

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ACTION  
is assigned to

*[Handwritten signature]*

United States Political Adviser  
for Japan

Tokyo, November 15, 1948

No. 730

RESTRICTED

(For Department use only)

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Subject: Proposed Scientific Study of Fur Seals  
in Japanese Waters.

DIVISION OF  
NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit to the Department five copies of a General Headquarters press release of November 8, 1948 concerning a research program proposed by the Natural Resources Section of General Headquarters for the purpose of making a scientific investigation of fur seals in Japanese waters. The primary purpose of the investigation is to determine the number of Alaska seals from the Pribilof Islands which migrate to Japanese waters and the extent to which fur seals feed on commercially important fish within the authorized Japanese fishing area.

The Natural Resources Section is presently drafting a plan for such a scientific study, subject to approval by the Chief of Staff. The proposed plan tentatively calls for authorization by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers of one or more scientific expeditions along the Pacific coast of Honshu and Hokkaido, but within the Japanese authorized fishing area, for the purpose of catching fur seals in these waters. The seals will be examined in an effort to determine how many are from the Pribilof herd and if any are from the Kuril and Komandorski herds. By analysis of stomach content, data will be compiled on the feeding habits of the animals while in Japanese waters in order to ascertain if they consume commercially important fish. According to representatives of the Natural Resources Section who have informally discussed the proposed scientific study with this Mission, there is a lack of data available concerning the feeding habits of fur seals.

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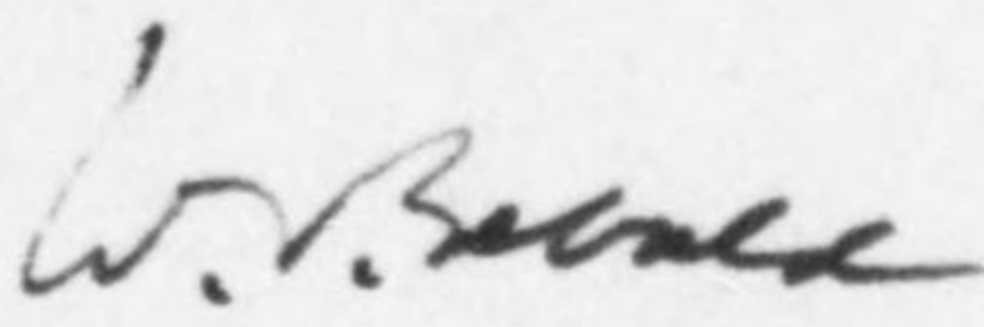
Tokyo's Despatch No. 730,  
November 15, 1948.

RESTRICTED

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It has been tentatively proposed by the Natural Resources Section that the scientific expeditions will kill at least one thousand seals in order to provide a sufficiently broad basis for the survey. This raises the question of the disposal of the skins. In this connection, consideration is being given to provisions of existing international agreements on sealing. This Mission will keep the Department informed of developments in connection with the proposed expedition.

Respectfully yours,

  
W. J. Sebald

Enclosure: *att*

Press release, November 8,  
1948.

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Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch No. 730 dated November 15, 1948  
from the United States Political Adviser on the subject,  
"Proposed Scientific Study of Fur Seals in Japanese Waters."

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMAND  
Public Information Office

Press Release:

1630  
8 November 1948

TO MAKE SCIENTIFIC STUDY HERE OF MARINE AND LAND MAMMALS

Ford Wilkie, Union Springs, N. Y., wildlife research biologist from the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, has been assigned to the Wildlife Branch, Fisheries Division of SCAP's Natural Resources Section, to conduct scientific investigations on fur seals and other marine and land mammals of Japan.

The fur seal research program to be conducted by Wilkie will be under the direction of Dr. Oliver L. Austin Jr., Chief of the NRS Wildlife Branch and newly-elected fellow of the American Ornithologists Union.

According to current plans, the program will be designed to obtain all possible information on the following subjects: (1) the population of Alaska fur seals entering Japanese waters; (2) the extent to which fur seals feed on commercially important fish within Japanese fishing grounds; (3) migration routes of fur seals in water areas adjacent to Japan; (4) seasonal populations of fur seals; (5) numbers of seals killed as predators, taken accidentally in fishing gear, or killed for fur; (6) racial relationships of fur seals in the eastern and western Pacific; (7) handling and use of fur seal skins in Japan; (8) nutritive value of seal flesh and the vitamin content of seal livers and oil; and (9) the prevalence of the hookworm *Uncinaria* in seals in the western Pacific and methods used to control this parasite.

"This investigation of fur seals in Japanese waters will furnish valuable information to the Department of State for developing negotiations with Canada, Russia, and Japan regarding regulation and management of the north Pacific fur seal herds", Wilkie stated.

Wilkie was formerly with the federal Fish and Wildlife Service and spent six months on the Pribilof Islands conducting research studies on fur seals. During the war years Wilkie served in the Aleutian Islands and in the Mediterranean Theater as a Navy lieutenant.

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ONE DEATH, ONE LIFE SENTENCE IN PALAWAN MASSACRE CASE

An Eighth Army military commission at Yokohama today sentenced a former Japanese master sergeant to hang, a lieutenant general to life imprisonment and seven other Japanese to terms ranging from two to 12 years at hard labor for their parts in the "Palawan Massacre."

Described by Alva C. Carpenter, Chief of SCAP's Legal Section, as "one of the most dastardly deeds ever conceived in the minds of so-called civilized men," the massacre resulted in the deaths of 138 captured Americans on Palawan Island in the Philippines Dec. 14, 1944.

The Americans were herded into air raid shelters where they were burned to death after gasoline had been thrown into the entrances and ignited with torches and hand grenades. Those who attempted to escape were fatally bayoneted, machinegunned, drowned or beheaded.

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Only 12 of the 150 Americans held prisoner on the island escaped--one of them only to die later.

M/Sgt. Taichi Deguchi received the death sentence. The commission found him guilty of participating in the massacre and also of killing two Americans previous to the incident on Palawan. He maltreated other Americans by using judo on them, beating them and suspending them by their wrists tied behind their backs.

Lt. Gen Seichi Terada, Commanding General of the 2d Air Division, was held responsible for the massacre and sentenced to life at hard labor. He issued "an unlawful order in compliance with an order from his superior, the Commanding General of the Fourth Air Army....thereby....causing" the massacre, the commission found.

Another former lieutenant general, Kizo Mikami, who was in command of the Fourth Air Army's 4th Division, was sentenced to 12 years for compelling the Americans to work in a combat zone on an airfield, a project directly related to war operations.

Other sentences were:

Lt. Col. Mamoru Fushimi, Commanding Officer of 11th Air Sector Unit--10 years for compelling the Americans to construct the field.

Lt. Col. Shojiro Kawamorita, Staff Tactical Officer, 4th Air Division--five years for compelling them to construct the field.

Superior Pvt. Tomisaburo Sawa--five years for participating in the massacre.

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First Lt. Toru Ogawa, company commander of airfield battalion--two years for failing to prevent prisoners from being beaten.

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(See PIC Releases 1630 June 8 and 1330 August 2, 1948)

Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch No. 730 dated November 15, 1948  
from the United States Political Adviser on the subject,  
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FAR EAST COMLAND  
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(See PIC Releases 1630 June 8 and 1330 August 2, 1948)

# INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

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AIRGRAM

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From: USFOAD, Tokyo.  
Date: December 16, 1948.  
Date of Mailing: December 16, 1948.  
Rec'd: Jan. 7, 1949, 11:18 a..

SECRET  
(For Dept use only)

Secretary of State,  
Washington.  
A-247, December 16, 1948.

Reference is made to this Mission's despatch no. 730, November 15, 1948, to DEFTLL 403, November 29, and to telegram C-66281, December 14, 1948, from this Headquarters regarding fur seal herds.

Despatch no. 730 forwarded an outline of a plan of Natural Resources Section for the capture and examination of about 1,000 fur seals in waters within the authorized fishing area off Japan. NRS officials say there is an almost complete lack of information in Japan concerning the size and migrating habits of these fur seal herds and that the proposed expedition would provide much valuable information to fill this gap. Mr. Ford WILKE of Fish and Wildlife Service has come to Japan as expert adviser to NRS to work primarily on this matter.

Mr. Wilke states that all available information has already been forwarded to Department through Fish and Wildlife Service, particularly a report to Office of Foreign Activities dated January 27, 1947, forwarding and evaluating a Japanese report on fur seals. No new information could therefore be supplied in response to DEFTLL 403.

NRS is eager to obtain Headquarters authorization of its plan for at least one small expedition to capture and examine fur seals in waters off Japan. Difficulties encountered by NRS in preparing an acceptable plan have delayed the project, particularly problems in regard to the applicability to the proposed expedition of paragraph d (2) of JCS Directive No. 20 A, November 13, 1945. DEFTLL 403 is therefore being used by NRS as a means of showing Dept's interest in the problem and of increasing support for the NRS proposal.

