

DELEGATION IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

August 27, 1945

C/x/a

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

Dear Mr. Plitt,

We enclose herewith detailed information which our Delegation received from its Geneva Headquarters (their note no. 1845) concerning the difficulties of the Delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Far East, owing to the occasional non-disclosure of the strengths, locations and mutations of POW-camps and labor-detachments under Japanese authority, as well as the new mail-addresses of some of them.

We realize of course that, owing the recent events, this subject is no more of immediate importance, but we forward these details to you so as to enable you to complete your records.

Believe me, dear Mr. Plitt,

yours sincerely,

1 copy
AL

F. MATTHEY
Delegate

DELEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

August 27, 1945

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F. MATTHEY
Delegate

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.

August 27, 1945

In replying, refer to (R/2/u)

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

Dear Mr. Plitt,

We are enclosing herewith a confidential information which we received from our Geneva Headquarters (their note no. 1827) concerning the general situation with which our Tokyo Delegation finds itself confronted.

In spite of some positive data, like the apparent reaction of Japanese public opinion to the sinking of the "Awa Maru", the consequent difficulties of organizing camp-visits by our Delegates and their proposal of relief transportation by ships chartered by the International Committee of the Red Cross, this report might seem somewhat contradictory. Still, we hope, it will enable you to form a general picture which might interest you.

Of course we realize that, owing to recent events, this information has no more immediate value, but we transmit it to you so as to enable you to complete your records.

Believe me, dear Mr. Plitt,

yours sincerely,

F. Matthey
F. MATTHEY
Delegate

1 report
AL

DCR- GP-C Unit
FLH

CS/D

NOV 20 1945

711.94114A/8-2745

711.94114a

8-2745

SWP
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9-7-45
am

CONFIDENTIAL

Information received by the Washington
Delegation of the International Committee
of the Red Cross from their Geneva
Headquarters (Note No. 1827)

Subject: SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST

In order to keep you informed about the trend of events in Tokyo, we communicate below the substance of a recent message transmitted to us by our Tokyo Delegation received in an open cable.

In view of the difficult situation and the forthcoming arrival of Dr. Junod in Tokyo, we would ask you to use this information with great discretion.

Our Delegation cables us, in connection with the forthcoming arrival of Dr. Junod and Miss Straehler and states that in a general way they entertain some misgivings as to whether the present situation will permit the mission to attain its intended objective; moreover, the accomodation of three additional members (including therefore Mr. Georges Graz) in Tokyo or in Karuizawa, presents a very difficult problem.

With reference to the "present situation" mentioned above, we give you below the substance of a further message received in an open cable, which we believe was telephoned to you from Paris. This message was sent after an interview with the Foreign Office on the subject of camp visits and shipping, in particular the recent spontaneous suggestion of the International Committee that it should be permitted to sail Red Cross vessels in Far East waters.

"Our delegation discussed exhaustively with the Foreign Office firstly the suggestion for Red Cross shipping and was informed that Japan was awaiting a satisfactory answer from the U. S. A. on the "Awa Maru" incident before reconsidering a relief action or the International Committee's proposal. Therefore, it is premature to discuss technical details. The Foreign Office mentioned the advantages for Japan of the "Awa Maru" arrangement, whereby other than relief goods could be transported under safe conduct, and also reiterated the previous Japanese objection to neutral ships plying in Far East waters. Our delegate stated that the International Committee's shipping proposal was still pending, but he was not optimistic.

-2-

"Contrary to our expectation that camp visits would increase, our Delegation stated they had observed an increased tendency of the Authorities to restrict these. The Foreign Office claimed Japanese sentiments were hurt by the "Awa Maru" case, thus rendering prisoners of war camp visits impossible for the time being. Although internee camp visits are theoretically easily obtainable, our delegation's requests of the 26th March and 1st June to visit Hyogo were refused on the 8th June on account of the Kobe bombardment. Our Delegation was requested to defer the renewal of the application for another month.

"Replying to our Delegation's application for Mr. Egle to visit civil assembly centres, and Mr. Zindel to visit Canton, the Foreign Office claimed the former was feasible but the latter difficult. Our Delegation stressed to the officials that the publication of I. R. C. C. camp visit reports assists to dispel the unfortunate interpretation, applied to the scarcity of camp visits, abroad. Finally, our Delegation stressed that an unprecedented crisis seemed to relegate its activities in the background of the Government and Japanese Red Cross activities."

