

ENCL: 1A.

By kind permission of the Japanese Authorities the goods forwarded herewith have been supplied by the Neutral Committee of the International YMCA, through the Committee's Bangkok Delegate, for the use of prisoners-of-war of all nationalities in Thailand.

The articles are donated solely for the purpose of providing means of recreation, and the Committee wish to state clearly that the donation does in no way imply any failure on the part of the Japanese Authorities to provide such goods. On the contrary the Committee are greatly appreciative of the courtesy and generous attitude of the Japanese Authorities in allowing the supply of these articles.

The Committee also wish to state, that the goods forwarded contain no matters in the nature of agitation or propoganda material.

The Committee are further anxious that goods presented shall be in no way contradictory to the regulations and/or discipline of the Camps. The said regulations are not known to the Committee, however, except for the provision that books, artist's and drawing materials and foodstuff may not be supplied. A list enumerating the various articles donated is therefore attached hereto, and the Committee trust that should by mischance any goods be found to be of such a contradictory nature the Japanese Authorities of the Camps will kindly remove and/or destroy the article or articles in question.

Bangkok, 4th December 1943.

The Neutral Committee of the
International YMCA.

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ENCL: 1 B.LIST OF ARTICLES SUPPLIED TO BANGKOK CIVIL INTERNMENT CAMP.

- 3 Footballs
- 2 Sets of 2 pairs Boxing Gloves.
- 1 Ping Pong Set
- 40 Packs Playing Cards
- 1 Badminton Set /1 Net. 2 dozen Shuttlecocks, 4 Rackets/.
- 2 Boxes containing Xmas decoration materials.
- 2 Boxes Crackers for children
- 1 Parcel toys, containing:
 - 1 Clockwork Motorcycle with Sidecar
 - 4 Baby Dolls
 - 1 Crockery Set
 - 6 Handkerchiefs
 - 1 Clockwork Railway
 - 2 Young Engineers Sets

22/12/43.

- 5 -

THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
of
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA

ENCL: 1 C.

SPECIFICATION OF CASES
CONTAINING ARTICLES SUPPLIED BY
THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA
THROUGH THE DELEGATE FOR THAILAND
TO PRISONERS-OF-WAR OF ALL NATIONALITIES IN THAILAND

Lot No. 1

Case No. 1,	weight:	37 kilos,	contents :	as per separate list.
" " 2,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 3,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 4,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 5,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 6,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 7,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 8,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 9,	"	37	" "	" - "
" " 10,	"	37	" "	" - "

Each case is clearly marked in black with the lettering "YMCA", as well as with "Lot No. 1", and with number of the case, while to each article contained in the cases is attached a label as per sample below.

Bangkok, 4th December 1943,

The Neutral Committee
of the
International YMCA

PRESENTED BY
THE
NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA

- 6 -

THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
of
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCALOT NO. 1.CASE NO. 3.LIST OF ARTICLES SUPPLIED BY
THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA
THROUGH THE DELEGATE FOR THAILAND
TO PRISONERS OF WAR OF ALL NATIONALITIES IN THAILAND

2 sets Chess games
2 sets Dominos games
1 set Backgammon & Checkers games
4 pcs. Skipping Ropes
1 set Halma game
6 pcs. Mouth organs
2 Footballs
1 " pump
1 " pin
1 set /4/ Boxing gloves
1 " Pingpong game
20 packs Playing cards
1 Gramophone
12 Records
2 boxes Gramophone needles /inside gramophone/
1 Banjo
1 set Banjo strings /in Banjo box/
1 Violin & Bow
1 set Violin strings /in Violin box/
1 pec. Rosin for Violin Box /-do-/
10 packs a 100 pcs. fishhooks
1 parcel String /fishing line/ for fishhooks
1 pec. Dartboard
2 boxes of each 3 pcs. Darts
4 Badminton Rackets
1 " Net
2 dz. " Shuttlecocks for Badminton

Bangkok, Dec. 4th, 1943

The Neutral Committee of the
International YMCA.

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THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE

of

THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA

ENCL: 1 D.COPIES OF FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE ATTACHED

Outgoing letter J. Nr. 148 dated 14th October 1943 to Japanese Ambassador.

Japanese Ambassador's letter No. 55 dated 9th November 1943
received.

Outgoing letter J. Nr. 164 dated 10th November 1943 to Thai Ministry of
Foreign Affairs.

Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs' letter No. 30528/2486 dated
24th December 1943 received.

- 8 -

Stockholm February 1945.

THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
of
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCAENCL: 1D.Bangkok, 14th October 1943.
J. Nr. 148

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

I have the honour to inform you, that I have been requested by a Neutral Committee of the International Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), formed in Tokyo under the presidency of the Swedish Minister to Japan for the purpose of extending assistance in regard to recreation of civil internees as well as prisoners-of-war in the belligerent countries in the Far East, to represent the said Committee in Thailand.

The aim of this Committee is, as mentioned, to assist the internees and war-prisoners, regardless of nationality, with means for mental and physical recreation. In order to avoid any duplication of work under-taken by the International Red Cross organization the Committee wish to limit the scope of their activities to supplying goods suitable for recreational purposes, such as books, sports equipment of various kinds, indoor games, musical instruments, artist's and drawing materials, gardening implements and seed, carpentry and other tools, etc., etc., either in the form of loans or gifts. It is understood, that the Committee's work will be subject to any restrictions or instructions imposed by the Authorities concerned.

According to advice received from the Swedish Minister, as President of the said Committee, the Japanese Military Authorities in Tokyo have approved of recreational goods, as mentioned, being supplied to prisoners-of-war in camps in Thailand, provided that the Commandant of these camps also gives his consent to such supplies being sent, and on the conditions that such goods are distributed without discrimination as to nationality of the war-prisoners, and further that the funds required for this relief action are actually remitted for that particular purpose to the Royal Swedish Legation in Tokyo.

Such funds already having been remitted, I am anxious to obtain the required permission of the Commandant of the camps so as to be enabled to commence activities as proposed, and I now beg to invoke Your Excellency's kind help in requesting you to be so good as to cause an enquiry to be sent to the Commandant for such permission. I am informed by the Swedish Minister that the Commandant in question is Colonel Shizuo Nakamura, care Oka No. 1601, Malay Detachment.

In the event of a favourable reply to this request from the Commandant, Colonel S. Nakamura, I should be much obliged to be put in a position to dispatch a first parcel suggestedly containing some 100 fiction books, (detective stories, etc.) some 40 packs of playing cards and some 10 footballs. I should also very greatly appreciate it, if an indication could be obtained from the Officials of the Camps as to what would constitute desirable and suitable gifts for further parcels, and in what quantities required.

Trusting that my request will meet with your Excellency's approval and

- 9 -

expressing my gratitude for any attention Your Excellency may be able kindly to give to this matter, I avail myself of the occasion, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Sgd.) Folke G. Enstedt

Consul General of Sweden

His Excellency
Monsieur T. Tsubokami
N.I.J.M's Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary
Bangkok

- 10 -

THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
of
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCAENCL: 1 D

No. 55.

JAPANESE EMBASSY

Bangkok

9th November, 1943.

Monsieur le Consul General,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 14th October, 1943, concerning the supply of goods suitable for recreational purposes to war-prisoners in Thailand, and I beg to inform you that according to the reply received from Colonel Nakamura, commandant of war prisoners camp, he has no objection in receiving such comforts. The commandant adds, however, that books of any kind are not suitable in view of the prevention of acts of espionage.

In this connection, I wish to state that the comforts may be forwarded to the Authorities concerned through this Embassy.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Monsieur le Consul General, to renew to you the assurance of my highest consideration.

(sgd.) Ko Ishii

for the Japanese Ambassador.

Monsieur F. Enstedt
Consul General of Sweden
Bangkok.

- 11 -

THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
of
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA

ENCL. 1 D.

Bangkok, 10th, Nov. 1943
J.Nr. 164

Monsieur le Ministre,

I have the honour to inform you, that I have been requested by a Neutral Committee of the International Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), created in Tokyo under the presidency of the Swedish Minister to Japan for the purpose of extending certain facilities for the recreation of civil internees and prisoners-of-war in the belligerent countries in the Far East, to represent the said Committee in Thailand.

The aim of this Committee is, as mentioned, solely to assist the internees and war-prisoners, regardless of nationality, with means for recreation, mental and physical. The Committee is anxious to avoid any duplication of the work undertaken by the International Red Cross organisation and so wish to limit the scope of their activities to supplying goods suitable for recreational purposes, such as books, sports equipment of various kinds, indoor games, musical instruments, artist's and drawing materials, gardening implements and seed, carpentry and other tools etc., etc., either in the form of loans or gifts. It is understood that the Committee will subject their work entirely to any restrictions imposed or instructions issued by the Authorities concerned.

In regard to supplies intended for prisoners-of-war in Thailand, captured by the Japanese Armed Forces, I have addressed His Excellency the Japanese Ambassador in a letter, copies of which and of the reply received thereto I beg to attach hereto for Your Excellency's Information.

With the intention of extending to the internees in the Civil Internment Camp in Bangkok the facilities offered by the Committee, I should be very grateful if Your Excellency would be good enough to advise me as to whether a relief action as proposed, and conducted under my supervision in my capacity of representing the aforesaid Neutral Committee of the International YMCA, will meet with the approval of His Thai Majesty's Government.