C-66281, December 14, 1948, which was prepared by this Mission for approval of the Chief of Staff in reply to DEFTLL 403, contains the gist of the above and also states that a report of the results of the proposed expedition, if any, will be available by July 1949.

**PERMANENT RECORD COPY.—This copy must be returned to DC/R central files with notation of action taken.**

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FEB 4 1949

Tokyo's no. A-247,  
December 16, 1948.

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- 2 -

If an expedition is authorized by this Headquarters it is probable that this mission will be able to secure information informally as to the results of the expedition before July 1949.

The Dept will be informed by airgram of further steps taken by this Headquarters in the premises.

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ACTION is assigned to

~~EE-UPW~~

United States Political Adviser for Japan

Tokyo, January 19, 1949.

VIA AIR POUCH

No. 32

SECRET (For Department Use Only)

Subject: Scientific Study of Fur Seals to be Taken within Authorized Japanese Fishing Area.

*U/FW  
Reply drafted  
3/9/49  
Thru army to SCAP.*

*JWM  
894.627/12-16-48  
WFW*

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DIVISION OF NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

*Referred to  
FEB 7 - 1949  
W.F.W. - Mrs. Davies*  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1949 FEB 1 AM 10 59

FACILITIES BRANCH

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to this Mission's airgram no. 247, December 16, 1948, outlining a plan by this Headquarters to authorize a small expedition to capture and examine fur seals in waters off Japan. Forwarded herewith is a copy of a staff study prepared on this problem by the Natural Resources Section of this Headquarters and approved by the Supreme Commander's Chief of Staff. This plan describes in detail the purpose and proposed operations of the expedition.

Also enclosed are five copies of the directive issued by this Headquarters to the Japanese Government (SCAPIN 1960, January 11, 1949) authorizing the latter to provide and operate, under the direction of a representative of the Supreme Commander, two vessels for fur seal research, as recommended in paragraph 1, Part IV, of the enclosure.

As proposed in the enclosed study, a telegram has been despatched by this Headquarters to the Department of Army requesting that the Department of State be informed of the plan for the expedition and that the Department inform the Soviet Union of the proposal. This telegram was despatched on January 8, 1949, as C-66917. As a result of the reply from the Department of Army (W 82768, January 15, 1949), execution of plans for the expedition has been suspended, pending consultation as required by W 82768.

Respectfully yours,

*W. J. Sebald*  
W. J. Sebald

DCH - ITP Unit

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*Enclosures*

- 1. Staff Study
- 2. Five copies of SCAPIN 1960

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In triplicate to Department

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*one copy of des. only detached for Dept Control*

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Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 32 dated January 19, 1949 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "Scientific Study of Fur Seals to be Taken within Authorized Japanese Fishing Area".

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(C O P Y)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF.

I. THE PROBLEM.

To obtain scientific data on fur seals in Japanese waters, showing their effect on Japanese fisheries, in what proportion they come from the Russian and American fur seal herds, and related information of vital importance to Japanese and international interests.

II. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM.

1. Japan abrogated the 1911 Fur Seal Convention on 23 October 1940. The Abrogation became final 23 October 1941. Japan claimed the seals from the American Pribilof Islands were damaging the Japanese fishing industry, but produced no satisfactory proof thereof. In 1946 the Dept of State requested SCAP to search Japanese files for data relating to their claims (TAB A). Data available are inconclusive and believed inaccurate (TAB B).

2. Under US protection and scientific management, the Pribilof fur seal herds have increased vastly. The possibility exists that seals from these American herds or from Russian herds may be affecting the Japanese fisheries adversely. Scientific data which can be procured only by taking seals at sea (pelagic sealing) must be obtained to settle this question (TAB C). The Fish and Wildlife Service, Dept of Interior, has supplied a biologist to the NR staff for the specific purpose of assisting SCAP in conducting fur seal investigations.

3. No treaties or laws protecting seals are now in effect west of the 180th meridian. JCS Serial 20-A (SWNCC 99/3) states that Japanese fisheries should conform to conservation agreements and fisheries policies agreed to by the US (TAB D), and that the Japanese should do no pelagic sealing (TAB E). SCAJAP S79 forbids pelagic sealing or other activity prohibited by the Fur Seal Convention of 1911 (TAB F). A provisional agreement between the US and Canada, effective in Pacific waters east of the 180th meridian, permits pelagic sealing for scientific purposes (TAB G, Art VII).

4. Previous treaties and present US policy imply that primary management responsibility is vested in the Nation controlling the rookeries where the seals breed. All known rookeries are on islands under US or USSR control. Negotiations for a permanent international treaty protecting fur seals will be initiated in the near future between the US, Canada, and the USSR. (TAB H)

III. DISCUSSION.

1. No accurate data on the feeding habits of seals in Japanese waters exist. Observations must be made on the number of seals currently wintering in the authorized fishing area, and enough stomachs must be taken for analysis of their contents to determine the kinds and quantities of

aquatic

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Enclosure No. 1  
to Tokyo's Despatch No. 32,  
January 19, 1949

- 2 -

aquatic animals consumed. About one percent of the North Pacific fur seals have been tagged by the US Fish and Wildlife Service on the Pribilof Islands. A representative sample of the seals wintering in Japanese waters must be taken to determine the islands of their origin.

2. NR proposes to collect these data by having the Japanese Government operate two sealing vessels, under SCAP direction, within the authorized fishing area. In order to provide adequate supervision and direction, it is necessary that a SCAP representative be assigned to accompany the vessels. To provide conclusions with the desired accuracy, between 500 and 2,000 seals are needed. The Japanese Fisheries Agency estimates from past experiences that about 1,000 seals can be taken by the proposed operations. The stomachs, skulls, and embryos of all seals taken and about 20 percent of the skins will be retained for research purposes. The remainder of the carcasses and approximately 80 percent of the pelts will be available for disposal as by-products of the project. (TABS I, J, K)

3. JCS Serial 20-A states that Japanese fisheries should conform to policies or rules announced by the US (TAB D). A current provisional agreement between Canada and the US specifically permits pelagic sealing for scientific purposes (TAB G). Appendix B, Discussion, JCS Serial 20-A, states, "Any sealing which may be authorized by the government during the occupation period should be undertaken in conformity with sound conservation principles. All pelagic sealing should be prohibited." (TAB E). Current US policy expressly allows pelagic sealing for scientific purposes, therefore it is apparent that the final statement contained in Appendix B, JCS Serial 20-A, refers to commercial pelagic sealing by the Japanese and is not intended to prevent pelagic sealing for SCAP-directed scientific research.

4. The seals taken by the proposed SCAP research may affect the management of the seal herds, which by current US policy is the primary responsibility of the nation controlling the rookery of origin (TAB H). Therefore, the nations which control the rookeries supplying the fur seals wintering off the Japanese coast should be informed of the proposed operation and assured that all scientific results will be made available to them.

5. Under the 1911 Fur Seal Convention Japan and Canada were given a percentage of the pelts taken annually by the US. The current provisional agreement between the US and Canada (TAB G) provides that Canada will receive 20 percent of all seals taken on American islands. By these precedents the US, Canada, and USSR may be considered to have a claim to a percentage of the seals taken by the proposed operations. Therefore, the skins must be held until the ultimate method of disposal can be decided by discussion between these countries.

#### IV. RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That the Japanese Government be instructed to assist in the fur seal investigations by providing, equipping, manning, and operating two vessels for fur seal research as outlined in proposed SCAPIN. (TAB L)

2. That the Chief, NR, be authorized direct communication with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Japanese Government, for the purpose of coordinating activities carried on in connection with the proposed fur seal research.

3. That the Chief, NR, designate Biologist, Fisheries Division, as SCAP representative for purposes of surveillance.

4. That

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Enclosure No. 1  
to Tokyo's Despatch No. 32,  
January 19, 1949

- 3 -

4. That radio be dispatched to DA requesting:
  - a. Dept of State be notified of proposed operations and requested to inform USSR thereof.
  - b. Agreement be reached with the Dept of State relative to export and sale of surplus pelts through Japanese Board of Trade, and division of the proceeds. (TAB M)

HUBERT G. SCHENCK  
Lt Col CS  
Chief, Natural Resources Section

CONCURRENCES.