Subsequent to this telegram and as a result of further talks, the Japanese Official Bureau revealed the Japanese authorities were willing to permit that the high ranking officers in Manchoukuo, transferred from Taiwan, be visited by Dr. Junod on his way through. Our Delegation is taking the necessary steps to arrange for this visit.

The permission to visit camps in Japan proper was promised after the Mandchoukuo visits.

Concerning the aforementioned refusal to visit the Hyogo camps near Kobe, in a subsequent message, Mr. Bilfinger stated that our Tokyo Delegation had received an appeal from camps where a number of air-raid victims required relief. He left for Kobe on the 25th June and expected to return at the beginning of July to Tokyo.

You will see that the above information may appear somewhat contradictory and it is therefore impossible to draw any conclusions therefrom, but only to form a picture of the situation.

DELEGATION IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

August 27, 1945

R/2/u

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

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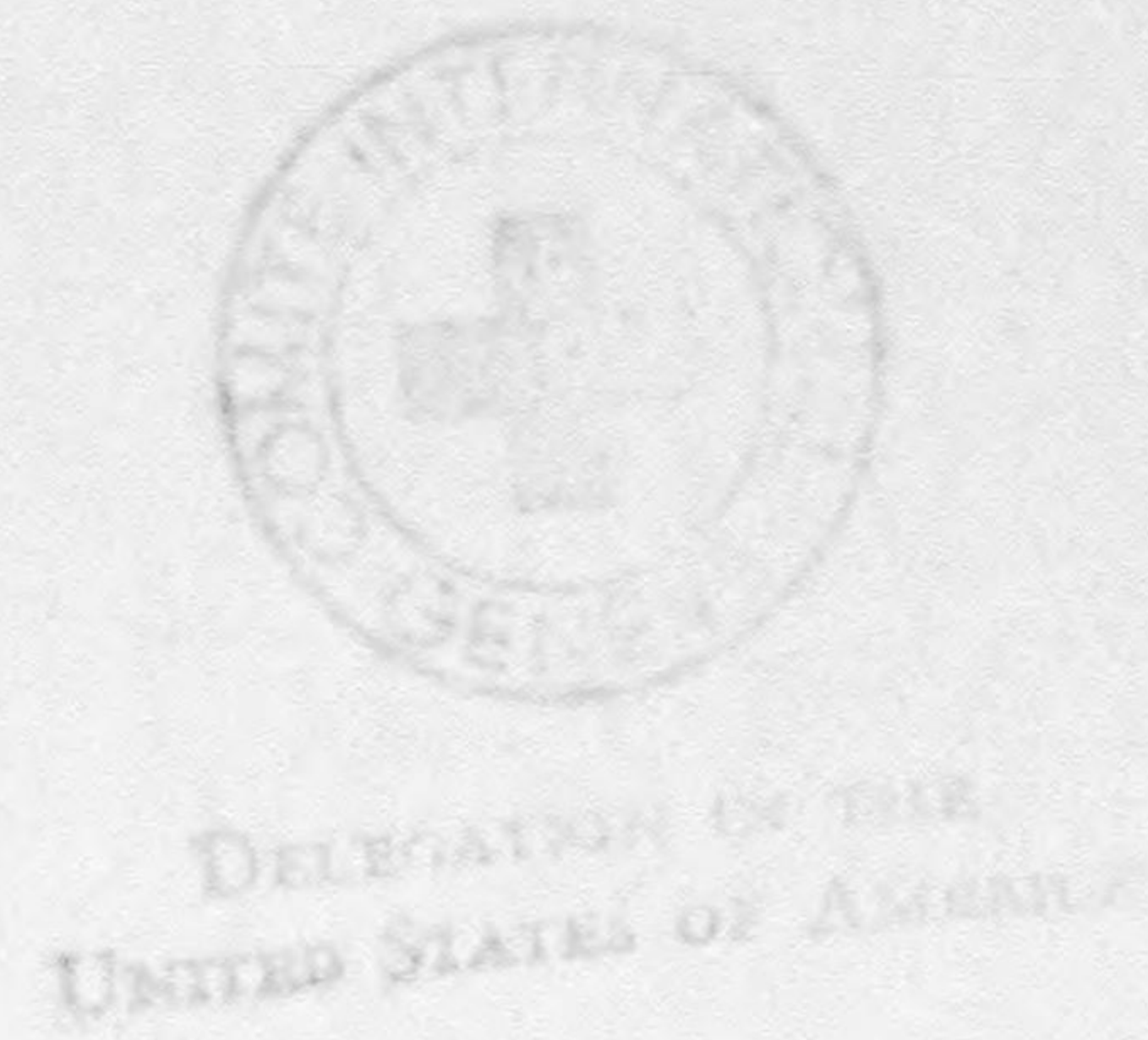
Of course we realize that, owing to recent events, this information has no more immediate value, but we transmit it to you so as to enable you to complete your records.