I avail myself of the occasion, Monsieur le Ministre, to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

/sgd./ Folke G. Enstedt

Consul General for Sweden.

His Excellency,
Rear-Admiral T. Thamrong-Nawasawat R.N.,
Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Saranrom Place,
Bangkok.

- 12 -

THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
of
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCAENCL: 1 D.TRANSLATION.
No. 30528/2486.Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
24th December, 2486.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter J. Nr. 164 of the 10th ultimo regarding the proposal of the Neutral Committee of International Young Men's Christian Association in Tokyo to supply goods suitable for recreational purposes to the internees and war-prisoners in Thailand.

In reply, I beg to inform you that the competent authorities have always been alive to the importance of providing recreation, both mental and physical, for the internees and war-prisoners in Thailand and have since the beginning instructed the Internment Camp to make arrangements to that end, and it appears that all the internees and war-prisoners have been well satisfied.

In the circumstances, His Majesty's Government has no objection to the proposal made by the Neutral Committee in this connection. However, with a view to preventing possible disorders and acts of espionage, it is requested that all kinds of printed matters and books should be excluded.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurance of my high consideration.

/Signed/ Direk Chayanam.

Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Monsieur F.C. Enstedt
Consul-General for Sweden,
Bangkok.

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New YorkSTRICTLY
CONFIDENTIALTHAILANDReport No. 2
1st Jan. to 31st March 1944

While a certain quantity of articles has been supplied to the Bangkok Internment Camp (ref. encl. 2 B, attached to the Accounts Statements submitted simultaneously herewith), it has not been possible to arrange for any supplies of comforts to prisoner of war camps during the period.

In conversation with officials of the Japanese Embassy I have been advised not to take any further steps until in receipt of news from the Camp Authorities regarding the first shipment, but no such news has reached me to date, though I have been advised of arrival at the camps of the initial shipment of goods.

While it was understood that receipt of goods dispatched to prisoners-of-war would be acknowledged jointly by representatives for the local Camp Authorities and for the prisoners-of-war on duplicate packing lists accompanying the goods, the duplicate lists have been returned to me with the seal and signature of the Japanese Camp Authorities only. I have no reasons to assume, however, that the goods have not been distributed to the prisoners-of-war in different camps as intended, and so have thought it just as well to leave this question of signatures on receipts until at a time when dispatch of further goods can be made.

In view of the fact that the Swedish Consulate General and the Swiss Consulate, in their capacities of protecting various countries interests in Thailand, have equally been unable to forward any supplies to prisoners-of-war during the period under review, I have considered it advisable not to press the matter for the time being specially as I am given to understand from informal talks with Embassy officials that there seems no reason why facilities for further supplies should not be given in due course.

Bangkok, March 31st, 1944

/s/ Folke Enstedt.

- 2 -

THE NEUTRAL COMMITTEE
of
THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA

Bangkok, March 31, 1944

Sirs,

I beg to enclose herewith various records relating to the YMCA activities in Thailand during January-March this year.

As will be seen from the report (No. 2), the period has been one of inactivity rather, but I trust the situation will soon improve.

Yours faithfully,

/s/ F. Enstedt

Delegate for Thailand
The Neutral Committee of the
International YMCA

The Neutral Committee of the International YMCA

T o k y o .

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York

THAILAND

CASH ACCOUNT REPORT No. 1, September - December 31, 1943

INCOME

		<u>THAI CURRENCY</u>	
		<u>BAHT</u>	<u>STGS</u>
Sept. 9, 1943	By T.T. from Royal Swedish Legation, Tokyo Yen 10.050.- @ 99		9.949.50
	By re-sale of writing pads (permission for delivery refused)		<u>135.00</u>
	Total Baht	10.084.50	
=====			

EXPENDITURES

To Administration, Dispatching & Sundry Expenses, as per Encl. 1A,	Baht	1.199.75
To Goods purchased, as per Encl. 1B,		7.615.70
Balance, cash in Bank		<u>1.269.05</u>
Total Baht	10.084.50	
=====		

FOIKE ENSTEDT

Bangkok, December 31, 1943

Thailand

- 2 -

ENCLOSURE 1A - Cash Account Report No. 1ADMINISTRATION, DISPATCHING & SUNDRY EXPENSES.

DATE	PARTICULARS	VOUCHER NO.	THAI CURRENCY BAHT	STGS
10/31/43	To Cost of assistance, specially engaged for purchasing, stocking and dispatching relief goods during October	1	100.00	
11/30/43	To ditto during November	2	150.00	
12/31/43	To ditto during December	3	<u>150.00</u>	400.00
12/31/43	To Cost of office assistance, etc., September - December	4		180.00
10/31/43	To Stationery Supplies, cash book	5	10.50	
11/22/43	To ditto, stock book	6	7.50	
12/14/43	To Cost of two rubber stamps	7	5.00	
12/31/43	To Letter heads & Statement forms	8	<u>73.00</u>	96.00
10/31/43	To Telegram charges up to 10/31/43	9	148.00	
12/14/43	To ditto in December	10	<u>31.00</u>	179.00
11/22/43	To Special travelling expenses for goods purchased in September/October	11	25.00	
12/9/43	To ditto in November	12	25.00	
12/8/43	To Local travelling & conveyance expenses during Oct./Nov.	13	16.00	
12/31/43	To ditto during December	14	<u>3.00</u>	69.00
10/1/43	To Stamp duty on cheque book	15		1.25
12/31/43	To Cost of sundry packing materials:			
	10 wooden cases	16	77.50	
	2 balls cotton twine	17	7.00	
	5 bags wood shavings	18	16.00	
	1 ream packing paper	19	<u>120.00</u>	220.50
12/27/43	To Transportation expenses for de- livery of goods to Railway Station	20		<u>54.00</u>
			Total	Baht 1.199.75
			666	=====

FOLKE ENSTEDT

Bangkok, December 31, 1943

WAR PRISONERS AID OF THE WORLD'S COMMITTEE OF YMCA'S
347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, New York

THAILAND

CASH ACCOUNT REPORT NO. 2, January 1 - March 31, 1944

I N C O M E

1/1/44 By Balance brought forward
3/29/44 By Interest credited by Bank

THAI CURRENCY
BAHT STGS
1.269.05
18.00

Total Baht 1.285.05
=====

E X P E N D I T U R E S

3/31/44 To Goods purchased, as per Encl. 2A,
Balance carried forward, in bank, as
per bank's confirmation (Encl. 2C)

Baht 863.50
421.55

Total Baht 1.285.05
=====

FOLKE ENSTEDT

Bangkok, 31st March, 1944

July 5, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mr. Davis:

Thank you for your letter of June 28, 1945, with enclosures, addressed to Mr. Gufler, concerning War Prisoners' Aid service in Indo China and Thailand. It is noted that these enclosures complete the information which you received from the Far East.

Sincerely yours,

EB
E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

And	<i>Smith</i>
Rev.	<i>AP</i>
Col.	
Dist.	

SW 911.941140.T./6-2845

(Handwritten mark)

GR KID
JUL 4 1945 P.M.
Mr. D. A. Davis,
Associate General Secretary,
War Prisoners' Aid of the
Young Men's Christian Associations,
347 Madison Avenue,
New York 17, New York.

CM
SWP:LMVenteicher

7/3/45

Comité International
de la Croix Rouge à Genève, Suisse
Délégation aux Etats-Unis
d'Amérique



International Committee of the Red Cross
in Geneva, Switzerland
Delegation to the United States
of America

1645 Connecticut Ave. N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Handwritten initials: CH

July 7, 1945

In replying, refer to (C/x)

Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division
State Department
Washington D. C.

Stamp: SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION, JUL 9 - 1945, DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Handwritten: D, Dilly

711.94114 A-O.T. / 7-745

Dear Sir:

It is a pleasure for me to inform you that we received today a cable from our headquarters in Geneva, as follows:

" TOKYO DELEGATION ADVISES ICRC REPRESENTATIVE PERMITTED VISIT SINGAPORE CAMPS WILL REPORT TO TOKYO DELEGATION STOP DETAILED NOTE FOLLOWS".

Of course we shall forward to you without delay any information received on this subject.

Believe me, dear Sir,

very truly yours:

Signature of Charles Huber
CHARLES HUBER
Delegate

Handwritten: 711.94114a O.T.

AL

Stamp: DCR - G.P.C. Unit
Handwritten: MAD, KIF

OS/D

711.94114 A-O.T.

Handwritten: 7-745

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

CR-1541

PLAIN

Bern

Dated July 11, 1945

Rec'd 3:06 p.m. 12th

Secretary of State
Washington

3505, Eleventh

AMINTERESTS THAILAND

Your 2123, June 23, FONOFF note July 7 states

messages communicated textually July 5 by Swiss

Leg, Tokyo, to Jap Govt.

HARRISON

MJK

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
JUL 13 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*711.94114A OT/6-2345
SWP ja FELEAH*

*re
Location of
port comes in
Shanghai near
military objectives
and prohibited
labor.*

DCR - GP-C Unit
Anal. *Smith*
Rev. *SWP*
Cat.
Dist.

