

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

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

Collect

Department of State

CONFIDENTIAL

Charge Department:

Charge Department

Charge to

Washington
telegram must be
closely paraphrased before
being communicated
to anyone.
SECRET

FEB 23 1945

mid.

AMLEGATION,

BERN.

820

AMERICAN INTERESTS - FAR EAST.

Following data is for Junod's information (REURTEL) 254, *Secret*
January 13). *711.94114a/1-1345*

Following four Americans were officially reported as
dead and later officially reported as prisoners of war:

1. Private Edward J. Free
2. Pharmacist Mate Third Class Robert Wendroff
3. Sergeant George S. Williamson
4. Russel Ferguson, USN

Following American officially reported dead and by
letter received in United States, December 1944 revealed
to be prisoner of war at Osaka:

1. WT 1/c Will C. Bagwell

Following ten Americans not officially reported through
Intercross, but postal communications received from them
indicated that they were prisoners of war:

1. Private William W. Earley, Osaka, Y.B. Camp
2. Corporal Howard W. Eastwood, Moulmein WPC#5, Burma.
3. Sergeant George Julius Eckhardt, Philippine Island
Camp #2.
4. Electrician

711.94114A/1-1345

OS/HS

711.94114a/1-1345
Confidential File

SEN

Handwritten notes in a box:
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Washington

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- 2 -

4. Electrician's Mate 2/c Douglas Wayne Egelston,
Thai WPC #3, Nike, Thailand.
5. Private George Embrock, Moulmein, WPC #5, Burma.
6. Sergeant Leo G. England, Philippine Island Camp #10C.
7. Corporal Jack C. English, Philippine Island Camp #2.
Island
8. Corporal Erving A. Evans, Philippine Camp #10A.
WPC#5
9. Private First Class J. O. Eves, Moulmein, Burma.
Island
10. Sergeant Fred E. Ewing, Philippine Camp #2.

Following ten Americans have not been officially reported as prisoners of war. Names have been obtained from Japanese short wave broadcasts:

1. Staff Sergeant Joseph C. Pose
2. SC 3/c Charles William Sullivan
3. Sergeant John R. Zeselovsky
4. Corporal Lewis E. Lowman
5. Private John T. Marks
6. Robert C. Powell
7. Donald P. Lebow
8. Clyde S. Linde
9. Private Robert R. Brown
10. Seaman First Class Robert C. Rushing

Department would appreciate Junod obtaining verification that Americans named herein are prisoners of war and
names

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Washington

Charge to

- 3 -

names of camps at which they are now held. It is hoped that foregoing data will provide Junod with necessary examples that Japanese Government is not reporting names of prisoners of war in manner consistent with Articles 77 and 79 of Geneva Prisoners of War Convention.

Army serial numbers and supplementary data will be forwarded to Legation by air mail instruction.

[Handwritten Signature]
Acting

[Handwritten initials]
SWP:HDreppard:mmc
2/16/45

[Handwritten initials]
JA

FE
[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]
FEB 22 345 P.M.

by SWP to

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
 TO: AMLEGATION, BERN.
 DATED: February 23, 1945
 NUMBER: 820

War-Bureau
 Navy-2

Date MAY 21 1945 H.D. am

c. in SWP. g

In reference to the Legation's telegram of January 13, No. 254, please transmit the following information Junod:

Robert Wendroff, Pharmacist Mate Third Class; Russel Ferguson, U.S.N.; Edward J. Free, Private and George S. Williamson, Sergeant, were first reported officially as deceased and later as prisoners of war of the Japanese.

A letter dated in December, 1944 received in the United States from Will C. Bagwell, WT 1/c, revealed that he is held at Osaka as a prisoner of war having been previously reported officially as deceased.

Postal communications from Howard W. Eastwood, Corporal, Moulmein WPC#5, Burma; Douglas Wayne Egelston, Electrician's Mate 2/c, Thai WPC#3, Nike, Thailand;

Leo G. England, Sergeant, Camp #10 c, Philippine Islands;
 Erving A. Evans, Corporal, Camp #10A, Philippine Islands;
 Fred E. Ewing, Sergeant, Camp#2, Phillipine Islands;
 William W. Harley Private, Y.B. Camp, Osaka; George Julius Eckhardt Sergeant, Camp#2, Phillipine Islands;
 George Embrock, Private, Moulmein, WPC#5, Burma;

Jack

-2-

Jack C. English, Corporal, Camp #2, Philippine Islands; and J.G. Eves, Private First Class, WPC#5, Maulmein, Burma, reveal that they are prisoners of war, although they were not reported officially through the International Red Cross.