Diplomatic Section  
Legal Section  
Economic and Scientific Section

(C O P Y)

(NOTE: The enclosures to the above staff study have not been retained by this Mission. It is believed, however, that the following tabbed enclosures are available to the Department:

1. TAB A -- Airgram no. 146, April 24, 1946
2. TAB B -- Report dated January 27, 1947 to Chief, Office of Foreign Activities, from Acting Chief, Division of Alaska Fisheries; Subject: Evaluation of Japanese Report on Fur Seals
3. TAB D -- SWNCC 99/3, November 7, 1945
4. TAB E -- SWNCC 99/3, Appendix B
5. TAB G -- Agreement between the United States and Canada, by exchange of notes dated December 8 and December 19, 1942, as amended by exchange of notes dated December 26, 1947.
6. TAB H -- Telegram no. 403, November 29, 1948, 4 p.m.
7. TAB L -- SCAPIN 1960, January 11, 1949
8. TAB M -- Telegram C 66917, January 8, 1949.)

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Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 32  
dated January 19, 1949 from the United  
States Political Adviser for Japan,  
Tokyo, on the subject "Scientific Study  
of Fur Seals to be Taken within Author-  
ized Japanese Fishing Area".

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
APO 500

AG 560 ( 10 May 46 )NR/F1  
SCAPIN 1960

11 January 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: Fur Seal Research in Japanese Coastal Waters

1. The Japanese Government is directed to provide two vessels of about 20 gross tons each, of the type formerly used for seal hunting, manned, powered, equipped, and supplied for hunting fur seals in Japanese coastal waters. These vessels will engage in collecting seals at sea, for a Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers research project, during the 1948-49 season. The Japanese Government also will assign an inspector to accompany each vessel.

2. Within fifteen days after receipt of this Memorandum, the Japanese Government will make available at Muroran, Hokkaido, the necessary equipment and personnel as referred to in paragraph 1, and will supply the Natural Resources Section, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers the names and registry numbers of the designated vessels, names and addresses of personnel manning the vessels, and names and office addresses of Japanese Government inspectors assigned to accompany the vessels. The Japanese Government will also make provisions for the handling, marking, care and storage, during the operations, of all required research materials and all seal pelts.

3. A representative of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers will be designated to direct and supervise the operations including the collection of scientific data.

4. Activities carried on in accordance with this directive will be subject to the following limitations:

a. The vessels engaged in seal hunting will operate only within the fishing area authorized by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Memorandum for Japanese Government from General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, AG 800.217 (22 Jun 46)NR, (SCAPIN 1033), Subj, "Area Authorized for Japanese Fishing and Whaling." Hunting operations will continue as necessary for the purposes of scientific research, in accordance with instructions of representative of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, but will terminate not later than 31 May 1949.

b. All seal pelts obtained during the investigation will be delivered into the custody of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers. Pelts designated by the representative of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers will be held in safe storage by the Japanese Government pending instructions of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers relative to their disposal.

AG 560 ( 10 May 46 )NR/F1  
SCAPIN 1960

c. The collection of materials required for research purposes and necessary compilation of scientific data will be performed in accordance with instructions of the representative of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

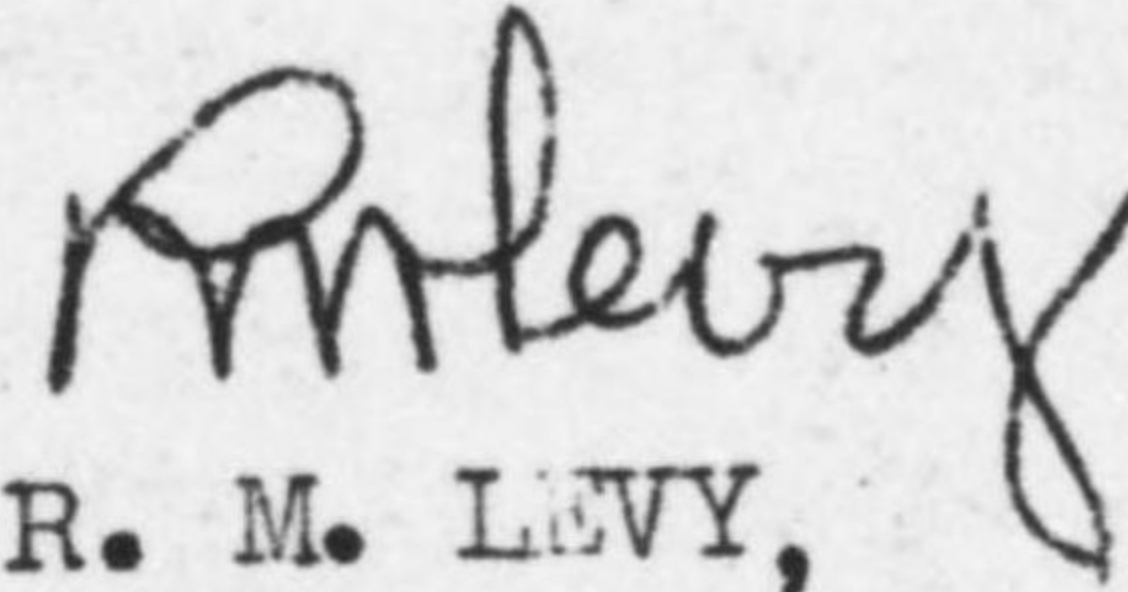
d. Seal carcasses will be disposed of as desired by the Japanese Government, after pelts and research materials have been removed.

e. No objection is made to the taking of porpoises or other marine animals during the course of authorized seal collecting operations, provided that pursuit of such animals does not interfere with the purpose of the required fur seal investigation. Instructions of the representative of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers will govern such activities.

5. The seal collecting activities directed are for scientific research purposes only, and no precedent is established for fur seal hunting in Japanese coastal waters or elsewhere at any future time.

6. Direct communication between the Natural Resources Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, concerning activities within the scope of this memorandum, is authorized.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:



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

FEB 7 1949

DC/R  
CONTROL COPY  
FE

VIA AIR POUCH

United States Political Adviser  
for Japan

Tokyo, January 19, 1949.

No. 32

SECRET (For Department Use Only)Subject: Scientific Study of Fur Seals to be Taken within Authorized  
Japanese Fishing Area.The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

1/ I have the honor to refer to this Mission's airgram no. 247, December 16, 1948, outlining a plan by this Headquarters to authorize a small expedition to capture and examine fur seals in waters off Japan. Forwarded herewith is a copy of a staff study prepared on this problem by the Natural Resources Section of this Headquarters and approved by the Supreme Commander's Chief of Staff. This plan describes in detail the purpose and proposed operations of the expedition.

2/ Also enclosed are five copies of the directive issued by this Headquarters to the Japanese Government (SCAPIN 1960, January 11, 1949) authorizing the latter to provide and operate, under the direction of a representative of the Supreme Commander, two vessels for fur seal research, as recommended in paragraph 1, Part IV, of the enclosure.

As proposed in the enclosed study, a telegram has been despatched by this Headquarters to the Department of Army requesting that the Department of State be informed of the plan for the expedition and that the Department inform the Soviet Union of the proposal. This telegram was despatched on January 8, 1949, as C-66917. As a result of the reply from the Department of Army (W 82768, January 15, 1949), execution of plans for the expedition has been suspended, pending consultation as required by W 82768.

Respectfully yours,

W. J. Sebald

Enclosures:

1. Staff Study
2. Five copies of SCAPIN 1960

522.7

RBFinn:gmd

In triplicate to Department

SECRETA true copy  
of the signed  
original gmd894. 627/1-1949  
SECRET FILE

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 32 dated January 19, 1949 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "Scientific Study of Fur Seals to be Taken within Authorized Japanese Fishing Area".

SECRET

(C O P Y)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF.

I. THE PROBLEM.

To obtain scientific data on fur seals in Japanese waters, showing their effect on Japanese fisheries, in what proportion they come from the Russian and American fur seal herds, and related information of vital importance to Japanese and international interests.

II. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM.

1. Japan abrogated the 1911 Fur Seal Convention on 23 October 1940. The Abrogation became final 23 October 1941. Japan claimed the seals from the American Pribilof Islands were damaging the Japanese fishing industry, but produced no satisfactory proof thereof. In 1946 the Dept of State requested SCAP to search Japanese files for data relating to their claims (TAB A). Data available are inconclusive and believed inaccurate (TAB B).

2. Under US protection and scientific management, the Pribilof fur seal herds have increased vastly. The possibility exists that seals from these American herds or from Russian herds may be affecting the Japanese fisheries adversely. Scientific data which can be procured only by taking seals at sea (pelagic sealing) must be obtained to settle this question (TAB C). The Fish and Wildlife Service, Dept of Interior, has supplied a biologist to the NR staff for the specific purpose of assisting SCAP in conducting fur seal investigations.