Believe me, dear Mr. Plitt,

yours sincerely,

I report
AL

F. MATTHEY
Delegate



August 27, 1945

R/2/u

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Chief, Special War Problems Division
Department of State
Washington D. C.

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1 report
AL

F. MATTHEY
Delegate

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION-SWP INFO:

S
U
EUR
FE
DC/L-1
WRB
SWP
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A-D

ALH-592 -M

PLAIN

London

Dated August 28, 1945

Rec'd 10:55 a.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
AUG 29 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

8751, Twenty-eighth

FONOFF has furnished Embassy text of following message received through Bern August 24th from senior British officer in Siam:

"There are approximately 13,400 British, 4,600 Australian, 11,300 Dutch and 296 American prisoners of war in Siam and 2,300 British, 260 Australian, 1,751 Dutch and 206 American prisoners of war in Saigon. I am endeavoring to obtain the names of prisoners of war in Siam 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 prisoners of war in order to minimize loss of life.

DEC 11 1945

711.94114A/8-2845

DCR GP-C Unit
Anal. [Signature]
Rev. [Signature]
Cat. [Signature]
Dist. [Signature]

I request

Y

-2- #8751, Twenty-eighth from London

I request authority to select areas for concentration of British prisoners of war in Siam. 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 prisoners of war. Should like to be informed of any action requested by Netherlands Government".

WINANT

BB

ACTION-SWP
 INFO:
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AIRGRAM

FROM

Bern

Dated August 28, 1945.

Rec'd Sept 6, 7 p.m.

UNRESTRICTED-W

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

A-1007 of August 28.

American Interests - Japan

Legation's A-479 March 22 - 3 p.m.

Foreign Office note August 27, states
 Japanese Foreign office has furnished following
 details to Swiss Legation Tokyo regarding death
 of American POW HEARD.

Heard attempted to escape May 31, 1944 at
 2:30 a.m. He was found stabbed near camp after
 having attacked guard.

HARRISON

GT/nak

711.94114A/8-2845

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION-SWP

INFO:

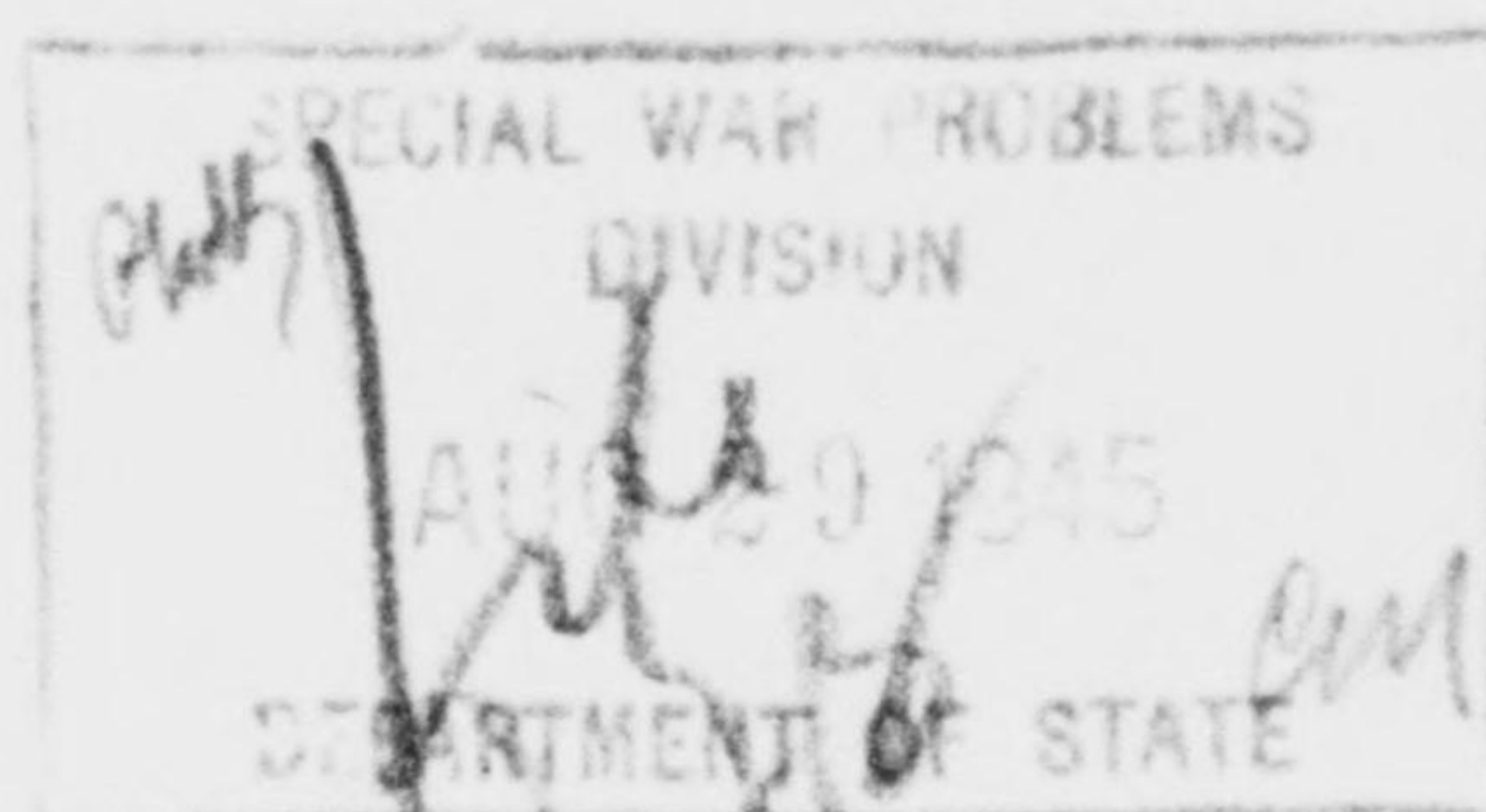
S
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DC/L-6
SWP
FC
A-D

KAW-647-J
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (RESTRICTED)

Moscow via Army
Dated August 28, 1945
Rec'd 2:10 p.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

3081, August 28, 2 p.m.



711.94114A/8-2845

Replying to my request for Soviet assistance in expediting return of and providing welfare to American POWS and civilian internees in Mukden area (REDEPTS 1883, Aug 21) Vyshinski has written that my request has been transmitted to Soviet military authorities for their urgent consideration and that he would keep me advised of developments. In further letter rec'd August 26 on transmission through Vladivostok of POW supplies FONOFF states measures have been taken to supply American POW'S and civilians liberated in Manchuria by Red Army with same rations as Soviet officers and enlisted men receive as was done with respect to liberated Americans in west.

HARRIMAN

EP

RESTRICTED

DEC 11 1945

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.

9/10/45
Letter to Mr. Matthey
C. in sup

August 29, 1945

In replying, refer to (P/3/b)

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

no card

Dear Mr. Plitt,

We have received from our Geneva Headquarters (in their notes no. 1769 and no.1778) some information about the activity of so-called "spokesmen" in Prisoner of War and Civilian Internee camps in the Far East, which might interest you. We enclose herewith a copy of this résumé about the "status" of Prisoners' Representatives, adding the following remarks:

"The system of camp leaders, chosen by the prisoners themselves in order to represent them and to be in charge of their interests, is not admitted by the Japanese authorities. On the occasion of visits paid by our Delegation to the camps, the Japanese commandant usually calls the senior officer and some other prisoners at his choice or designates about five men from different ranks as speakers for the prisoners. They may be officers, army-surgeons, NCOS, privates, or orderlies. These men can be interviewed by our Delegates within a limited time and in the presence of representatives of the detaining power."

"In connection with the foregoing it must naturally be remembered that Japan is not a signatory of the 1929 Geneva Prisoner of War Convention."

We realize of course that, owing to recent events, this information has no more immediate value, but we transmit it to you so as to enable you to complete your records.