Charles William Sullivan, SC 3/c; Lewis E. Lowman, Corporal; Robert C. Powell; Clyde S. Lunde; Robert C. Rushing, Seaman First Class; Joseph C. Pose, Staff Sergeant; John R. Zoselovsky, Sergeant; John T. Marks, Private; Donald P. Lebrow and Robert H. Brown, Private, have been mentioned in short wave radio broadcasts by the Japanese, although they have never been reported as prisoners of war officially.

Please request Junod to obtain from the Japanese authorities verification of the fact that the above-mentioned Americans are held as prisoners of war. The Department would also appreciate knowing at which camps the Japanese authorities are holding these prisoners. The Department will send an air mail instruction to the Legation listing army serial numbers and including supplementary data.

According to the above examples the Japanese Government is not applying article 79 and 77 of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention which provide that the names of prisoners of war be reported upon capture to the protecting Power and the International Red Cross. The Department hopes that Junod will act accordingly.

Paraphrased:SWP:EJSpence:gll

GREW (Acting)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Telephone
Memorandum of Conversation

1/25, 1945

DATE:

January 13, 1945

SUBJECT: Present Place of internment of Corporal Jack A. Kilgren.

PARTICIPANTS: Clerk in the office of the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General.
Miss Dreppard, Special War Problems Division.

COPIES TO:

File #1

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Miss Dreppard telephoned the Prisoner of War Information Bureau to ascertain the present whereabouts of Corporal Jack A. Kilgren, who is held as a prisoner of war by the Japanese.

Miss Dreppard was informed that he was formerly held as a prisoner of war in the Philippine Islands but was officially reported on U.S. cable 2531 as having been transferred to Fukuoka. Miss Dreppard inquired if information regarding his internment at Fukuoka had been communicated to his father, Mr. Peter S. Kilgren. The clerk replied that the War Department had addressed a letter to the father on December 12, 1944 at a California address informing him of the internment of his son at Fukuoka but that this letter had been returned by the Postal authorities, and that the War Department was endeavoring to find out from the California postal authorities Mr. Kilgren's present address.

Miss Dreppard informed the clerk in the Prisoner of War Information Bureau that as the present inquiry from the father (letter of December 19 to the President) gave a Wisconsin address she would forward the letter to the War Department for acknowledgment.

SWP:HDreppard:mmc

FOR - OP-C Unit	
Appr.	Jan 13 1945
Rev.	
Out.	M.R.

711.94114A/1-1345

FIS

FEB 2 1945

CS/D

711.94114A/1-1345

C O P Y

Milwaukee (14) Wis.

Dec. 19th - 44

Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Dear Sir:- I am writing these few lines to ask you if you can obtain any information as to why I can't seem to get any letters from my son Corporal Jack A. Kilgren - 15,061,476 a prisoner of war with Japanese. I have sent letters to the address given to me from the Provost Marshall but of no avail did I get any answer to my letters. I am kind of anxious to know if he is still alive or possibly out of the picture. As I don't get no information from the War Department or the Red Cross either. I am anxiously waiting for a note of some kind from a son who has been in the service since January 1941 and never had a furlough. And I haven't seen or heard from him since July 4, 1941.

And oblige yours truly

A Father waiting for a reply.

Peter S. Kilgren
6949 W. Greenfield Ave.
Milwaukee (14) Wis.

P.S. The last letter I got from my son Jack was from the address on this slip. Nov. 11 - 1941

Corporal Jack A. Kilgren,
17 Ordnance Company
Fort Stotsenburg
Pampanga, P. I.

C O P Y

	A-A	SPA	TRC	OPS	SA
	A-C	CA	AD	PA	SA/ON
	A-D	IS	SD	FP	SA/M
	A-H	DA	TD	FBO	S/CC
	A-M	TS			DC/412

ESC
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 CY
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DCG-107A-R

PLAIN
 Bern
 Dated January 15, 1945
 Rec'd 10:29 a.m. 16th.

Secretary of State,
 Washington.

296, Fifteenth
 AMERICAN INTERESTS FAR EAST

Legation's 8303 December 23 Foreign Office note
 January 13 states Japanese authorization regarding
 despatch and receipt telegrams by POWS and internets
 results agreement negotiated by Intercross and
 concerns persons detained Japan and Japanese administered
 territory.