3. No treaties or laws protecting seals are now in effect west of the 180th meridian. JCS Serial 20-A (SWNCC 99/3) states that Japanese fisheries should conform to conservation agreements and fisheries policies agreed to by the US (TAB D), and that the Japanese should do no pelagic sealing (TAB E). SCAJAP S79 forbids pelagic sealing or other activity prohibited by the Fur Seal Convention of 1911 (TAB F). A provisional agreement between the US and Canada, effective in Pacific waters east of the 180th meridian, permits pelagic sealing for scientific purposes (TAB G, Art VII).

4. Previous treaties and present US policy imply that primary management responsibility is vested in the Nation controlling the rookeries where the seals breed. All known rookeries are on islands under US or USSR control. Negotiations for a permanent international treaty protecting fur seals will be initiated in the near future between the US, Canada, and the USSR. (TAB H)

III. DISCUSSION.

1. No accurate data on the feeding habits of seals in Japanese waters exist. Observations must be made on the number of seals currently wintering in the authorized fishing area, and enough stomachs must be taken for analysis of their contents to determine the kinds and quantities of

aquatic

SECRET

Enclosure No. 1  
to Tokyo's Despatch No. 32,  
January 19, 1949

- 2 -

aquatic animals consumed. About one percent of the North Pacific fur seals have been tagged by the US Fish and Wildlife Service on the Pribilof Islands. A representative sample of the seals wintering in Japanese waters must be taken to determine the islands of their origin.

2. NR proposes to collect these data by having the Japanese Government operate two sealing vessels, under SCAP direction, within the authorized fishing area. In order to provide adequate supervision and direction, it is necessary that a SCAP representative be assigned to accompany the vessels. To provide conclusions with the desired accuracy, between 500 and 2,000 seals are needed. The Japanese Fisheries Agency estimates from past experiences that about 1,000 seals can be taken by the proposed operations. The stomachs, skulls, and embryos of all seals taken and about 20 percent of the skins will be retained for research purposes. The remainder of the carcasses and approximately 80 percent of the pelts will be available for disposal as by-products of the project. (TABS I, J, K)

3. JCS Serial 20-A states that Japanese fisheries should conform to policies or rules announced by the US (TAB D). A current provisional agreement between Canada and the US specifically permits pelagic sealing for scientific purposes (TAB G). Appendix B, Discussion, JCS Serial 20-A, states, "Any sealing which may be authorized by the government during the occupation period should be undertaken in conformity with sound conservation principles. All pelagic sealing should be prohibited." (TAB E). Current US policy expressly allows pelagic sealing for scientific purposes, therefore it is apparent that the final statement contained in Appendix B, JCS Serial 20-A, refers to commercial pelagic sealing by the Japanese and is not intended to prevent pelagic sealing for SCAP-directed scientific research.

4. The seals taken by the proposed SCAP research may affect the management of the seal herds, which by current US policy is the primary responsibility of the nation controlling the rookery of origin (TAB E). Therefore, the nations which control the rookeries supplying the fur seals wintering off the Japanese coast should be informed of the proposed operation and assured that all scientific results will be made available to them.

5. Under the 1911 Fur Seal Convention Japan and Canada were given a percentage of the pelts taken annually by the US. The current provisional agreement between the US and Canada (TAB G) provides that Canada will receive 20 percent of all seals taken on American islands. By these precedents the US, Canada, and USSR may be considered to have a claim to a percentage of the seals taken by the proposed operations. Therefore, the skins must be held until the ultimate method of disposal can be decided by discussion between these countries.

#### IV. RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That the Japanese Government be instructed to assist in the fur seal investigations by providing, equipping, manning, and operating two vessels for fur seal research as outlined in proposed SCAPIN. (TAB L)

2. That the Chief, NR, be authorized direct communication with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Japanese Government, for the purpose of coordinating activities carried on in connection with the proposed fur seal research.

3. That the Chief, NR, designate Biologist, Fisheries Division, as SCAP representative for purposes of surveillance.

4. That

SECRET

-2-

Enclosure No. 1  
to Tokyo's Despatch No. 32,  
January 19, 1949

- 3 -

4. That radio be dispatched to DA requesting:
  - a. Dept of State be notified of proposed operations and requested to inform USSR thereof.
  - b. Agreement be reached with the Dept of State relative to export and sale of surplus pelts through Japanese Board of Trade, and division of the proceeds. (TAB M)

HUBERT G. SCHENCK  
Lt Col CS  
Chief, Natural Resources Section

CONCURRENCES.

Diplomatic Section  
Legal Section  
Economic and Scientific Section

(C O P Y)

(NOTE: The enclosures to the above staff study have not been retained by this Mission. It is believed, however, that the following tabbed enclosures are available to the Department:

1. TAB A -- Airgram no. 146, April 24, 1946
2. TAB B -- Report dated January 27, 1947 to Chief, Office of Foreign Activities, from Acting Chief, Division of Alaska Fisheries; Subject: Evaluation of Japanese Report on Fur Seals
3. TAB D -- SWNCC 99/3, November 7, 1945
4. TAB E -- SWNCC 99/3, Appendix B
5. TAB G -- Agreement between the United States and Canada, by exchange of notes dated December 8 and December 19, 1942, as amended by exchange of notes dated December 26, 1947.
6. TAB H -- Telegram no. 403, November 29, 1948, 4 p.m.
7. TAB I -- SCAPIN 1960, January 11, 1949
8. TAB M -- Telegram C 66917, January 8, 1949.)

SECRET

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 32  
dated January 19, 1949 from the United  
States Political Adviser for Japan,  
Tokyo, on the subject "Scientific Study  
of Fur Seals to be Taken within Author-  
ised Japanese Fishing Area".

SECRET

SECRET

FORM DS-322  
7-18-46

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

INDICATE

Collect

Charge Department

Charge to

AMEMBASSY,

MOSCOW.

40

If no objection perceived [redacted] communicate substance following in note  
FONOFF.

QUOTE US GOV has been informed Supreme Commander [redacted] Allied Powers  
proposes investigation fur seals off coast Japan which involves study of  
Jap records and calls for capture and examination [redacted] 500 to 1,000  
animals for scientific purposes. Investigation also would involve stomach  
analysis to ascertain extent fur seals interfere with Jap coastal fisheries,  
as claimed by Japan at time its GOV gave notice terminating 1911 Convention  
Providing for Preservation and Protection Fur Seals. Investigation expected  
provide info extent animals [redacted] Pribilof herds stray into Western PAC. All  
info obtained will be made available [redacted] interested Govs. Supreme Commander [redacted]  
Allied Powers has requested US [redacted] notify USSR [redacted] this program, which it  
is intended initiate on Febr 20, in order avoid loss this season's operations.

QUOTE in light [redacted] close coordination existing in past between our Govs  
[redacted] relative to pelagic sealing, this Gov would appreciate receiving  
prior [redacted] that date any comments USSR [redacted] re program Supreme  
Commander UNQUOTE.

Following for Ur background only. Operations initially undertaken  
by SCAP suspended pending receipt Sov comment. Comment desirable on  
grounds

CLASSIFICATION  
6 P.M.

CONTROL  
SECRET

5109

JAN 26 1949

894.627/1-2649

CS/B

SECRET FILE

Handwritten notes: 894.627/1-2649

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FORM DS-322  
7-18-46

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

CLASSIFICATION

INDICATE

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Charge Department

Charge to

Department of State

SECRET

Washington

Page 2.

grounds killing above NR seals, assumed to be primarily from Sov Komandorskie herds, would be resented USSR, induce large scale Sov retaliation against our Pribilof herds and prejudice forthcoming fur seal treaty negotiations. For these reasons this Gov has opposed any Jap pelagic sealing pending Sov comment. While SCAP has agreed temporary suspension, desires early resumption.

*Acheson*  
ACHESON  
(C.C.C.)

DCI

DC/T:

info: *25*

Repeat to ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF for/SCAP first 3 paragraphs above telegram, as being sent to Amembassy, Moscow.

EUR:EE:WACrawford:ehl

U/FW:WESFlory:fa

*W.S.F.*  
*W.A.*

Cleared in draft:

EE (Mr. W.A. Crawford) NA (Mr. Fearey) FE (Miss Bacon) O (Mr. Moseley)  
*W.A.* *W.F.* *W.B.* *W.M.*

Substance of note cleared with Army (Major Lieding)  
*W.L.*

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CR CLEARANCE

CR *SM*

JAN 20 1948 P.M.

~~WEST~~  
BC  
DC/R file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**Memorandum of Conversation**

DATE: February 1, 1949

SUBJECT: Scientific investigation of fur seals off the coasts of Japan.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Wheelock, Canadian Embassy  
Miss Tibbetts - BC  
Miss Davies - U/FW

COPIES TO: Dr. Chapman - U/FW  
Miss Tibbetts - BC

1-1493

At the suggestion of Miss Tibbetts, I asked Mr. Wheelock if he would care to call at this office and discuss the proposal of SCAP for scientific investigation of the fur seals. He said he would be very much interested in doing so and arranged to come that afternoon.