711.94114A O.T./7-1145

NOV 13 1945

FILED

X

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

DSH-1537

PLAIN

Bern

Dated July 11, 1945

Rec'd 3:04 p.m., 12th

Secretary of State

by SWI

Washington

3513, Eleventh

AMINTERESTS THAILAND

Leg's 3506.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
JUL 13 1945
C. W. S. P.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*War Brewster
Lincoln
Gudelson*

JUL 16 1945

Today following telegram from Swiss Consul, Bangkok, quoted FONOFF note July 10:

"FONOFF communicated with note July 1: 'Another POW committed POW camp First Lt. James Kenneth Kintz O-756611'".

HARRISON

MJK

DCR - GP & UIC
Anal. *Dorothea M. Laurion*
Rev. *AP*
Cat.
Dist.

OCT 15 1945

711.94114A O T/7-1145

711.94114a O.T/7-1145

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ALH-101

INCOMING TELEGRAM PLAIN

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION



Born Undated

Rec'd July 13, 1945 10:05 p.m.

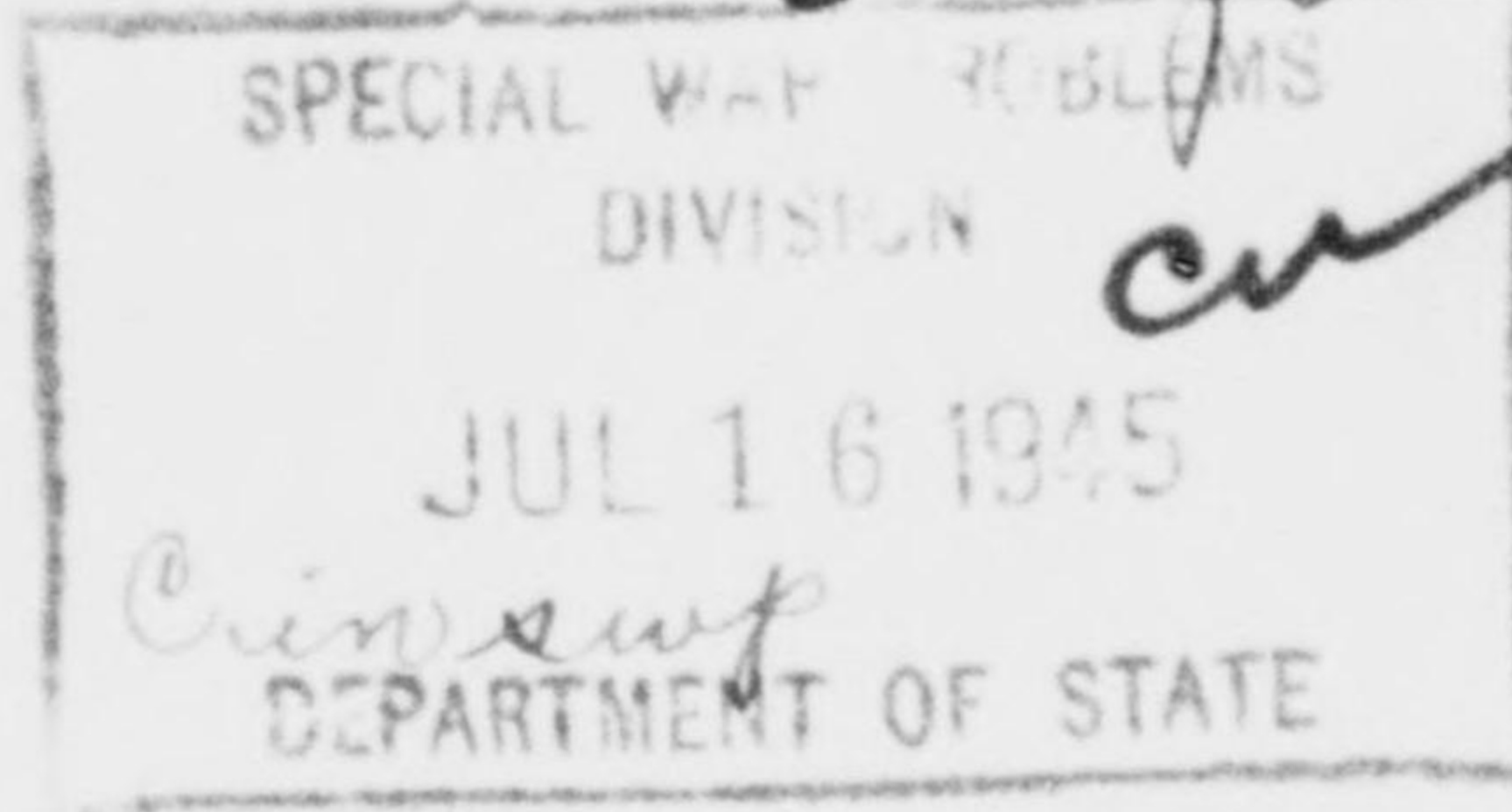
DC/R

by SW Secretary of State

Washington

3506, Undated

AMERICAN INTERESTS THAILAND



JUL 16 1945

Foreign Office note July 9 communicates following message from POW James Kenneth Kintz for Ralph C. Kintz, 1207 West 97th Place, Chicago:

"Try not to worry and as healthy as ever. Love both of you and brothers. Hope to see you soon. Reply through same channel. Jim." 745.

HARRISON

The Dept. should collect from interested party cost of this cablegram. \$ 7.45

7/16/45 CAD Sent to Bureau of Information Bureau, notify who will make charges to be billed to Dept. Curiaicy sup

Form with fields: Amt. 07, Rev. 100, Cat., Dist.

BILLED War Dept. JUL 31 1945 Form 1080 - Bill # 4031.C

711.94114A O.T./7-1245D

AUG 3 1945

76590

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
JUL 18 1945
SENT TO DCR FOR INDEXING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DCR

214 West Austin Street
Marshall, Texas
July 16, 1945

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION 10-3-45
JUL 19 1945
no action necessary
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
in view of Speedlet. to Mr. Abraham 9/4/45 - abt

The Department of State
Special War Problems Branch
Washington 25, D. C.

Reference: SWP 711.94114A OT/6-1445

Gentlemen:

Recently I was informed through your office that the American Legation, Bern, Switzerland, had received a message from my son, Captain Albert Abraham, through the Consulate at Bangkok, Thailand.

The undersigned is desirous in knowing if there is any way possible that a message could be sent to my son to the effect that his message has been received and that his safety is known by the family.

I would also appreciate having any information you can offer relative to the possibilities I might have, if any, of corresponding with my son by mail.

Your cooperation will be appreciated to the utmost.

Very truly yours,

Louis C. Abraham
Louis C. Abraham

711.94114A O.T./7-1645

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

1945 JUL 18 PM 3 13

DC/R
RECORDS BRANCH

Dorothea M. Laurion
AB

OCT 4 1945
FILED

CS/D

711.94114A O.T./7-1645

SPD

UNRESTRICTED

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
File 114
OCT 16 1945
in SW
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DCR

No. 12632

No
RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

Via Airmail Pouch

AMERICAN LEGATION

Bern, September 27, 1945.

195 OCT 15 AM 11 26
RECORDED BRANCH
Subject: American Interests - Thailand
Transmission Intercross report.

The American Minister at Bern has the honor to refer to the Department's telegraphic instruction No. 2179 of September 14, 1942, which directed the Legation to forward by airmail copies of reports of visits made by delegates of the International Red Cross Committee to camps where Americans are held.

In accordance with the Department's instruction under reference, the Legation desires to enclose two copies of telegram No. 1780 sent by the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva to its delegate at Washington, regarding the activities of Mr. Salzmann, the Committee's delegate at Bangkok.

The Legation received copies of the attached telegram under cover of a letter dated September 25, 1945, from the Committee at Geneva.

Enclosure: *WA*

Two copies of telegram No. 1780 -
with original of despatch only.

one copy retained and SPD 42

File No. 711.4
GT/hs
In quintuplicate to Department.

711.94114A O.T./9-2745

Anal. *Final*
Rev. *10/3*
VT

OCT 25 1945

FILED

OS/D1194114a O.T./92945

11-1-1945

UNRESTRICTED

No. 12195

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Sur
HD
AUGUST 25, 1945
DCR

Via Airmail Pouch

AMERICAN LEGATION
Bern, July 28, 1945.

Subject: American Interests - Thailand
Message to be transmitted to
prisoner of war in Thailand.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

AUG 29 10 04

To Mr. Abraham
August 14, 1945
LD
CM
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The American Minister at Bern has the honor to enclose a copy of a letter dated July 16, 1945, addressed to the Legation by Mr. Louis C. ABRAHAM, 214 West Austin Street, Marshall, Texas, with regard to his son, Captain Albert Abraham, U.S.A., now a prisoner of war in Thailand.

The Legation has communicated Mr. Abraham's message to the Swiss Foreign Office with the request that it be forwarded, if possible, to Bangkok. It is desired to add, however, with regard to Mr. Abraham's request whether a limited amount of correspondence could be sent through the Legation to his son, that the Swiss Foreign Office has no direct communication by mail with the Swiss Consulate at Bangkok and it can actually only be suggested that Mr. Abraham forward communications for his son to the appropriate Red Cross authorities.