Sincerely yours,
F. Matthey
F. MATTHEY
Delegate

OCT 10 1945

Stamp: 1 résumé AL *AL*

711.94114A/B-2945

CS/D 711.94114A/B-2945

Information received by the Washington
Delegation of the International Committee
of the Red Cross from their Geneva
Headquarters (Note. No. 1778)

Subject: Status of the Prisoners' Representatives (Hommes de Confiance)

With reference to a request addressed to our delegates in the Journal des Délégués No. 24, that they should obtain any possible documentation which could be of use to the International Committee in their effort to establish the exact status of the Prisoners' Representatives or Camp Spokesmen (Hommes de confiance), our Shanghai delegate, Mr. Egle, made the following reply: He stated that it was difficult to give concise answers to all the questions indicated on pages 27-29 of the above-mentioned Journal des Délégués. However, he gave the following information regarding the Prisoners' Representatives in:

1) Prisoner of War Camps

Our delegate stated that prisoners' representatives in the sense of the Convention do not exist. The prisoners are represented by the senior officer-prisoner, who in the Shanghai Camp is Col. Ashurst. He is assisted by some other officer-prisoners; in the case of the Shanghai Camp, Major Brown is for general affairs, Commander Thyson for the medical section and Lt. Polkington for the British prisoners of war. They sign the request lists for supplies that are desired from the Shanghai Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross; they also sign for supplies and letters delivered to the camp. These representatives are appointed by the Commandant of the Camp. As regards the following questions (I - 3/4 and II - 5/15):

a) Does the Prisoners' Representative appoint his own deputy?

b) Does he appoint his own assistants, secretaries, accountants, etc?

c) To what extent is he responsible for discipline inside the camp?

d) Is he in direct, daily contact with the Camp Commandant?

our delegate stated that he believed they would all have to be answered in the negative. On the occasion of our delegate's visits to the camps, he said that he usually had an interview with some or all of these representatives in the office of the Commandant, in the presence of the Commandant, some of his

-2-

officers and at least one officer from the Army Liaison Office. Prior to the interview, our delegate had to submit to the Commandant a list of the points which he intended to discuss with the representatives; some of these were allowed, others were not. Mr. Egle stated that the rest of the inspection of the camp is supposed to be limited to seeing and not to talking, but, he added, that the Camp Commandant generally allowed him to have short talks with some of the prisoners.

2) Civil Assembly Centers

Our delegate stated that, as far as he knew, the camp representatives and the other members of the Camp Committee were selected by the inmates themselves, but required the approval of the Camp Commandants. He added that it is possible, in some instances, that a Camp Commandant may himself have nominated the man whom he wished to be in charge as Camp Representative. Our delegate stated that he had no accurate information as regards the competence of the camp representatives; however, he mentioned that they sign all correspondence addressed to the Protecting Power and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and these communications have to be handed to the Commandant and are then transmitted through the Japanese Consulate General. Communications to the Camp Representatives have to be sent to the Japanese Consulate General for transmission through the Camp Commandant. Mr. Egle stated that, as far as he knew, the regulations regarding the competence of the Camp Representatives were somewhat elastic, in some camps they had more authority than in others. He added that the designation "Prisoners' Representatives" (Hommes de confiance) in the sense of the Convention is probably misplaced, and that a more correct description would be that of "Liaison Officers between the Inmates and the Camp Commandant".

August 29, 1945

P/3/b

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Chief, Special War Problems Division
Department of State
Washington D. C.

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Sincerely yours,

1 résumé
AL

F. MATTHEY
Delegate

In reply refer to
SWP

SEP 12 1945

My dear Mr. Matthey:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of August 29, 1945 (P/3/b) addressed to Mr. Plitt, with which you enclosed a statement based upon information received from your Geneva Headquarters regarding the activities of spokesman at prisoner of war and civilian internee camps in the Far East.

Thank you for making this information available to the Department of State.

It is noted in the third paragraph of your letter to Mr. Plitt that the statement is made that "Japan is not a signatory of the 1929 Geneva Prisoner of War Convention". In this connection I wish to point out, in order to avoid any misunderstanding, that the Japanese Government signed the Geneva Convention of 1929 but never ratified that Convention. At the beginning of the war, however, the United States Government suggested to the Japanese Government that it apply the provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention to prisoners of war and to civilian internees in so far as the provisions of the Geneva Convention might be adaptable to them. The Japanese Government in reply to the suggestion of the United States Government indicated that it would apply mutatis mutandis the provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention to American prisoners of war in its power. There is enclosed for your information a copy of telegram no. 331 of December 18, 1941, to the American Legation at Bern and a copy of telegram no. 398,

February 4,

Mr. F. Matthey,
Delegate,

International Red Cross Committee,
1645 Connecticut Avenue, NW.,
Washington 9, D.C.