HUDDLE

JMB

111.94114A/1-1545

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DCG-1071

PLAIN

Bern

Dated January 15, 1945

Rec'd 10:29 a.m. 16th.,

Secretary of State,
Washington.

296, Fifteenth

AMERICAN INTERESTS FAR EAST

Legation's 8303 December 23 Foreign Office note
January 13 states Japanese authorization regarding
despatch and receipt telegrams by POWS and internees
results agreement negotiated by Intercross and
concerns persons detained Japan and Japanese administered
territory.

HUDDLE

JMB

Distributed by SWP to

War { Bryan
Babcock
Sweet
Bernays

Navy - 2
WRA - Stambler

Date JAN 26 1945 AW:ejg

D.C.R. - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	B. opm
Rev.	B
Cat.	sm
Dist.	

MAR 1 - 1945

711.94114A/1-1545

FIS 711.94114A/1-1545

x

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

118

NML-1697

Bern

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

Dated January 17, 1945

Rec'd 10:50 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

338, January 17, 6 p.m.

AMERICAN INTERESTS JAPAN POW REPATRIATION

Legation's 8144, December 15

Foreign Office note January 15 states Swiss

Minister Tokyo received from Japanese Foreign Office memorandum dated January 6 to effect Japanese Government cannot (repeat not) consider exchange proposed Department's 3933, November 18. Gorge adds Japanese memorandum indicates no (repeat no) reason for refusal and that Chief of Division Foreign Interests of Japanese Foreign Office was not (repeat not) able furnish explanation.

HUDDLE

WMB	Anal	DR - GP-C Unit
	Rev.	
	Dat.	M.G.

DIVISION OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES

APR 28 1950

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2 Arguments to London
1-22-45
acc:oso
File
1/24/45
SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
JAN 19 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Paraphrased in comp
1-17-45
oso
Letters & War Log
1-19-45
acc:oso.

Handwritten initials and scribbles

711.94114A/1-1745
CS/HHS
711.94114a/1-1945

AIRGRAM SENT

TOP SECRET TO BE TRANSMITTED

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

TOP SECRET

Department of State

NO DISTRIBUTION WHATSOEVER

NO A-258

Washington,

TIME

Jan. 23, 1945

AMEMBASSY,
LONDON.

DIVISION OF
PROTECTIVE SERVICES

APR 28 1950

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Department's A-2241, October 30, 1944

On January 6 Gorgé received a memorandum from Japanese Foreign Office stating that Japanese refuse to consider proposal. Gorgé states further that Japanese Foreign Office official in charge of Foreign Interests Division could give no explanation regarding the refusal, nor was any reason therefor indicated in the memorandum.

Department informed by Legation Bern that other exchange proposals are under discussion by Japanese authorities.

711.94114A/1-1745

*Grew
Acting
(u2c)*

Grew
Acting
AEC

SWP:AEClattenburg:OBO 1/22/45

EUR JA

JAN 24 1945

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

KFC

Confidential File

711.94114A/1-1745

946102 1945

20 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-1745

TOP SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I refer to my letter of December 22, 1944 transmitting a copy of a communication from the American Legation at Bern regarding the delivery to the Japanese Government of the terms of a proposal for the exchange of by-passed Japanese garrisons for our prisoners of war.

I now enclose for your information a paraphrase of a message dated January 17 from the American Legation at Bern reporting that the Japanese Government cannot give consideration to the exchange proposal in question. You will note that the Japanese Government provided no explanation of its statement on this subject.

The Japanese Government has given no indication of its attitude toward other exchange proposals made to it but, as indicated in a separate letter, has informed the Japanese at the Tule Lake Relocation Center that it anticipates an exchange of nationals during the current year.

A similar

The Honorable

James Forrestal,

Secretary of the Navy.

Anal.
Rev.
Cat.
Dist.

DCR - GP-C Unit

711.94114A/1-1745

TOP SECRET

711.94114A/1-1745
TOP SECRET

-2-

A similar letter is being sent to the Secretary of War.

Sincerely yours,

L. B. Stewart, Jr.

Enclosure:

From Bern, no. 338,
January 17, 1945 in
paraphrase.

CR
JAN 20 10 P.M.
2 - 1011a

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal 557

bit

SWP:AEClattenburg:OBO 1/19/45

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SWP 711.94114A
JAN 20 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-1745

TOP SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

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A similar

The Honorable

Henry L. Stimson,

Secretary of War.