711.94114A O.T./7-2845

Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Cat.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Dist.	

DCR - GP-C Unit

Enclosure: *att [Signature]*

Copy of Mr. Abraham's letter
of July 16, 1945.

File No. 711.4
GT/mak
Original and hectograph to the Department

AUG 27 1945

711.94114 a. O.T./7-2
CS/MAJ

HECTO SENT TO DCR/C

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 12195
of July 28, 1945, from the American
Legation at Bern.

COPY
mak

214 West Austin Street
Marshall, Texas
United States of America
July 16, 1945

The American Legation
Bern, Switzerland.

Gentlemen:

Recently I received a letter from the Department of State, Special War Problems Branch, Washington, D.C., regarding a message my son, Captain Albert Abraham, U.S.A., sent to me through the Consulate at Bangkok, Thailand.

I would appreciate knowing if there is any possible way of getting the following message to my son:

"Your message of safety received. Our prayers have been answered. Everyone well."

I would also appreciate knowing if a limited amount of correspondence could be sent to you and if you in turn could forward them to whomever it is necessary in order that they might reach my son.

I am sure that if you had an opportunity of seeing my son's record while in the U.S. Army, you would be of the same opinion as I---that he is deserving of anything we can do to lessen the anxiety of not being able to contact his family and vice-a-versa.

Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated to the utmost.

Very truly yours,

Louis C. Abraham

[Handwritten initials]

August 23, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mr. Abraham:

I refer to the Department's letter to you of July 9, 1945, and to a letter which you addressed to the American Legation at Bern dated July 16, 1945, regarding the message which you received from your son. In your letter to the Legation you included the following message and inquired if it might be transmitted to your son in reply:

"Your message of safety received. Our prayers have been answered. Everyone well."

The Legation has informed the Department that it communicated your message to the Swiss Government with the request that it be forwarded if possible to your son at Bangkok. The Department has received no information as to whether it was possible for the Swiss Foreign Office to effect the delivery of your message.

The Department understands that the American Red Cross is now accepting for future delivery to prisoners of war and civilian internees liberated from Japanese custody one personal message which may be accompanied by a snapshot. It is further understood that such messages should make no mention of business or financial matters. It is suggested that you may wish to make further inquiries of your local Red Cross chapter in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

DCR - GP-C Unit For the Secretary of State:
[Signature]

E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

AUG 22

Mr. Louis C. Abraham,
214 West Austin Street,
Marshall, Texas.

HDreppard
SWP:CMarcy:lmv:
[Handwritten initials]

A true copy of the signed original.

8/14-21/45

[Vertical handwritten note:] Form 94114-0.T./9-2845

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION:SWP

INFO:

S

U

EUR

FE

DC/L

SWP

FC

A-D

A-H

RS-1903 -0
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (CONFIDENTIAL)

Bern

Dated August 13, 1945

Rec'd 5:59 p.m.

SWP
BI dir
AD BCK
EJS

Secretary of State

Washington

SPECIAL WA PROBLEMS DIVISION
AUG 14 1945
Coffin
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

3879, Aug 13, 1 p.m.

AMINTERESTS THAILAND.

Paraphrase of quoted English message from Swiss Consulate Bangkok contained Foreign Office note August 10 follows. Consulate reports received official confirmation August 1 from Thai Foreign Office "On the 22d of July 1945, another POW of American nationality, First Lieutenant Theodore Hadley Demexas (member of Air Corps) has handed over to the authorities in charge of POWS and CIS. His identification number is 0-770201."

HARRISON

EP

CONFIDENTIAL

711.94114A O.T./8-1345

BCR - GP-C Unit
Anal. *[Signature]*
Rev. *[Signature]*

12

SEP 7 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A OT/8-1845

The Acting Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy and transmits for his attention a copy of a letter dated August 18, 1945, addressed to an officer of the Department of State by the Minister of Thailand, M.R. Seni Pramoj, concerning an offer of the Thai authorities to assist the American authorities in the liberation and evacuation of American prisoners of war in Thailand. There is also enclosed for the information of the Secretary of the Navy a copy of the Department of State's reply to the communication from the Thai Legation.

711.94114A O.T./8-1845

Enclosure:

From the Thai Legation,
August 18, 1945.

SEP 7 1945 P.M. *AM* *BF*

EM
SWP:CMarcy:lmv

SEA
ak

9/5/45

CS/D
9/3/45
711.94114a O.T./8-1845

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A OT/8-1845

SEP 7 1945

The Acting Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of War and transmits for his attention a copy of a letter dated August 18, 1945, addressed to an officer of the Department of State by the Minister of Thailand, M.R. Seni Pramoj, concerning an offer of the Thai authorities to assist the American authorities in the liberation and evacuation of American prisoners of war in Thailand. There is also enclosed for the information of the Secretary of War a copy of the Department of State's reply to the communication from the Thai Legation.

711.94114A O.T./8-1845

Enclosure:

From the Thai Legation,
August 18, 1945.

SEP 7 1945 P.M.
Handwritten: *017 BF*
Stamp: *A true copy of the original...*

Handwritten signature: *Jan*
Handwritten initials: *CM*
Text: *SWP:CMarcy:lmv*

Handwritten: *KP1 SEP 5/5/45*

CS/D
Handwritten: *711.94114A O.T. 8-1845*
Handwritten: *R.A.P.*

SEP 7 1945

My dear Mr. Chargé d'Affaires:

I refer to the Minister's letter of August 18, 1945, addressed to Mr. Moffat in which he indicated that the Thai authorities would be pleased to look after Allied prisoners of war liberated in Thailand. The Thai Regent suggested that the Japanese Government be instructed forthwith to deliver the Allied prisoners in Thailand to the Thai authorities who would give them the best possible treatment until they could be repatriated.

The kind offer of the Thai authorities has been brought to the attention of the American military authorities who, I am sure, will be most pleased to have the assistance of the Thai authorities.

Reports received in the Department of State from Thailand indicate that the Thai resistance movement has been most helpful to Allied authorities engaged in the liberation and repatriation of Allied nationals in Thailand.

Please accept my thanks for the assistance which you and your representatives in Thailand have been able to give to the American authorities.

Sincerely yours,

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten signature]

Edwin A. Plitt
Chief, Special War Problems Division

SEP 7 1945 P.M.

Luang Dithakar Bhakdi,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
of Thailand.

A true copy of the original copy not.

[Handwritten initials]
711.94114A OT/8-1845
SWP:CHM:arcj:lmv

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SEA *[Handwritten initials]*

9/5/45

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711.94114A O.T./8-1845

711.94114 O.T./8-1845

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9/5/45
Letter to Chair

Mattie W. W. ...

Quinn Supt

John ...

THE ROYAL THAI LEGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

18th August 1945

RECORDS
BRANCH
SEP 31 11 18
7 1945

Dear Mr. Moffat,

In a recent communication, the Regent of Thailand stated that the Thai authorities would be happy to be entrusted with the charge of looking after the Allied prisoners of war in Thailand. These prisoners, who, according to latest reports, number over 50,000 and include some American citizens, have hitherto been under the exclusive control of the Japanese and their treatment has been such as to provoke the most severe world condemnation. If the United States Government should agree to the proposal of the Thai authorities, the Thai Regent would suggest that the Japanese Government be forthwith instructed to deliver the Allied prisoners in Thailand to the Thai authorities, who will certainly give them the best possible treatment until such time as they can be repatriated.

The Regent furthermore instructed me to state that he would be very glad, if the Allies so desired, to direct the Thai resistance movement, together with the military and police forces, to render every assistance in the task of disarming the Japanese forces in Thailand.

Sincerely yours,

An. P. Seni Panog

Mr. Abbot L. Moffat,
Chief of Division of South-East Asian Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
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Washington, D. C.
DCR - G.P.C Unit

SEP 13 1945
AUG 18 1945

711.94114A OT/8-1845
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MESSAGE:

Charge Department:

Department of State

PLAIN

Charge to Department

Washington

Amberg
AMCONSUL,

MANILA.

539

TWENTY-THIRD

U.S. URGENT.

AUG 23 1945

Inform military authorities that the British spokesman for POWS in Thailand brought to Bangkok from Kanburi is in contact with Swiss Consul Bangkok. British ^{spokesman} ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ has transmitted following message:

QUOTE American, British, Australian and Dutch POW Commandants in Thailand are in contact with Swiss Consulate Bangkok and able receive instructions from their respective Governments. Colonels Thart Swinton McEachern and Mantel END QUOTE.

Anal. *[Signature]*
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COMM

Sent to Manila as Department's 539 of Aug. 23, repeated to Chungking as Department's 1315 of Aug. 23, to New Delhi as Department's 633 of Aug. 23 and to Colombo as Department's 85 of Aug. 23

SENT

Brynes
(E.T.B.)

Code Room:

Please repeat to Chungking as Department's 1315 of Aug. 23, in accordance with last paragraph, and to New Delhi as Department's 633 of Aug. 23 and Colombo as Department's 85 of Aug. 23.

711.94114A O.T./8-2245

SWP:CMarcy:lmv

8/23/45

Grandmilk 51,
at [unclear] [unclear]
Mar 24 [unclear] [unclear]

711.94114A OT/8-2245

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6/27*

PREPARING OFFICE
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MESSAGE:

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Charge Department:

Department of State

PLAIN

Charge to Department

Washington

AMLEGATION,

BERN.