711.94114A/8-2945

CS/D

711.94114A/8-2945

-2-

February 4, 1942, from the American Legation at Bern concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Parmely W. Herrick
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Enclosures:

- 1. Telegram no. 331,
December 18, 1941,
to American Legation,
Bern.
- 2. Telegram no. 398,
February 4, 1945, from
American Legation, Bern.

CR
SEP 12 1945

DCR - GP-C Unit

Appr. *[Signature]*

Rev. *[Signature]*

Dist.

A true copy of the signed original.

[Signature]

SWP:CMarcy:lmv

9/10/45

SWP

AIRGRAM

FROM

Bern

DCR

Dated August 30, 1945.

Rec'd Sept 13, 7p.m.

ACTION-SWP
INFO:
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A-MC

UNRESTRICTED H

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-1019 of August 30

American Interests - Japan

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
SEP 14 1945
Crisp
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A/8-3045

Intercross letter August 27, received August 29,
transmits copy telegram No. 1741 of August 28, to
Intercross Washington reading as follows:

"Delegation Tokyo informs us Hiroshima
camps transferred before bombardment
therefore no victims."

by SWP to

HARRISON

Bryan-Breece
War-Sweet
Gudelson
Navy-20

SEP 21 1945 *BP*

GT/mak

Stamp area with handwritten initials *JP*

OCT 12 1945

X

SWP

45

AIRGRAM

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
 9/10/45 DIVISION
Letter to Mr. C. ...
 SEP 10 1945
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
C. ...

FROM

Bern

Dated August 30, 1945.

Rec'd Sept 6, 7 p.m.

DC/R

ACTION - SWP
 INFO:
 S
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 EUR
 FE
 DC/L-D
 SWP
 FC

UNRESTRICTED - W

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-1013 of August 30.

American Interests - Far East - Japanese treatment
American aviators

Office of
 FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
 SEP 13 1945
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A/8-3045

Foreign Office notice August 29, referring numerous communications relative treatment aviators captured by Japanese forces gives following information based telegram Swiss Legation Tokyo:

Gorgé has not failed insist numerous occasions in conversations with officials Japanese Foreign Office on necessity authorize visit camps where American aviators held. Legation has always devoted most particular attention to condition this category pows in Japanese hands. Additionally Gorgé emphasized during course interviews that if Japanese did not see possibility authorize visits American aviators Japan nevertheless had obligation at least furnish indications relative their status. Finally Gorgé made new pressing representations with Minister Suzuki in an effort to have the War Ministry agree to his wishes. All his efforts remained however without result.

August 20, Japanese Foreign Office recalling numerous written and above all oral representations Gorgé informed latter he might visit aviators in camp near Tokyo. Nevertheless Minister Suzuki required Legation to make formal demand this regard. Gorgé considered this requirement surprising but in order prevent further delay addressed Japanese Foreign Ministry August 21, note of which following substance:

And *[Signature]*
 Rev *[Signature]*
 Cat
 Dist

1.- Since beginning Swiss Legation has continually insisted that it be permitted visit regularly all pow and ci camps without exception.

2.-

X

-2- A-1013 of August 30 From Bern

uk

2.- Efforts of Swiss Legation unhappily without satisfactory results and even this year it has been able to visit only two pow camps Tokyo.

3.- During its various representations Swiss Legation has insisted on necessity to permit it visit aviators or at least that it be furnished with precise information regarding them.

4.- Japanese War Ministry is today disposed authorize visits to camps in question.

Although this information is tardy Swiss Legation accepts it with satisfaction and is immediately giving instructions to its delegate M. Ruch in order that he holds himself at the disposal of the Japanese War Ministry.

Gorgé adds that this matter gives an idea of the difficulties which he still now encounters. Actually after all his representations with view to inspect prisoner camps and after having declared officially that he would visit these camps without regard to time or place subject to the wishes of the Japanese military authorities, the latter still demand at the moment when the war is ending to make a special request in order to visit any particular camp.