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.
Rev.
Cat.
Dkt.

TOP SECRET

711.94114A/1-1745

TOP SECRET

-2-

A similar letter is being sent to the Secretary of the Navy.

Sincerely yours,

E. R. Stettinius, Jr.

Enclosure:

From Bern, no. 338,
January 17, 1945 in
paraphrase.

A copy of
the signed orig-
inal *son*

CR
JAN 20 1945 P.M.

print

SWP:AEClattenburg:OBO 1/19/45

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TOP SECRET

SWP

PREPARING OFFICE
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TELEGRAM SENT

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AIRGRAM

Collect { Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Department of State

Charge Department:

Full rate
Day letter
Night letter

Washington, **TOP SECRET**

Charge to **Department**
\$

NO DISTRIBUTION



JAN 25 1945

2 pr
File
1/26/45
RC
(SCS)

U.S. URGENT

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.

577

See Department's airgram A-258, January 23

(REEMBTEL 839, January 24, 6 p.m.)

DIVISION OF
PROTECTIVE SERVICES

File
APR 28 1950
BB

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Grew
ACTING
(acc)

711.94114A/1-1745

KEC

740 Confidential File

SENT

711.94114A/1-1745

SWP:AEC:OBO

1/25/45

Enciphered by

Sent by operator M., 19.....

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~ ⁴²⁰

AIRGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

Department of State

~~TOP SECRET~~

NO DISTRIBUTION WHATSOEVER

NO. A-3

Washington,

TIME _____

Jan. 23, 1945

AMEMBASSY,
LONDON.

DIVISION OF
PROTECTIVE SERVICES

APR 28 1950

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NETER

FOR HORNBECK.

Department's A-9, October 30, 1944.

Please see Department's airgram to Embassy London today
on this subject.

*Grew
Acting
(arc)*

Grew
Acting

AEC

711.94114A/1-1745

TOP SECRET

KFC Confidential File

JAN 24 1945

711.94114A/1-1745

SWP:AEC:lattenburg:OBO 1/22/45

EUR

JA

TOP SECRET

711.94114a/1-1745

CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

NOTE

SUBJECT

Recognition by Japan of certain local residents
as I.R.C.C. representatives.

MP

711.94114A/1-1745

FIS

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See # 20415
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Jan. 17, 1945 From Great Britain

740.00115 PW/1-1745
File No.

Miss Loretta Petroski
 1406 So. Monroe St.
 Bay City, Mich.
 Jan. 18, 1945
 SWP

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
 DIVISION
 JAN 30 1945
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Dear President

I know this is just a minor problem to you because there are so many such cases, but to me its a major problem.

I've written to you twice before and thank you for answering and giving me information on the whereabouts of my fiance. What I'm writing to you about this time is this. I haven't seen my fiance for four years, ever since he was drafted into the army March 18, 1941. He didn't even get a furlough before going across, so you see its been such a long time and I need him desperately and love him. He was taken prisoner of the Japs at Bataan and is now at Camp Mukden, Manchukuo. If his been a prisoner

711.94114A

711.94114A/1-1845

FIS

711.94114A/1-1845

REC-020 UNIT

nd. *RVB*

Rev. *CE*

at. *CE*

2/2/45 POW Sgt. Bureau
 confirms that Capt.
 Murray M. Sullivan is
 held as a POW at
 Intern Camp, Mukden,
 Manchuria.
 J.S.

DEC 61
 Ind.
 Rev.
 Int. CE

for so long why don't they exchange these prisoners that have been there longest for some of theirs. Isn't there something you can do for me to bring him home soon? Personally don't you think he's been there long enough and gone through a lot? I don't know whether it's possible or not, but please try to help me. I want to get married like all other girls, but how can I? Golly it's been so long? I write to him but I don't think he gets my mail. The last his parents heard from him was last July, when they received a telegram. He said he was fine, but is that to be believed?

Please, I beg of you to help me. Is there any information concerning Cpl. Murray M. Sullivan that would be of great importance to me? On my letter of reply that the War Dept. sent was A H 201 Sullivan Murray M., 36,106,531. I believe that's his number.

Please answer this letter.

Thank You.