2600 ~~THIRTY-THREE~~

U.S. URGENT.

pl,

Reference your 3956, August 22.

Ask Swiss to obtain by telegram names, serial numbers,
physical conditions of American POWS Thailand. Telegraph
this information to Department which will give it to Am
mil authorities.

*Brynes
(G.T.B.)*

CODE ROOM
RELEASE DESK

1945 AUG 23 PM 6 08

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

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Cleared with Colonel
Yudelson, G-1, War
Department.

CS/RS

AUG 23 12:15 P.M.

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711.94114A O.T./8-2245

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SWP:CMarcy:lmv

8/23/45

711.94114A O.T./8-2245
711.94114a O.T./8-2245

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION - SWP
INFO:
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JP-636 - *by sv*
Bygn. Base PLAIN
was Bern
Gudelson Dated August 22, 1945
Navy-2 Rec'd 2:39 p.m.

SEP 6 1945

Secretary of State,
Washington.

US URGENT

3956, Twenty-second

Given below substance Swiss note today's date.

Consul Lenzinger collaborator of Siegenthaler Swiss
Consul Bangkok met August 19 at Jap headquarters British
and Dutch camp commandants for POWS in Thailand who were
brought to Bangkok from Kanburi camp by Jap.

Siegenthaler had conversation August 18 with
American and Australian commandants POW camp Bangkok.
British commandant requested following message be dispatched
immediately "American, British, Australian and Dutch
POW commandants in Thailand are in contact with Swiss
Consulate Bangkok and able receive instructions from
their respective governments. Colonels Thart Swinton
McEachern and Mantel".

8/22/45
Telegram to Manila
Am/ny
H. Bern

711.94114A O.T./8-2245

DCR - GP-C UNIT
Anal. *Smith*
Rev. *FR*
Cat.
Dist.

HARRISON

DEC 6-1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Memorandum of Conversation
TELEPHONE

file
DATE: August 27, 1945

SUBJECT: American prisoners of war, Thailand.

PARTICIPANTS: Colonel Yudelson, G-1, War Department.
Mr. Marcy, SWP.

COPIES TO:

SEP 28 1945

FM 711.94114A O.T. / 8-2445
711.94114 O.T. / 8-2445

In response to a telephone inquiry regarding War Department action on telegram 3988, August 24, from Bern, a copy of which had been given to Colonel Yudelson on August 25, Colonel Yudelson said that he had instructed the American military authorities in charge of the India-Burma Theater to take the action necessary to authorize Colonel Tharp to advance funds to liberated Americans against their pay for local expenditure.

Colonel Yudelson and Mr. Marcy agreed that this information should be communicated to Bern urgently.

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Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
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Cat.	711.94114A O.T. / 8-2445
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SWP:CMMarcy:lmv

DEC 14 1945

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACTION - SWP
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INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

CC-32 - P

PLAIN

Bern

Dated August 25, 1945

Rec'd 9:25 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

3998, Twenty-fifty
AMINTERESTS THAILAND

Following contained Foreign Office note August 22 based upon report inspection representative Swiss Consul, Bangkok POW camp port Bangkok August 18:

For J. L. Stevens, Montrose Colorado:

"John very seriously ill. suffering brain tumor since eighteen months. Operation six months ago reduced pressure. John paralyzed left arm and leg but in possession all mental faculties. Recommend you come Bangkok or arrange John's return by air. Signed Ensign J. M. Hamill USN."

HARRISON

File
SPECIAL STAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
8/28/45
Copy to the Dept

711.94114A O.T./8-2545

JT	DCR - GP-C Unit
Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>

PLAIN

* send copy
out going letter
to War Dept. CMM

FILED
SEP 7 1945

DSL-2
(6-4-45)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A O.T./8-2545

SPEEDLETTER

This form of communication is used in the interest of speed and economy. If a reply is necessary, address the Department of State, attention of the Division mentioned below.

Date: **August 28, 1945**

SPEEDLETTER

To:
**Mr. J.L. Stevens,
Montrose, Colorado.**

GPO 16-44742-1

The Department has received a telegram, dated August 25, 1945, from the American Legation at Bern, Switzerland, transmitting a note based upon a report inspection by the Swiss Consul at Bangkok, Thailand on August 18, 1945, in substance as follows:

John very seriously ill, suffering brain tumor since eighteen months. Operation six months ago reduced pressure. John paralyzed left arm and leg but in possession all mental faculties. Recommend you arrange John's return by air. Signed Ensign J.M. Hamill USN.

A copy of this letter has been forwarded to the War Department for what ever action it deems appropriate.

EJK
Eldred D. Kuppinger
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

28
SWP:EAF:indely

CM

8/28/45

End.	<i>Dorothea M. Laurion</i>
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711.94114A O.T./8-2545

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PREPARING OFFICE WILL INDICATE WHETHER

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PREPARING OFFICE WILL TYPE HERE CLEARLY THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE MESSAGE:

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Department of State

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Charge Department:

Washington

89

Charge to Department

AMLEGATION,

BERN.

AUG 28 1945

2624 TWENTY-EIGHTH

U.S.URGENT.

AM INTERESTS - THAILAND.

Your 3988, August 24.

pl.

Swiss Consulate Bangkok should be informed that mil auth Washington have instructed Am mil auths India-Burma Theater to take action necessary to authorize Colonel Tharp to advance necessary funds. DEPT assumes Swiss Consulate will continue as heretofore to render necessary assistance until arrival of Allied mil authorities.

Byrnes (E.T.B.)

SENT

AUG 28 5 P.M.

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711.94114A O.T./8-2445

SWP:CM
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8/28/45

711.94114A OT/8-2445 CS 711.94114A O.T./8-2445

90

PLAIN

-2-3988, Twenty-fourth, from Bern

message sent British Legation, Bern behalf Lieutenant Colonel McEachern AIF (abr unknown) and Lieutenant Colonel G.E. Swinton SBO (abr unknown):

"There are approximately 13,400 British; 4,600 Australian; 11,300 Dutch and 296 American POWS in Thailand and 2,300 British; 260 Australian; 1,751 Dutch and 206 American POWS in Saigon. I am endeavoring to obtain the names of POWS in Thailand as received from outlying camps and shall telegraph same through Swiss and Swedish Consulates in Bangkok. Shall make all efforts to communicate with personnel Saigon. Steps should be taken immediately to control the movements of POWS in order to minimize loss of life, I request authority to select areas for concentration of British POWS in Thailand. It would also be necessary to give authority for Swinton to incur local expenditure for this purpose if necessary and advances against pay. If I could have your explicit authority I am in a position to arrange concentration. Similar information has been telegraphed for Australian Government. I am proceeding with concentration of American POWS. Should like to be informed of any action requested by Netherlands Government."

HARRISON

SW

PLAIN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION-SWP
INFO:
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MMB-5 -G
by SW
Bryan Breece PLAIN
W. J. Sweet Bern
Gudelson Dated August 30, 1945
Navy-2 Rec'd 10:29 p.m., 31st

SEP 6 1945
Secretary of State

Washington
4028, Thirtieth
AMINTERESTS THAILAND
Dept 2600 23rd

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
SEP 4 1945
DEPT OF STATE

711.94114A O.T./8-3045

Foreign Office note August 28 encloses following list telegraphed August 23 by Swiss Consulate Bangkok of 20 American POW'S detained Thailand.

"List of American POW's in Thailand giving first serial number, second rank, third name: 020097 Lt Col Tharp Blucher S; 0334885 Major Elkin Harold G; 0271141 Captain Cates Charles A; 0256049 Captain Fitzsimmons Archie I; 0335715 Captain Fowler Ira H; 0347962 Captain Taylor Clark I; 0291366 Captain Wright Hudd Leston W; 0396997 Lieutenant Fillmore Clyde C; Lieutenant Rogers Leon W; 02937748 Lieutenant Schmid Eldon W; 0397556

Lieutenant Teborek

DEC 6-1945

DCR - GP-C Unit
ad. [Signature]
Rev. [Signature]
[Signature]

PLAIN

X

PLAIN

-2- #4028, Thirtieth, from Bern

Lieutenant Teborek Raymond G; Second Lieutenant Ens
Clark Preston R; Second Lieutenant Ens Hamill John
Marshall; Second Lieutenant Ens Hamlin Harold Sherlin;
0406099 Second Lieutenant Hiner David A; Second Lieuten-
ant Ens Nelson John Blount; 0386242 Second Lieutenant
Stensland GPY E; 83317 Second Lieutenant Ens Stivers John
Vell; 20813386 Private Spann Buster H; 20814135 Corporal
Crum J. E."