HARRISON

GT/mak

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION-SWP

INFO:

S EDW-1388-J
U This telegram must be
EUR closely paraphrased be-
FE fore being communicated
DC/L-1 to anyone. (CONFIDENTIAL)
SWP
FC
A-M Secretary of State

Bern

Dated August 30, 1945

Rec'd 11:45 a.m.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
AUG 30 1945
Coffin SWP #1
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A/8-3045

Washington

4029, August 30, 10 a.m.

AMERICAN INTERESTS JAPAN.

Foreign Office note August 28 states in reply representations Gorge, Japanese Foreign Office declares false 154 POWS killed manner described. (Your 2189, June 30.) Japanese stressed that Pestalozzi, Intercross delegate, found no (repeat no) evidence this nature when visited camp end April 1944. Japanese added representa- tive protecting power could shortly visit camp.

In transmitting foregoing, Gorge adds Pestalozzi confirms with remark he only saw two camps of group Zentsuji which included several others.

HARRISON

LMS

CONFIDENTIAL

Anal. DCR - GP-C Unit
Rev.
Cat.
Dist.
X

OCT 16 1945

FILED

48

~~BP Admitt~~
~~ET S for dis.~~
29/9

AIRGRAM

FROM
Bern
Dated August 31, 1945.
Rec'd sept 12, 7p.m.

ACTION-SWP
INFO:
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SWP-6
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A-100

CONFIDENTIAL H
Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-1021 of August 31.

American Interests - Japan

Your 2469 August 6 - 6 p.m.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
C. in SWP. *ijp*
SEP 14 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Foreign Office note August 30, states Gorgé in expressing thanks makes following comments:

Distributed by SWP to

War *Byan*
Bresser
Sweet
Judelson

May - 2

Date SEP 17 1945 BP *ijp*

1.- Despite all efforts never able obtain precise information regarding actual number prisoners of war or their transfer. More than 10,000 prisoners of war transferred to Japan without his knowing from where they came. He believes difficulties encountered due large part faulty Japanese administration.

2.- This question discussed Legation's A-1013 of August 30.

3.- Gorgé's position always solid regarding relief prisoners of war and civilian internees result intentions manifested American Government submit all arrangements which would permit assist captured American nationals. Since AWA MARU Gorgé always encountered inertia Japanese authorities. This attitude explainable in part by fact Japanese reluctant do for enemies that which unable accord. own subjects.

4.- Gorgé states misunderstanding this question. Japanese Government not (repeat not)

opposed

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Col.	
Off.	
Chief	

D. R. C. G. Unit

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711.94114A/8-3145

DEC 6 1945

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-2- A-1021 of August 31 - Bern

opposed delivery individual payments but refused authorize sending funds collective purchase foods. Foods having disappeared from market nothing remained to purchase thus sending funds without object.

- 5.- Japanese response communicated Department Legation's 3685 July 26. ^{94114a/p-2645 swp} _{1001157W/2-2445 swp}
- 6.- Regarding transfer civilian internees Shanghai Foreign Office refers note August 23 (Legation's A-997 August 24). Gorgé adds would not have failed again take up with energy question transfers if hostilities had continued. This particularly so since for certain time mystery surrounded alleged reorganization camps combined with transfer prisoners of war coming from no one knew where. All efforts employed by Legation to obtain information this subject actually remained without result.

HARRISON

GT/mak

September 4 1945

SEP 5 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mr. Cross:

The receipt is acknowledged of your telegram of August 31, 1945, concerning the anxiety with which relatives of released prisoners of war await news of their liberation.

I assure you that this matter is receiving careful attention and that lists of released prisoners of war and civilian internees are being forwarded as quickly as possible to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau. You will realize, of course, that because of the large number of American citizens who have been liberated some delays are unavoidable.

When the names of released prisoners of war and civilian internees are officially reported to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington 25, D.C., the next of kin will be notified immediately by telegram. The Information Bureau will then permit next of kin to send one telegraphic message at Government expense to the Far East.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
Edwin A. Plitt
Chief, Special War Problems Division

Mr. A. B. Cross,
Bataan Relief Organization Director,
Eatontown, New Jersey.

BP
SWP:BPetro:ec

9-5-45
A stamp with a circular logo and text, partially legible as "The Department of State".

[Vertical handwritten note:]
500 7/11/94/1142/82345