Sincerely
Miss Loretta Petroski

711.94114A/1-1845

FIS

711.94114A/1-1845

DIR - CP Unit	
Adl.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Int.	<i>CE</i>

February 20, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Miss Petroski:

The receipt is acknowledged by reference from the White House of your letter of January 18, 1945 addressed to the President inquiring as to the possibility of the repatriation of your fiance, Corporal Murray M. Sullivan, who is held as a prisoner of war by the Japanese at Hoten Camp, Mukden Manchuria. You state that a telegram received by his parents indicated that his health was fine and inquire if that statement may be believed.

There is no customarily-accepted practice among nations nor provisions of international law or conventions for the return or exchange during hostilities of able-bodied members of the armed forces of one belligerent who may be captured by the forces of an opposing belligerent.

Provision was made, however, in Article 68 of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention of 1929, for the repatriation of seriously sick and seriously wounded prisoners of war. Although the Japanese Government is not a party to the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention, upon the outbreak of war it notified the United States Government that it would apply the provisions of the Convention, mutatis mutandis, to the treatment of American prisoners of war. In view of this commitment, the United States Government has insistently demanded that the Japanese Government honor the obligation it has assumed to apply the Convention which provides for the repatriation of seriously sick and seriously wounded.

The

Miss Loretta Petroski,
1406 South Monroe Street,
Bay City, Michigan.

DOJ - G.P.C.
Open

File 111,941,942/1-18-45

-2-


The efforts made by this Department to effect the return of seriously sick and seriously wounded have to date been unsuccessful.

In the circumstances, I regret that no encouragement can be given by the Department for the early repatriation of your fiance.

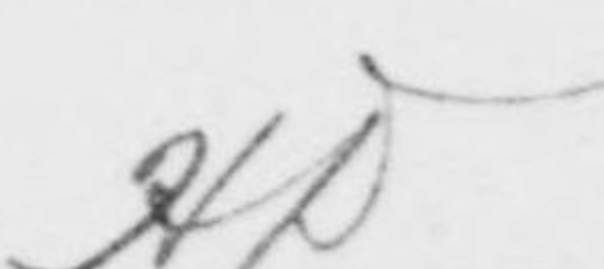
As the Japanese authorities permit prisoners of war to specify whether their health is good, fair, or poor, I believe Corporal Sullivan's statement that his health is fine may be assumed to be reasonably true.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:


E. Tomlin Bailey
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

FEB 19 10 40 P.M.


SWP:HD:VL

2-17-45

A true copy of
the signed original.

7/31
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SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
JAN 22 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

January 19, 1945.

Ref. 193/4/45.

Dear Mr. Bailey,

I have received your letter of the 13th January in which you enclosed a copy of a telegram from Berne embodying the reply of the Japanese Government concerning an order issued to the Japanese Commanding Officer of Kamibara Tai with regard to the treatment to be accorded to captured airmen in the Burma theatre.

The text of the above mentioned telegram is being communicated to the Foreign Office who are being asked to inform this Embassy of the nature of the Japanese Government's reply to the parallel protest which was made to them by His Majesty's Government and whether in the circumstances they propose to take any further action.

Yours sincerely,

G. R. Ranken

G. R. Ranken.

Anal.
Rev.
Cal.
Dist.
CCR - CP-C Unit

Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey,
State Department,
Washington, D.C.

Tai
Ranken

711.94114A/1-1945

MAR 1 5 1945

FILED

711.94114a/1-1945

State

SPECIAL PROBLEMS
JAN 20, 1945
BP
file BP

Dear President Roosevelt,

I am the mother of a boy who has been prisoner of war since the fall of the Philippines, when Pearl Harbor was never heard from my boy for over a year.

He is a prisoner in Camp Asaka Japan, I am trying for your help, if there is any exchange of prisoners, could anything be done for my boy, he has been in the Army for four years three of which he is a prisoner one of the very first.

Would you kindly let me know if any thing can be done to bring this boy of mine home once again.

My health is going and I would like to see my boy once again my boy is at this address. Pvt. Victor S. Pellegri

American
Camp. The Asaka
P.O.W. Camp. Nippon
Japan.

(1)

FEB 22 1945
FILED

111-74114-1-2045

SWP

February 7, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

FBI 11941140/1-2045

My dear Mrs. Dengelegi:

The receipt is acknowledged by reference from the White House of your letter of January 20, 1944 concerning your son, Private Victor Dengelegi who, you state, is a prisoner of war of the Japanese at Osaka.