HARRISON

JMS

PLAIN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION-SWP
INFO:
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MF-30-G

by SWP

Bryson - Brewer PLAIN

was Sweet Bern

Gudelson Dated August 30, 1945

Navy Rec'd 11:46 p.m., 31st

SEP 6 1945 *Cmiam*

Secretary of State

Washington

4033, Thirtieth

AMINTERESTS THAILAND

Department 2600 23rd and Legation 4028 30th.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
SEP 4 - 1945
Cinrusup
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A O.T./8-3045

Foreign Office note August 29 encloses list telegraphed August 25 by Swiss Consulate, Bangkok of additional ten American POWS: 20813544 Sgt. L.C. Jones, G.W. unit 131 Fd Regt; 20813001 Sgt. Mallard, B.J. 131 Fd Arty S and A Bty; 20814111 Sgt. Hensley, J.C. 131 Fd Regt; 20813546 Sgt. Lee, J.W. 131 Fd Regt; 20812998 Sgt. Webb, W.H. 131 Fd Regt; 20813565 Cpl Cellum, J.T. 131 Fd Regt; 20813179 Pvt. Clark, A.B. 131 Fd Arty HQ; 2617572 MM L.C. Clark DR USN EM 2C; Egelston, D.W. USN; 268728 Sgt Pryor, C.L. Jr., USMC.

HARRISON

DM

PLAIN

DCR - GF-C Unit
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DEC 6 - 1945

No Control

SWP

UNRESTRICTED

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 12442

DCR

Via Airmail Pouch

AMERICAN LEGATION

Bern, August 30, 1945.

Subject: American Interests - Thailand
Transmission camp report No. 2 -
Vajiravudh College.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
SPECIAL PROBLEMS

SEP 6 1945

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
File: ejo
SEP 17 1945
e. in SWP
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The American Minister at Bern has the honor to enclose, for the Department's information and records, a copy of camp report No. 2 relating to a visit made on July 11, 1945, by Messrs. Siegenthaler and Leuenberger of the Swiss Consulate at Bangkok to a new prisoner of war camp at that place (Vajiravudh College).

The Legation received copies of this report under cover of a note dated August 29, 1945, from the Swiss Foreign Office.

Distributed
by SWP to

War { *Bayer*
Balag
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Navy - 2
Date **OCT 26 1945** *BP: ejo*

Enclosure: *att. m*

Camp Report No. 2 - with original
of despatch only.

File No. 711.4
GT/mak
In quintuplicate to Department

711.54114A O.T./8-3045

DCR - OF 6 Oct
Asst. Sec. *WAB*

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TRANSLATION

Little

TC No. 16588

REPORT

on a visit made to the new camp for prisoners-of-war at Bangkok by Mr. Siegenthaler and Mr. Leuenberger, on July 11, 1945, from 9 to 12:30 o'clock.

I. GENERALITIES-

The two Swiss delegates were accompanied by Captain WONG, Delegate of the Commanding officer of prisoner-of-war camps in Thailand.

Name of camp- Prisoner - of -war camp at Bangkok (Vajiravudh College)

The commanding officer is the same as that of the camp of civilian internees.

The spokesman for the camp and for British prisoners, especially is Major Jan Christofer Cluther MACKENZIE. For questions concerning only the Americans, it is Captain Albert ABRAHAM who serves as spokesman.

Normally, the number ^{of the camp} is 26, 13 officers (7 British and 6 American) and 13 NCOS (12 British and 1 American). As two American officers, Major David Neel Kellog and 1st Fl/ Officer William Mc Garry, have disappeared, the number on the day of our visit was 24. The disappearance of these two officers was neither confirmed nor denied by Captain Wong.

The camp holds still one civilian of Chinese nationality, as well as 5 Thailand nationals, who belong to the American army and whose rank is not certain. These last 5 have been temporarily set apart in a building, as punishment. Moreover, 5 of the British prisoners mentioned above are in the hospital.

II. SITUATION AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE CAMP

The camp of the prisoners is adjacent to that of the internees. No prisoner is in the dangerous zone.

The buildings in which the prisoners ~~live~~ ^{live fulfill} observe the conditions required. The prisoners use the former ~~buildings~~ ^{lodgings} of the

- 2 -

students of the College, which can hold 50 persons.

The camp covers an area of 2 1/2 acres. It is separated from that of the internees by barbed-wire. It ~~contains~~ contains two buildings of brick and some outhouses. The rooms are of varied sizes. The officers live alone or two in a room. The NCOS are alone in a room or live in groups of 2 to 4. Some of these rooms ~~xxxxxxx~~ have baths, and toilets ~~xxxxxxx~~ adjoining.

There is no longer any running water, since the city can no longer assure distribution of water. The prisoners use Shanghai jars. Finally, two rooms are used as assembly halls. In one outhouse, a toilet has been installed (squat type) as well as a bath (open bath).

In their camp, the prisoners have the use of a badminton court and cricket field. From 3 to 4:45 P.M. every day, they can go to the athletic field.

Shelters have ^{been} constructed and trenches built against air-raids.

The lighting is sufficient.

The Thailand Authorities have distributed bedding as for the ~~internees~~ civilian internees. However, two newcomers have no sheets.

Some additional furniture has been loaned by the civilian internees.

III. Geneva Convention

The Geneva Convention of 1929 can be consulted at the camp office, on request. The orders are given in English.

IV. Effects belonging to the prisoners

In regard to these, the treatment is different for each of them. All those who had uniforms when they were captured have kept them. A part of their equipment (emergency kits) was stolen from them before their capture. The rest was taken from them, in most cases by the Thailand police, who have so far restored only a few things. Thus their reserves of medicines have not been returned to them. Several prisoners have had their watches stolen by the natives or by the persons who captured them.

-4-

As for the officers, the Detaining Power has not made any distributions. They have made purchases in the black market at exorbitant ~~excessive~~ prices.

IX. PAY

The officers have not received any pay since their capture. Although the Thailand Authorities decided to apply the Geneva Conventions, they have not yet fulfilled their obligations in this matter, despite the numerous interventions of the Consulate of Switzerland.

No limits have been made to the amounts that the prisoners may keep in their possession.

X. WORK

The prisoners ~~XXXXXX~~ are not required to work.

XI. COMPLAINTS

No complaint was formulated. In turn, the commanding officer did not complain of the prisoners.

XII. AMUSEMENTS

Besides ~~XXXXXX~~ what has been indicated above, the prisoners have the enjoyment of all the distractions put at their disposal by the internees (books, sports equipment, games).

The prisoners have no radio.

XIII. DISCIPLINE

Except for the case of ^{the} Thailand members ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ of the American Army, no punishment has been inflicted. There is a rule ^{and} for roll call every day.

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

The commanding officer of the camp has granted the request of the prisoners concerning ~~XXXX~~ procurement signatures.

According to Captain Abraham, some thefts have occurred in the camp.

Like the internees, the prisoners complain that the ^{with deductions} previous deductions from the "temporary emergency fund" are made at the

-5-

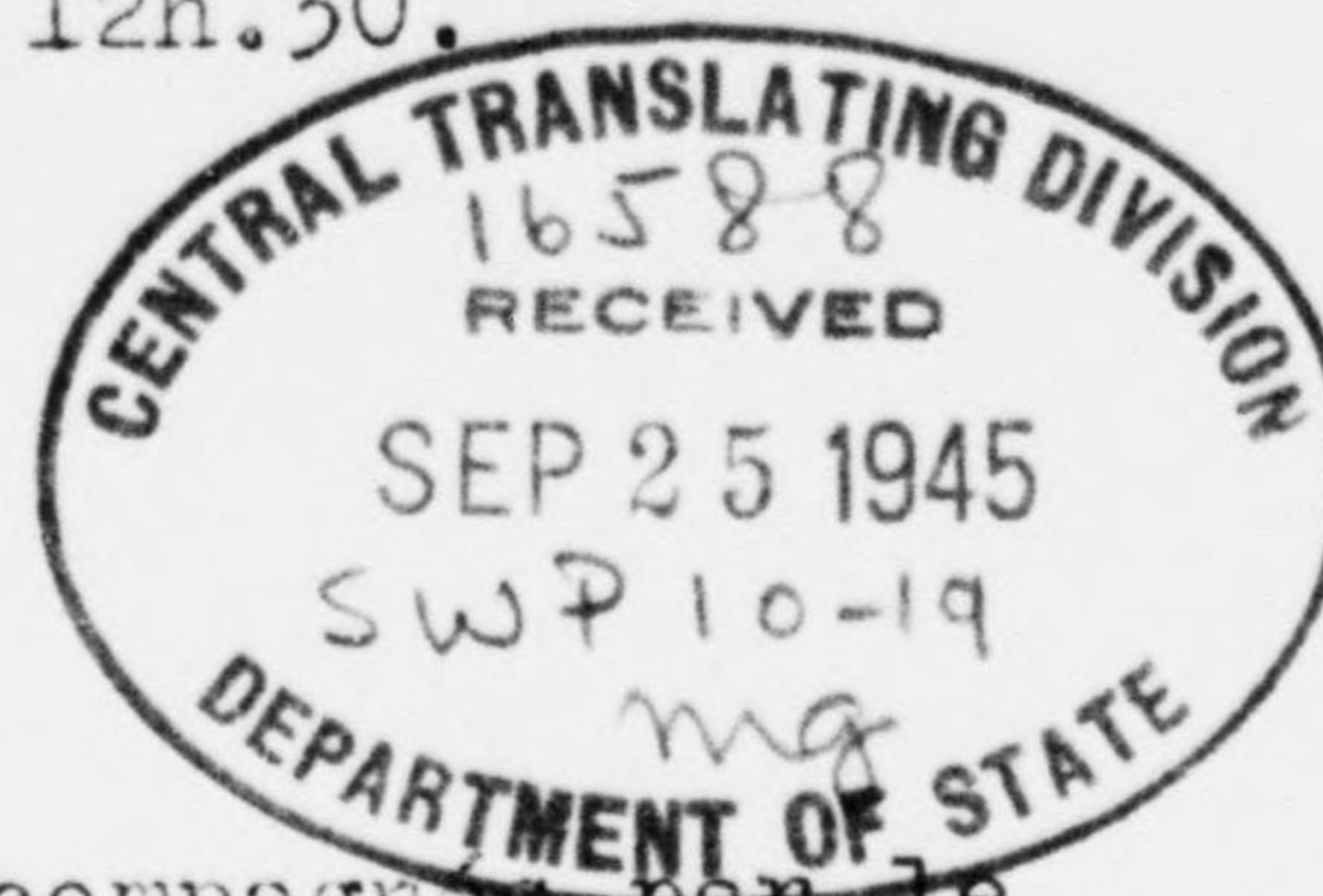
rate of 16.89 bahts for 1 pound. This rate of exchange does not correspond to the actual value of Thailand money.