Miss Tibbetts explained some of the background of meetings on the subject at which I was not present. I amplified by explaining some of the provisions of the 1911 agreement and the present agreement. Mr. Wheelock said that he would discuss the subject with Mr. Bates who is in Washington and communicate with me again if anything further on the subject is desired.

After the main topic of the meeting had been discussed, Mr. Wheelock expressed interest in learning more about the fur seal arrangements (a subject which was apparently entirely new to him) so I spent about 45 minutes giving him some background information and answering his questions.

*IVB*  
U/FW: FVDavies: lrb

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Col.	<i>H+H</i>
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FEB 18 1949

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*894.627/2-149*

*894.627/2-149*

FEB 10 1949

SECRET

No. *26*

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,  
Ottawa.

The Secretary of State refers to previous correspondence concerning the fur seals of the Pacific Ocean.

For the information of the Embassy there is quoted below the text of a telegram sent to the Embassy in Moscow on January 26, 1949. The substance of the note proposed therein to the Soviet Government has been communicated to an official of the Canadian Embassy in Washington and may be discussed at the Embassy's discretion with appropriate officials of the Canadian Government, if they introduce the subject.

The following is the actual text of an encoded message; hence in any discussions with officials of the Canadian Government due attention should be given to paraphrasing:

"If no objection perceived communicate substance following in note Foreign Office.

" 'United States Government has been informed Supreme Commander Allied Powers proposes investigation fur seals off coast Japan which involves study Japanese records and calls for capture and examination 500 to 1,000 animals for scientific purposes. Investigation also would involve stomach analysis to ascertain extent fur seals interfere with Japanese coastal fisheries, as claimed by Japan at time its Government gave notice terminating 1911 Convention Providing for Preservation and Protection Fur Seals. Investigation expected provide information extent animals Pribilof herds stray into Western Pacific.

All

DCP - ITP Unit

Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Exp.	<i>[Signature]</i>
...	<i>[Signature]</i>

SECRET FILE

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SECRET

-2-

All information obtained will be made available to interested governments. Supreme Commander Allied Powers has requested United States notify Union of Soviet Socialist Republics this program, which it is intended initiate on February 20, in order avoid loss this season's operations.

"In light close coordination existing in past between our governments relative pelagic sealing, this Government would appreciate receiving prior that date any comments Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regarding program Supreme Commander."

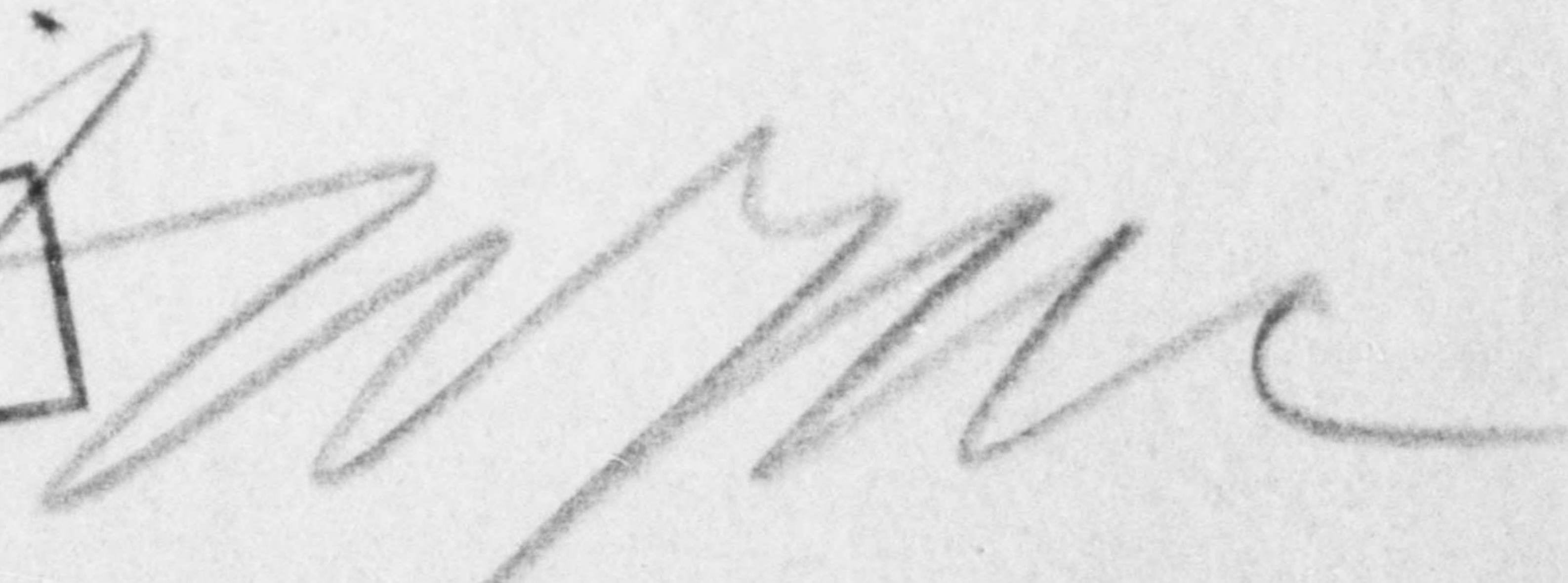
D/W.A.C.  
U/FW:IVDavies:mdh

2-9-49

IVD  
BC

FEB 9 1949 P.M.

A true copy of  
the signed orig-  
inal



~~BC~~  
DC/R - File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Telephone  
**Memorandum of Conversation**

DATE: February 18, 1949

SUBJECT: Proposed Fur Seals Investigation.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Wheelock, Canadian Embassy  
Miss Davies, U/FW

COPIES TO: U/FW - Dr. Chapman  
Mr. Flory  
BC - Miss Tibbetts

1-1493

Mr. Wheelock asked if anything had been heard from USSR in reply to the note relative to the proposed investigation of the fur seal herds off Japan. I told him that no reply had been received. He said that he would be absent from Washington for several weeks and asked that Mr. R. E. Collins, of the Embassy, be kept informed of developments. He said Canada's only interest was to be informed.

894.627/2-1849

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MAR 17 1949

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U/FW: IVDavies:mdh  
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RETURN TO "O" RECORDS

*Rubin*

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
STAFF MESSAGE CENTER  
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PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

Civil Affairs Division  
Maj Cullen/5013

To : SCAP

Nr : WAR 85408

10 Mar 49

From CSCAD cite ECON. Reurads Jan C 66917 Mar  
C 68299 and ourad Feb WX 83719

1. AP commencing expedition im as outlined urad  
Jan provg not more than 200 seals are taken aboard during  
remainder this investigation, and all pelts and skulls are  
preserved for scientific purposes. Interior dept telegraphing  
authorization US citizens participate in accordance with  
Fur Seal Act.

2. State and interior consider stomach analysis  
of primary significance. Interior believes analysis 200  
stomachs will, if oprs properly distrd, prov sufficient  
sample.

3. No comment yet recd fr USSR. Notifying USSR  
you propose commence expedition im. US will reconsider  
matter if strong adverse comment recd, which appears  
unlikely now.

4. All pelts and skulls must be preserved for  
scientific purposes only. At termination investigation  
offer 1-4th to USSR. Retain up to 1-4th for Japans  
scientific rqmts. Ship remainder to fish and wildlife  
for US and Canada.

NOTE: C 66917 is CM IN 14715 (8 Jan 49)  
C 68299 is CM IN 7826 (5 Mar 49)

RM/R
Anal. <i>[Signature]</i>
Rev. <i>[Signature]</i>
Cat. _____

ORIGINATOR: CAD

DISTRIBUTION: CAD(STATE), OUS, PO, CSA

CM OUT 85408

(Mar 49)

DTG 102309Z es

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE  
NATIONAL DEFENSE OF **SECRET** STATES WITHIN THE  
MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32.

COPY NO.

22

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

SECRET FILE

*894, 68299/3-10-49*

SECRET

STANDARD FORM NO. 64.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : NA - Mr. Fearey

FROM : U/FW - Dr. Chapman

SUBJECT: Draft telegram to SCAP

*Dr. M. Chapman*

DIVISION OF DATE: March 9, 1949  
NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

MAR - 9 1949  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

It is requested that the enclosed draft telegram be transmitted to the Department of the Army for approval and transmission to SCAP.