They also complained that the replies to telegrams sent by the Consulate did not reach them, and ~~sixteen~~ if they received any reply, they ~~regret~~ ^{regret} ~~regret~~ the slowness.

They wish the Detaining Power ^{to} furnish them linen, razors, tooth brushes, etc.. for up until the present time, they have had to procure them with money advanced by the Consulate.

R a p p o r t

sur la visite faite au nouveau camp de prisonniers
de guerre à Bangkok par MM. Siegenthaler et Leuenberger,
le 11 juillet 1945, de 9 à 12h.30.



I. GENERALITES:

Les deux délégués suisses ont été accompagnés par le Capitaine WONG, délégué du Commandant des camps de prisonniers de guerre en Thaïlande.

Dénomination du camp: Camp de prisonniers de guerre à Bangkok (Vajiravudh College).

Le Commandant est le même que celui du camp d'internés civils.

L'homme de confiance pour le camp et pour les prisonniers britanniques plus particulièrement est le Major Jan Christofer Clutha MACKENZIE. Pour les questions concernant uniquement les Américains, c'est le Capitaine Albert ABRAHAM qui remplit cette fonction.

Normalement, l'effectif du camp est de 26, 13 officiers (7 Britanniques et 6 Américains) et 13 NCOS (12 Britanniques et 1 Américain). Comme deux officiers américains, le Major David Neel Kellog et le Fl/Officer William Mc Garry ont disparu, l'effectif au jour de la visite était de 24. La disparition de ces deux officiers n'a été ni confirmée ni niée par le Capitaine Wong.

Le camp abrite encore un civil de nationalité chinoise ainsi que cinq Thaïlandais, qui appartiennent à l'Armée américaine et dont le grade n'est pas certain. Ces cinq derniers ont été relégués temporairement à part dans une construction, à titre de punition. En outre, cinq des prisonniers britanniques mentionnés plus haut se trouvent à l'hôpital.

II. SITUATION ET AMENAGEMENT DU CAMP:

Le camp de prisonniers de guerre est contigu à celui des internés. Aucun prisonnier ne se trouve dans la zone dangereuse.

Les bâtiments dans lesquels logent les prisonniers répondent

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- 2 -

aux conditions requises. Les prisonniers disposent des anciens logements des élèves du Collège, qui peuvent contenir 50 personnes.

Le camp couvre une superficie totale de 2 1/2 acres; il est séparé de celui des internés par des fils de fer barbelés. Il comprend deux constructions en briques et des dépendances. Les chambres sont de dimensions variées. Les officiers sont logés seuls ou deux par chambre. Les NCOS sont seuls dans une chambre ou sont logés par groupes de deux à quatre. Quelques-unes de ces pièces ont des salles de bains et des WC qui leur sont contigus. Il n'y a plus d'eau courante, depuis que la ville ne peut plus assurer la distribution d'eau. Les prisonniers disposent de récipients (Shanghai jars). Enfin, deux pièces sont utilisées comme salles de réunions. Dans une dépendance, un WC a été aménagé (squat type), ainsi qu'un bain (open bath).

Dans leur camp, les prisonniers disposent d'un court de badminton et d'un terrain de cricket. De 15 à 16 hres 45 tous les jours, ils peuvent aller sur le terrain de sports.

Des abris ont été construits et des tranchées ont été creusées contre les bombardements.

L'éclairage est suffisant.

Les Autorités thaïlandaises ont distribué de la literie comme pour les internés civils. Toutefois, deux nouveaux arrivés n'ont pas de draps de lit.

Quelques meubles additionnels ont été prêtés par le camp d'internés.

III. CONVENTION DE GENEVE:

La Convention de Genève de 1929 peut être consultée au bureau du camp, sur demande. Les ordres sont donnés en anglais.

IV. EFFETS APPARTENANT AUX PRISONNIERS:

A cet égard, le traitement a été différent pour chacun d'eux. Tous ceux qui avaient un uniforme lors de leur capture l'ont gardé. Une partie de leur équipement (emergency kit) leur a été volée avant leur capture. L'autre partie leur a été prise, dans la plupart des cas par la Police thaïlandaise, qui n'a procédé qu'à quelques restitutions partielles. C'est ainsi que leurs réserves de médicaments ne leur ont pas été restituées. Plusieurs des prisonniers ont eu leurs montres volées par des indigènes ou ./.

- 3 -

par les personnes qui les ont capturés.

Les prisonniers n'ont pas gardé leur argent. Dans la plupart des cas, il leur a été volé par les indigènes. Le reste leur a été pris par les personnes qui les ont capturés. Aucun reçu ne leur a été délivré.

Le Capitaine Abraham semble être le seul à qui son argent a été restitué.

V. SERVICE POSTAL:

Les prisonniers ont pu informer leurs familles de leur capture.

Ils ont le droit d'écrire chaque mois deux messages de la Croix-Rouge de 20 mots et une lettre de 6 pages. Ils n'ont reçu ni paquets, ni lettres de l'étranger. En revanche, quelques télégrammes leur sont parvenus par l'intermédiaire du Consulat de Suisse.

Les hommes de confiance peuvent correspondre librement avec les Autorités militaires et les représentants de la Puissance Protectrice.

VI. SERVICE SANITAIRE ET CULTES:

A cet égard, les prisonniers dépendent du camp d'internés.

VII. RAVITAILLEMENT:

L'alimentation, qui est la même que celle des internés, leur est préparée par la cuisine du camp d'internement des civils. Les officiers et les NCOS paient leur nourriture au moyen des fonds qui leur sont avancés par le Consulat.

Les prisonniers ne se sont pas plaints de la nourriture. Ils n'ont cependant aucun matériel nécessaire pour préparer eux-mêmes les suppléments dont ils disposeraient.

Le tabac n'est pas soumis à des restrictions.

Aucune plainte collective n'a porté sur la nourriture.

Les prisonniers peuvent faire des achats à la cantine des internés et ils prennent leurs repas dans la salle à manger de ceux-ci.

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- 4 -

VIII. HABILLEMENT:

Des vêtements ont été distribués par la Puissance détentrice à certains des sous-officiers, mais ces distributions ont eu lieu tardivement. Aussi, des pièces d'habillement leur ont été prêtées par les internés et quelques-uns des prisonniers en ont acheté au moyen d'avances du Consulat.

Pour les officiers, la Puissance détentrice n'a pas fait de distributions. Ceux-ci ont fait des achats au marché non contrôlé, à des prix excessifs.

IX. SOLDE:

Les officiers n'ont pas reçu de solde depuis leur capture. Bien que les Autorités thaïlandaises aient décidé d'appliquer la Convention de Genève, elles n'ont pas encore exécuté leurs obligations en cette matière, malgré les nombreuses interventions du Consulat de Suisse.

Aucune limitation n'a été apportée aux montants que les prisonniers sont autorisés à garder sur eux.

X. TRAVAIL:

Les prisonniers ne sont pas astreints au travail.

XI. PLAINTES:

Aucune plainte n'a été formulée. De son côté, le Commandant du camp ne s'est pas plaint des prisonniers.

XII. LOISIRS:

Outre ce qui a été indiqué plus haut, les prisonniers ont la jouissance de toutes les distractions mises à la disposition des internés (livres, engins de sports, jeux).

Les prisonniers n'ont point de radio.

XIII. DISCIPLINE:

Exception faite du cas des ressortissants thaïlandais membres de l'Armée américaine, aucune punition n'a été infligée. Le règlement prévoit un appel par jour.

XIV. DIVERS:

Le Commandant du camp a accédé au désir des prisonniers concernant la signature des procurations.

Selon le Capitaine Abraham, des vols ont eu lieu dans le

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- 5 -

camp.

Comme les internés, les prisonniers se plaignent que les prélèvements sur le "temporary emergency fund" se fassent au taux de 16.89 baht pour 1 L. Ce taux de change ne correspond pas au pouvoir d'achat actuel de la monnaie thaïlandaise.

Ils se sont aussi plaints que les réponses aux télégrammes envoyés par le Consulat ne leur soient pas parvenues et s'ils ont reçu des réponses, ils en déplorent la lenteur.

Ils désirent que la Puissance détentrice leur fournisse des linges, des rasoirs, des brosses à dents, etc, car jusqu'à présent, ils ont dû s'en procurer par des avances du Consulat.

SECRET

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

30 August 1945

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
SEP 6 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DIVISION OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

Honorable James C. Dunn
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State

Dear Jimmy:

I believe the Secretary will be interested in the enclosed memorandum, which is based on intelligence transmitted by our representative in Kandy. I will appreciate your seeing that it reaches his desk.

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William J. Donovan
Director

Enclosure.

DIVISION OF SOUTHEAST
ASIAN AFFAIRS
SEP 5 - 1945
OFFICE OF EAST
ASIAN AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

copy in SEA

DCR - WFO UNIT
To: *James C. Dunn*
By: *WJD*
Cat. *WJD*
Dist.

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CONFIDENTIAL FILE

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SECRET

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SECRET

30 August 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

The following information, dated 29 and 30 August, transmitted by the OSS representative in Kandy, comes from OSS sources in Thailand:

The evacuation by air of POWs from Thailand to Calcutta via Rangoon has begun. OSS representatives in the field exfiltrated 156 American POWs on 29 August. American POWs numbering about 300 are being concentrated for evacuation in Petchaburi and in Bangkok. These are definitely not all survivors of the USS Houston. While OSS sources have found the names of over 300 Houston survivors, these survivors are distributed in various camps in Japan, Burma, and French Indo-China, as well as in Thailand.

On 29 August the OSS officer in Bangkok for the first time appeared in uniform and carried sidearms in the Japanese section of the city while he was on his way to visit the senior American POW at POW headquarters. The British Force 136 representative openly met British planes landing at Don Muang on the same day.

The Japanese have asked the Thai for a list of Allied officers in Bangkok and for information as to when and how they arrived. The OSS officer in Bangkok instructed the Thai to say simply that an American party of about 15 had arrived to consult with the Thai, the British, and the POWs themselves on POW problems.

The OSS officer in Bangkok reports that the British are obviously trying to give both the Japanese and the Thai the impression that the British are running the show in Thailand. He states that he does not feel he can do anything now to counteract this impression until full publicity is given to the American clandestine effort in Thailand.

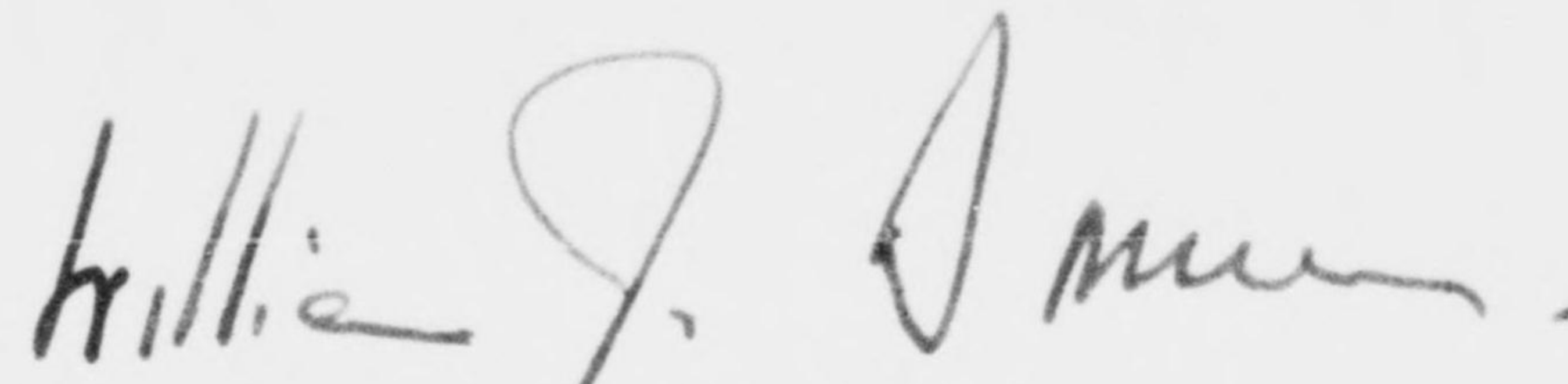
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- 2 -

From 1,000 to 2,000 Koreans and Formosans are said to have been released from the Japanese Army in Thailand. Since an unknown quantity of Japanese are mingling with Koreans, probably to escape punishment as war criminals, the Thai police have been ordered to keep a close check on all Koreans.

According to another report, the French in Cochin-China are now ill-treating the natives, who have responded by killing many French. An Annamese leader has told a Thai official that the two million natives are ready to give their lives to prevent the French from taking over the Government again.



William J. Donovan
Director

SECRET

W. Marcy
SECRET

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
SEP 6 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

31 August 1945

*File
VWS
7-17-45*

Report Number : ZM-1879, RB-22980
Country : Thailand
Subject : Prisoners of War
Date of Information : 29 August 1945
Source : ~~As stated~~ Bonham, Guilford
Evaluation : ~~As stated~~

DIVISION OF
ASIAN AFFAIRS
JC
JW

1. B-2 There are four American prisoners of war at Ubon:
 Petty Officer Nalandt (Badandt), USS Houston
 Corporal Tom Whitehead, Unit Texas Artillery, Home
 Wichita Falls, Texas
 Private Smoke, Unit believed to be Artillery, home
 Kansas
 Private Vogue, Unit and home unknown.
2. A-2 These men are believed to be among the group ex-
 filtrated on 29-30 August.
3. B-2 The Thai Government was spending 10,000 Bahts per
 day to feed the prisoners of war after the Japanese
 stopped caring for them.
4. Unrated According to another report, The Japanese abandoned
 the prisoners of war at Ubon on 23 August. There
 were at that time about 3,035 prisoners. The Thai
 Army and officers undertook their care and are spend-
 ing about 20,000 Bahts daily.
5. B-2 The Japanese are still holding the prisoners of war
 under guard.

OSS Field Comment: Although the source of paragraph
5 is closer to Ubon camp, source
of paragraph 4 is near to Thai
government Headquarters, where an
official report on Ubon Camp was
received.)

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Dist.	<i>[Signature]</i>
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SEP 12 1945

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Comité International
de la Croix Rouge à Genève, Suisse
Délégation aux Etats-Unis
d'Amérique



International Committee of the Red Cross
in Geneva, Switzerland
Delegation to the United States
of America

1645 Connecticut Ave. N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

September 1, 1945

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Edwin A. Plitt, Chief,
Special War Problems Division,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
NOV 29 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

For your information I am herewith enclosing a copy of a cable
we have received from the International Committee of the Red
Cross in Geneva:

CABLE NO. M9561 - 1748

Approximate census of Far
Eastern camps. Needs of
POWS and CI in Shinagawa.
Hospital.

XR
740.00115 PW

THE DELEGATE IN THE UNITED STATES
of the
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

F. Maury

DCR - GP-0 Unit
Anal. *Elizabeth M. Laurion*
Rev. _____
Dist. *B.R.T.*

CS/D
DEC 14 1945

711.94114A O.T./9-145

711.94114 O.T./9-145

COPY OF INCOMING CABLEGRAM:
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
DELEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Ref: P/3

Cable received from:

Date sent: le 29 août, 1945

Date received: le 1, sept., 1945

INTERCROIXROUGE
GENEVE

1748 SUITE NOTRE 1732 JUNOD COMMUNIQUE EFFECTIFS APPROXIMATIFS IC
SOUS CONTROLE MILITAIRE ETABLIS PAR BUREAU INFORMATION FIN JUIN SHANGHAI
TROISUNSEPT HONGKONG DEUXCINQUENUEFDEUX MALAYA QUATRECINQUANSEPT SUMATRA
UNUNSIKSIXTROIS BORNEO SIXTROISQUATRE BURMA UNZERODEUX JAVA
SEPTZEROCQUATRETROISUIT TOTAL NEUFZERODEUXSIXTROIS STOP IC SOUS
JURIDICTION MARINE CELEBES DEUXDEUXCINQUAN BORNEO UNSEPTTROIS TOTAL
DEUXQUATREDEUXQUATRE STOP GOUVERNEMENT JAPONAIS A RADIODIFFUSE
INTENTION AUTORITES MILITAIRES JAPONAISES TERRITOIRES OCCUPES NOMS TOUS
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DEMANDE QUARTIER GENERAL ALLIE PAR RADIO JAPONAISE QUE SOIT PREVU
TRANSPORT PAR AVION DES PG DETENUS SHINAGAWA HOSPITAL ATTEINTS DIPHTERIE
MENACANT PARALYSIE DIAPHRAGME AINSIQUE PARACHUTAGE IMMEDIAT TOUS
MAINCAMPS LAIT SUCRE BEURRE CHOCOLAT VU GRAND NOMBRE DYSENTERIE BERIBERI
STOP INFORMEZ AUTORITES PARAGRAPHE SALZMANN THAILANDE RECU VINGT AGUT
PERMISSION AUTORITES JAPONAISES VISITER HOPITAL PG HAKORN PATHOM ET
CAMPS PG KANACHABURI ET MUANG

INTERCROIXROUGE M9561

c/State, Amcross, War

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 CAMPS PG KANACHABURI ET MUANG

INTERCROIXROUGE M9561

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