SECRET FILE

*FW - 894,627/3-20-49*

*WESJ*  
U/FW:WESFlory:bmd

FE

BC

EE

Fish and Wildlife  
Service  
cleared in substance  
with Mr. Chaney

*WESJ*

SECRET

SECRET

March 9, 1949

DRAFT TELEGRAM TO SCAP

Subject: Fur Seal Investigation - Ref. C68299

Approve commencing expedition immediately providing not more than 200 seals are taken aboard during remainder this investigation. Interior telegraphing authorization U. S. citizens participate in accordance with Fur Seal Act.

State and Interior consider stomach analysis of primary significance. Interior believes analysis 200 stomachs will, if operations properly distributed, provide sufficient sample.

No comment yet received from USSR. ~~Notifying USSR~~ <sup>you propose</sup> ~~commencement~~ <sup>proposed</sup> ~~expedition immediately.~~ <sup>probable</sup> U.S. will reconsider matter ~~reception investigation.~~ ~~US will reconsider entire matter if and when~~ ~~comment received.~~ <sup>if strong adverse comment received, which appears un-</sup> <sup>likely now.</sup>

All pelts and skulls ~~should~~ <sup>must</sup> be preserved for scientific purposes only. At termination investigation offer one-fourth to USSR. Retain up to one-fourth for <sup>Japan's scientific</sup> ~~Japan.~~ Scientific requirements. Ship remainder to Fish and Wildlife Service for US and Canada.

SECRET FILE

FW 8941. 63-7/3-1049

SECRET

Bc: MJT



FORM DS-322  
7-1-48

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Charge to

Department of State

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CLASSIFICATION

6 P.M.  
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2657

MAR 10 1949  
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AMEMBASSY,  
MOSCOW.  
146

894.627/1-2649  
EUR/EE SF

Absence FOJNOFF reply matter DEPTTEL 40, Jan. 26, 1949, US approving SCAP expedition limited 200 ~~max~~ seals. Consider desirable have investigation proceed while US scientist available participate in stomach analysis since findings expected contribute to determination extent Japanese share in seal fishery yields under treaty proposed.

US will review matter if and when USSR reply received, but believe US ~~will~~ approval reasonable view (1) availability USSR SCAPIN 1960 Jan. 11, 1949, authorizing expedition and apparent failure USSR protest directly SCAP (2) contents US note pursuant DEPTTEL 40 (3) ~~postponement~~ <sup>postponement</sup> beyond deadline set DEPTTEL 40.

SCAP being requested offer one-fourth take of pelts and skulls to USSR for scientific purposes at termination expedition. Remainder going to Japan, US and Canada <sup>also for scientific purposes.</sup>

DEPT ~~continues apprehensive regard~~ <sup>uncertain</sup> possible USSR reaction and effect on negotiations proposed treaty. However believe US has no alternative in absence USSR reply. If EMB perceives no objection, inform FOJNOFF ~~that~~

<sup>PROPOSES</sup> US understands SCAP ~~immediately~~ commence expedition immediately taking not more than 200 seals for scientific purposes. CAN GOVT being informed

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also. JWP Unit  
MAR 10 1949 P.M.  
U/FW:WESFlory:mdh  
3-9-49

CR NA FE BC EE  
SECRET  
CLASSIFICATION

Acheson (W.M.C.)  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
(cleared in substance w/ Chaney)  
TESSR

Corrections made on this original MUST be made on all copies before delivery to Telegraph Branch.

894.627/3-1049

CS/A

SECRET FILE

894.627/3-1049

EMBASSY OF THE  
DIVISION OF STATES OF AMERICA  
NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

MAY - 3 1949

Moscow, U.S.S.R.  
March 11, 1949.

RECEIVED STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
No. 10 37  
1949 MAR 21 49

DC/M  
FACILITIES BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
U/FW - FISHERIES  
AND WILDLIFE

~~FR~~  
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~~WAS~~  
~~WAS~~  
~~WAS~~

*u/fw*

~~FR~~  
~~GA~~  
DCIR

Subject: Investigation of Fur Seals off Coast of Japan.

894.627/1-2649  
EURIEE U/FWEE DC/M NA FE 0

The Officer in Charge refers to Department telegrams no. 40 dated January 26 and no. 146 dated March 10, 1949,

and has the honor to transmit for the records of the Department the following copies of correspondence exchanged between the Embassy and the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs in this connection:

Two copies of Embassy's note no. 44 of January 28, 1949, to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and

Two copies of Embassy's note no. 120 of March 11, 1949, to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

894.627/3-1149

Enclosure: As stated above.

RHDavis:rvm

To Department in original and 1 copy.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
SECRET  
MESSAGE  
1949 MAR 24 AM 11 55  
Copy Filed EE  
File - 810

A/SS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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MAR 21 1949  
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*gvm*

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894.627  
FILED 49  
MAY 20 1949

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 149  
from American Embassy, Moscow, USSR,  
dated March 11, 1949.

Copy

No. 44

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honor to communicate the following.

The United States Government has been informed that the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan proposes to undertake an investigation of fur seals off the coast of Japan. This investigation involves the study of Japanese records and calls for the capture and examination of five hundred to one thousand animals for scientific purposes. The investigation would also involve a stomach analysis in order to ascertain the extent to which fur seals interfere with Japanese coastal fisheries, as claimed by Japan at the time its government gave notice terminating the 1911 Convention Providing for the Preservation and Protection of Fur Seals.

The investigation is expected to provide information on the extent to which animals of the Pribilof herds stray into the western Pacific. All information obtained from this investigation will be made available to the interested governments. The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers has requested the United States Government to notify the Soviet Government of this program which it is intended to initiate on February 20, 1949, in order to avoid loss in this season's operations.

In the light of the close cooperation existing in the past between the interested governments relative to pelagic sealing, the United States Government would appreciate receiving prior to February 20, 1949, any comments which the Government of the USSR may have in regard to the program of the Supreme Commander.

The Embassy of the United States of America,  
Moscow, January 28, 1949.

copied:rvm

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 149  
dated March 11, 1949, from American  
Embassy, Moscow, U.S.S.R.

No. 120

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and, with reference to the Embassy's note no. 44 of January 28, 1949, has the honor to communicate the following.

The United States Government understands that the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan proposes to commence immediately the expedition for the investigation of fur seals off the coast of Japan, which was originally scheduled to begin on February 20, 1949. It is understood that the investigating expedition has been limited to the capture of not more than 200 fur seals for the purposes of scientific examination.

Moscow, March 11, 1949.

To the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Moscow.

RHD:rvm

Please return to U/FW

ACTION COPY

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS  
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
INCOMING TELEGRAM

U/FW - FISHERIES

MAR 16 1949

AND WILDLIFE

*Dept tele sent to Army for trans. to SCAP*

9

SECRET

Action: UFW

Info:

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Control 6240

Rec'd March 16, 1949  
6:26 a.m.

*per file*

FROM: Moscow

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 664, March 16, Noon

*894.627/1-2649 Secret file*

*894.627/3-1049 Secret file*

Foreign Office note No. 19 dated March 15 refers Embassy's note January 28 (DEPTEL 40, January 26) and March 11 (DEPTEL 146, March 10) and states "inasmuch as at present time agreement has been reached between Governments USSR and USA for carrying out negotiations with aim concluding permanent convention preservation fur seals northern part Pacific Ocean and question scientific examination seals will be subject for consideration in working out text convention, Soviet Government considers it inexpedient that SCAP undertake any examination seals which requires killing animals until conclusion such convention".

Text Embassy notes transmitted Department and Tokyo cover despatch 141, March 11.

Sent Department 664, repeated Tokyo 18.

KOHLER

RB:RT

NOTE: Relayed to Tokyo 3/16/49, 10:20 a.m. CSB

SECRET

894.627/3-1649

SECRET FILE  
CSA

PERMANENT RECORD COPY: THIS COPY MUST BE RETURNED TO DC/R CENTRAL FILES WITH NOTATION OF ACTION TAKEN.

JUL 14 1952

FILED

APR 28 1949

SECRET

No. 64

894.627/3-1649  
U/FW

894.627/3-1049  
U/FW-NA

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,  
Ottawa.

(ESR)  
894.627/2-1049  
U/FW BC

894.627/3-1649

The Secretary of State refers to Instruction no. 26 of February 10, 1949 concerning the fur seals of the Pacific Ocean.

For the information of the Embassy there are attached copies of (1) Department telegram no. 146 dated March 10, 1949 to the American Embassy, Moscow, (2) American Embassy, Moscow telegram no. 664 dated March 16, 1949 to the Department and (3) Department airgram no. A-96 dated April 23 to the American Embassy, Moscow relating to the same subject. The Embassy will be kept informed of any further pertinent information on this matter.

In response to several inquiries, an officer of the Canadian Embassy was informed on March 14 that the expedition would probably be authorized shortly and that the take would be limited to 200 animals. On April 1 the Canadian Embassy was informed that the Department understood that the expedition had been cancelled after approximately 9 days of active operation, and on April 20 the Embassy was informed that twenty-one animals had been taken.

Enclosures:

1. Telegram no. 146 to Moscow, March 10, 1949.
2. Telegram no. 664 from Moscow, March 16, 1949.
3. Airgram no. A-96 to Moscow, April 23, 1949.

ITP  
ODH  
W  
ac

APR 27 1949

U/FW:ECastleman  
4/25/49 hb

Enclosure: true copy of the signed original

BC MIT

CS/H  
SECRET FIVE

894.627/3-1649

SECRET

ACCESS RESTRICTED

*1/3/5*

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

File Designation 894.61/

Date MARCH 16, 1949

~~From~~ 894.627/3-1649

~~To~~ No. 155

In the review of this file this item was removed because access to it is restricted. Restrictions on records in the National Archives are stated in general and specific record group restriction statements which are available for examination. The item identified above has been withdrawn because it contains:

Security-Classified Information

Otherwise Restricted Information

RUSSIA/NO GUIDES  
Authority

4/8/76  
Date

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

*DSA*  
GSA FORM 7117 (2-72)

GPO : 1973 O - 503-659

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

SECRET

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : NA - Mr. Fearey

DATE: March 16, 1949

FROM : U/FW - W. M. Chapman *W. M. Chapman*

SUBJECT: Draft telegram to SCAP.

Pursuant to your conversation of March 16 with Mr. Castleman it is requested that the enclosed draft telegram be transmitted to the Department of the Army for approval and transmission to SCAP.

U/FW:ECastleman:bmd  
3/16/49 *Db*

NA

FE

BC

EE

Fish and Wildlife Serv.

*RB*  
*MJ*  
*Wac* *ofb*

*FW-894637/3-16-49*

SECRET

RM/R
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Rev. <i>[Signature]</i>
Cat.

**SECRET FILE**



SECRET

March 16, 1949

DRAFT TELEGRAM TO SCAP

Subject: Fur Seal Investigation - Ref. WAR 85408.

*894.627/3-1649*

In view AmEmbassy Moscow telegram of March 16 sent Tokyo  
as no. 18 indicating USSR opposition sealing expedition, US  
Govt position that expedition be cancelled immediately. Dept.  
Interior ~~advises~~ cancelling authorization US citizens participate.  
Re possible effect on pending international sealing negotiations  
State requests inform earliest any action taken ourad (Mar 10 WX 85408?)

*FW-894.627/3-1649*

**SECRET FILE**

SECRET

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*[Handwritten signature]*

ACTION  
is assigned to

~~U/FW~~

EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIVED RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AM 9 20 1949

**SECRET**

No. 262

RECORDS BRANCH

U/FW - FISHERIES  
*no action*  
MAY 20 1949  
AND WILDLIFE  
*required*

Moscow, U.S.S.R.

May 6, 1949

*no dist By Sec/*  
*not processed*  
*5/6/49*  
*DC/R*  
*File*  
*DC/R*

Subject: Investigation of Fur Seals off Coast of Japan.

894.627/3-1649

The Officer in Charge refers to Dept airgram A-96,  
April 23, and Embtel 664 March 16, 1949, *U/FW FE NA EE*  
*BC*

and has the honor to transmit for the records of the  
Department the following copies of correspondence exchanged  
between the Embassy and the Soviet Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs in this connection:

Two copies of Embassy note no. 230 dated May 6  
to the Foreign Office concerning the expedition investigating  
fur seals off the coast of Japan.

RHDavis:mcs

*att*  
Enclosure: As stated above.

To Department in original and 1 copy.  
Copy to Tokyo

**SECRET**

DCR - ITP Unit	
Anal. ....	<i>ab</i>
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Dist. ....	

159846

894.627/3-1649

A/AP

**SECRET FILE**

JUN 1 1949

FILED

*894.627/3-1649*  
*[Signature]*

No. 230

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and with reference to the Ministry's note no. 19 of March 15, 1949, has the honor to state the following.

In the absence of a reply from the Government of the USSR to the Embassy's note no. 44 of January 28, 1949, stating that the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers proposed the initiation on February 20 of an expedition for the investigation of fur seals off the coast of Japan, the United States Government informed the Supreme Commander on March 10 that the United States had no objection to this expedition. The Ministry was informed that the expedition was going forward in the Embassy's note no. 120 of March 11. However, after the receipt of the Ministry's note no. 19 of March 15 and in deference to the views of the Soviet Government expressed therein, the United States Government suggested on March 19 the cancellation of the fur seal expedition. The Supreme Commander thereupon promptly ordered the expedition, which had started about March 15, to cease operations. It did so on March 24. The Department of State has been informed that 21 seals were taken during the brief period of these operations.

The Embassy of the United States of America,  
Moscow, May 6, 1949.

To the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Moscow.

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

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

Department of State

SECRET

NO. A - 96

Washington,

3007

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

AMEMBASSY,

MOSCOW.

A-96, Apr. 23, 1949

*3007*  
*894.627/3-1649*

In accordance with Embassy telegram no. 664, March 16, 1949, SCAP was informed on March 19 that the United States Government suggested immediate cancellation of the SCAP Fur Seal expedition in view of the position of the USSR.

As noted in Department telegram no. 146, March 10, 1949, this Government had previously informed SCAP that the United States had no objection to such an expedition as outlined therein.

The Department has now been informed that after receipt of word that the United States had no objection, SCAP authorized the expedition to begin approximately March 15 and after receipt of the United States suggestion that the expedition be cancelled, SCAP ordered that the expedition cease operations on approximately March 24. The Department has been further informed that twenty-one seals were taken during the active period of the operation, and that the resultant scientific data will be available about August of this year. The Embassy will be kept informed of any further information received.

At its discretion, the Embassy may wish to inform the USSR Foreign office of the approximate period of active operations, the number of seals taken, and that scientific data is anticipated about August.

The Canadian Government is being provided with similar information.

894.627/3-1649

CS/A

DISTRIBUTION DESIRED (OFFICES ONLY)

*Acheson*  
ACHESON  
*(W.M.C.)*

U/FW:ECastleman:bmd  
4/19/49 *llb*

	ITP	RB	FE	NA
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*CR*  
*APR 23 1949*  
*no file*

*EE*  
*BC*  
*MW*

**SECRET FILE**

*894.627/3-1649*

FORM DS-323  
7-18-46

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

CLASSIFICATION

Department of State

SECRET *U/R File*

NO. A-

Washington,

3192

3192

US POLAD

TOKYO.

A-92, May 27, 1949 *894.627/4-3049*

Reference is made to paragraph 4 of your communication of April 30, 1949 entitled "Japanese Fishing and Whaling" concerning the disposition of the pelts of the 22 seals taken during the recent SCAP sealing operations.

In this connection, your attention is called to paragraph 4 of War's 85408 dated March 10, 1949. *894.627/3.1049*

WEBB *Webb*  
Acting *(W.M.C.)*

DOB - FTP Unit	
Anal.	<i>sd</i>
Rev.	<i>g/h</i>
Out.	<i>CP</i>
Dist.	

894.627/4-3049

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*el.*  
U/FW:Eastleman:bmd  
5/23/49

SECRET

*NA*  
*mib*

CR CLEARANCE

CR *TR*  
MAY 26 1949 P.M.

SECRET FILE  
CS/H

*894.627/4-3049*

*4/17/49  
Delr file*

United States Political Adviser  
for Japan

Tokyo, April 30, 1949.

*Airgram sent  
US Polad Tokyo  
5/23/49  
EC - v/FW*

SECRET

JAPANESE FISHING AND WHALING

*XR  
894.628*

1. SCAP has no present plan to extend the Japanese fishing area to the limits authorized by JCS in radio W 82914, January 19, 1949. Natural Resources Section wants the Japanese to show their willingness to comply with SCAP regulations and also plans to establish an inspection system of about ten vessels to act as a patrol to catch violators.

2. This Mission has urged NRS to act at once to extend the authorized fishing area to that permitted by JCS. We feel that the Japanese record of compliance, which appears to us fairly good despite NRS' publicity of violations, will not improve substantially even if measures now being considered are put into effect. We also believe that political considerations and debates in the FEC may crystallize opposition to any expansion or may have the effect of establishing unjustifiably large security zones to the detriment of future Japanese fishing operations. We have also suggested that NRS consider the feasibility of extending the Japanese fishing area toward China, one of the most productive regions; we feel that extension toward China will be impossible if delayed until after the next few months.

894.627/4-3049

3. SCAP intends shortly to authorize a 1949-1950 antarctic whaling expedition of three fleets. We have concurred in this proposal for reasons stated in our airgram no. A-101 of April 29, 1949. SCAP will probably not alter this plan unless there is strong opposition from Washington as a result of Allied protests.

*894.628/4-27-49  
v/FW*

4. Fur sealing. NRS had taken twenty-two fur seals for scientific purposes when instructions came from Washington to cease the operation. Further instructions are now being awaited by NRS in regard to the disposition to be made of the pelts of these twenty-two seals.

RBFinn:hh

SECRET

163435

DCR - ITP Unit	
Appr. <i>[Signature]</i>	
Rev. <i>[Signature]</i>	
Est. <i>[Signature]</i>	
Dpt. <i>[Signature]</i>	

*cc*  
JUN 17 1949

FILED

OS/H

SECRET FILE


894.627/4-3049

FORM DS-516  
5-13-47

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CHARGE SLIP

FILE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT	CHARGE TO-	DATE OF CHARGE
894.627/5-649	fr - moscow	NA	3-2-51
	A-451	Donning	req. by
		Mr. List	#1016

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CHARGE SLIP

FILE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT	CHARGE TO-	DATE OF CHARGE	CLERK'S INITIALS
627/5-649	fr moscow A-451	NA Dunning	3 3-51	
		req. by Mr. Lister	#101649-	



# INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

TELEGRAPH BRANCH

~~W~~  
~~F~~  
elc/R file

2  
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ACTION: UP/W ✓  
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2905

AIRGRAM

U/FW - FISHERIES  
no action file  
MAY 16 1949  
required to  
AND WILDLIFE

From: Moscow  
Date: May 6, 1949  
Disp: May 7, 1949  
Rcvd: May 14, 1949 2:38 p.m.

SECRET

The Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

A-461, dated May 6, 1949.

mpl  
A-16-49  
Int (F+w)  
Com  
C.G.  
Smithsonian  
Agr  
Tar

Reference is made to the Department's airgram to Moscow no. A-96, April 23, 1949, reporting that the SCAP expedition for the investigation of fur seals off the coast of Japan ceased operations approximately March 24 after 21 seals had been taken. It is further stated that the resultant scientific data will be available about August of this year and the Embassy is instructed, in its discretion, to inform the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the approximate period of active operations, the number of seals taken and the fact that scientific data is anticipated about August.

The Embassy has addressed a note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs informing it of the approximate period of active operations and the number of seals taken. Copies of this note have been sent to the Department and to Tokyo under cover of Embassy despatch no. 262 of May 6. The Department will note that in the Embassy's communication to the Ministry No. 120 of March 11, 1949 (re Embdes 149 March 11), any mention of the eventual possibility that scientific data resulting from the investigation of the fur seals would be transmitted to the USSR was deliberately omitted. As the Department's telegram no. 146 of March 10 merely stated that SCAP was being requested to offer a 25% take of pelts and skulls to the USSR for scientific purposes at the end of the expedition, the Embassy believed it advisable to omit any reference to this possibility pending a final decision.

As it was not clear from the Department's airgram whether/

894.627/5-649

SECRET FILE  
FILLER

MAY 19 1949

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SECRET

- 2 - A-461 dated May 6, 1949, from Moscow.

whether or not a final decision had been reached regarding the submission to the Government of the USSR of the scientific data resulting from the capture of 21 seals, the Embassy did not mention in its latest note that scientific data is anticipated in August of this year. If and when a final decision is reached to make available to the Soviet Government scientific data resulting from this limited operation, the Embassy will transmit this information to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs upon receipt of further instructions from the Department.

KOHLER

RHDavis:mcs

To Department in hectograph.  
Copy to Tokyo.

SECRET

DE/R  
File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Telephone  
*Memorandum of Conversation*

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: June 8, 1949.

SUBJECT: Proposed Fur Seal Convention.

PARTICIPANTS: Major Cullen - Department of Army  
Mr. Pollard - Department of Army  
Mr. Looney - U/FW

COPIES TO: Dr. Chapman - U/FW  
U/FW files

894.627/6-849

1-1493

In discussing the press release on Japanese fishing and conservation, Mr. Pollard interjected the information that his office had received the draft of a fur-seal convention, and that a preliminary inspection shows nothing in the draft that his office disagrees with. He is sending it to SCAP for comment, and will upon reply send to U/FW the formal approval or disapproval of Army.

Meanwhile, Mr. Pollard stated, a letter will be sent to the Department indicating the tentative approval mentioned above.

Mr. Pollard brought up a question on Article VI, paragraph 2, which, he stated, was not a matter of concern to his office but which appeared to him to introduce an imbalance. I stated that the non-restriction on Russian scientific killing (or against a 200 limit for the United States and Canada) appeared necessary under all the circumstances, and that we were quite willing to change the provision if any reasonable solution offered. Mr. Pollard stated that if the matter had already been closely considered, he probably would have no further comment on it.

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*Handwritten initials: WFL, HZ*

FILED  
JUN 11 1949

894.627/6-849  
CS/H

U/FW:WFLooney:mdh

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

*Transferred to U/FW*  
Action Assigned to DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Action Taken INCOMING TELEGRAM  
**SECRET**

ACTION COPY

15

*U/FW*

A

*WAC*  
*WFF*  
*EC*

Action: ~~ITP~~  
Info:  
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Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_ Control 6817  
Action Office Symbol \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Rec'd June 16, 1949 10:28 a.m.  
Direction to DC/R \_\_\_\_\_

*U/FW - FISHERIES*  
*tele to SCAP*  
**JUN 17 1949**  
*drafted 6/17/49*  
**AND WILDLIFE E.C.**

*DC/R*  
*File*

FROM: Tokyo  
TO: Secretary of State  
NO: CX 50802, June 16 (Army Message)

FROM SCAP ACTION DEPT ARMY, FOR INFO. DEPT OF STATE, DEPT OF INTERIOR.

REURMSG W-85408 DTG 102309Z March 1949, Paragraph 4.

Request approval to send all 21 fur seal pelts and skulls collected to the Department of Interior for essential comparisons with Pribilof Island fur seals. Value of comparisons would be greatly reduced if only one-half (10 seals) were sent to the United States for examination. Division according to URMSG W-85408 to be made after necessary studies have been made in the United States.

WMH:ECW

894.627/6-1649

*ITP/W*

	ACTION
	INFORMATION
<del>ITP</del>	
<del>CP</del>	
<del>YLH</del>	
<del>IR</del>	
<del>PD</del>	

MESSAGE CENTER

1949 JUN 17 AM 9 45

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY

JUL 14 1950

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CSA

**SECRET**

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SECRET

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : NA - Mr. Fearey

DATE: June 27, 1949

FROM : U/FW - Dr. Chapman

*Self file*

SUBJECT: Draft telegram to SCAP.

It is requested that the attached draft telegram be transmitted to the Department of the Army for approval and transmission to SCAP.

In view of the recommendation contained in SCAP telegram no. CX 50802, June 16, which is concurred in by the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, it is suggested that decision as to the final disposition of the pelts be delayed until appropriate scientific study has been completed by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

*Dove Jones*

*FW 894.627/6-16-49*

U/FW:ECastleman:bmd  
6/27/49 *hb*

Fish and Wildlife Service  
cleared in substance with  
Dr. Deason *hb*

SECRET FILE

**FILED**  
JUL 14 1952

SECRETDRAFT TELEGRAM TO SCAP

US Govt concurs all 21 fur seal pelts and skulls  
collected be sent to the US Department of Interior  
as suggested your tel no. CX50802, June 16.

# INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

TELEGRAPH BRANCH *WMC*

*U/FW - FISHERIES*  
*As reply*  
*JUN 28 1949*  
*Necessary*  
**AND WILDLIFE**

*DC/R File*

5044

ACTION: U/FW  
INFO  
DC/R  
PE  
ARMY

**SECRET**

FROM: USPOLAD, Tokyo

Date of mailing: June 22, 1949

Rec'd: June 27, 1949, 4:08 pm

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

A-158, June 21, 1949.

Reference Department's airgram no. 93 of May 27, 1949, concerning disposition of pelts and skulls of fur seals taken during recent SCAP scientific sealing expedition.

The Natural Resources Section, General Headquarters, has advised this Mission that it proposes to send all of the pelts and skulls obtained from the expedition to the United States for comparisons with Pribilof material at the United States National Museum before the specimens are divided in accordance with paragraph four of JAR Radio 85408 of March 11, 1949. The Natural Resources Section feels that this is essential in view of the limited number of pelts and skulls obtained during the expedition and the fact that this will afford the only opportunity for a scientific comparison between American and Asiatic fur seals. Approval for this action was requested of the Department of Army by secret SCAP Radio CX50802 of June 16, 1949.

HUSTON

502.7

CMSpinks:mhp

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**SECRET**

JUN 30 1949  
FD-100

894.627/6-2149

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