I deeply appreciate the anxiety you feel for your son and your intense desire to see him again. It is with the greatest regret that I must inform you that there is no customarily accepted practice among nations nor provisions of international law or conventions for the return or exchange of able-bodied prisoners of war during hostilities. As one of the major objectives of warfare is to deplete as rapidly as possible the ranks of an opposing belligerent, there is no probability of able-bodied members of the armed forces being repatriated.

The welfare of American nationals in Japanese custody is of deepest concern to this Government and, I assure you, no possibility of rendering aid to them is being overlooked or neglected.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

E. Feilin Bailey
E. Feilin Bailey
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division.

FEB 14 1945

FILED

DPR - CP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>fmb</i>
Rev.	<i>B</i>
Cat.	
Dist.	

Mrs. Louis Dengelegi,
682 Hommann Avenue,
Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

A true copy of
the signed original

1-2-45

CF ✓
FEB 6 1945 P.M.
SWP:EP:EC

February 2, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-2045

FW 711.94114a/1-2045

My dear Mrs. Sonntag:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 20, 1945, concerning your brother, Mr. Kenneth R. Edmonds, who, you state, is held in custody by the Japanese. You inquire regarding the sending of messages to American nationals held in Japan and also regarding visits to prisoner of war and civil internment camps. Furthermore you wish to know if there will be an exchange of nationals between Japan and the United States in the near future.

The Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington, D.C., informed this Department on January 27, 1945, that Mr. Kenneth R. Edmonds is officially listed as an internee at Camp Futatabi, Japan.

On the same date this Department was informed by the Bureau of Yards and Docks that Mr. Kenneth R. Edmonds designated Mrs. Theodore F. Sonntag as next of kin. Should you desire any further information on the subject you may write directly to the Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, Washington, D.C. Your letter should be addressed "Attention Lieutenant Waller".

Visits to certain camps where American nationals are held are authorized by the Japanese Government only for representatives of the protecting Power (Switzerland) and of the International Red Cross Committee. After visits have been made, reports thereon are sent to this Government. Camp Futatabi is located among pine trees in the hills back of the city of Kobe. The buildings, formerly a school, are partly foreign, partly Japanese style.

Mrs. Theodore F. Sonntag, Next
Prairie Avenue, R.R.7,
Rockford, Illinois.

REC-100-1
fml
Dist
Out
Rev

-2-

Next of kin officially listed with the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, can, through the American Red Cross, dispatch one cable message during the calendar year to officially reported American nationals held in Japanese custody. Arrangements are being made by the International Red Cross whereby American nationals held in Japan will be allowed to send collect a cable message to the United States. The cost of the incoming cables will be assumed by the United States Government. I suggest that you get in touch with your local Red Cross chapter in regard to this service.

The efforts put forth by the Department of State for the repatriation of American nationals in Japanese custody have been many and continuous. The first exchange of nationals between this Government and the Japanese Government took place in the summer of 1942 when over 1300 American nationals were repatriated from the Far East. Further negotiations lasting more than a year culminated in a second exchange of civilians in 1943.

In March 1944, the Department of State reopened, through the Swiss Government, the question of further exchanges. A complete plan was presented under which, on a reciprocal basis, accelerated exchanges might be made. The Japanese Government informed the Swiss Government that this proposal was under study. Since then the Department of State has done everything to obtain Japanese agreement to further exchanges.

The following communication from the Japanese Government has been forwarded to the Department of State by the Spanish Embassy at Washington in charge of Japanese interests in the continental United States with the request that it be made known to the Japanese nationals concerned:

"Japanese Government are carefully considering further exchange of nationals between Japan and United States and expect to be able to carry it out during next year (1945). In view of special nature of Tule Lake segregation center Japanese Government are prepared to give special consideration to repatriation of Japanese subjects detained there through exchanges."

This

-3-

This communication from the Japanese Government indicates that, after long delay, Japan is now ready to negotiate for the further exchange of American and Japanese nationals. The Department of State is prepared to ensure the speedy execution of any exchange to which the Japanese Government's agreement can be obtained.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

E. Tomlin Bailey
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

CR
JAN 31 1:345 P.M.

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aw
3P:

SWP:BP:lmv

A true copy of
the signed original.

1/29/45

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
JAN 23 1945
SENT TO DCR FOR INDEXING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

149
SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
1/29/45
Letter to Mrs. Sonntag
JAN 24 1945
file.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BB/LM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECEIVED
JAN 23 1945
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

FEBRUARY 2, 1945
DC/R

Rockford, Ill.

Jan. 20, 1945

Special War Problems Div.
Department of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regards
to information about my
brother, Kenneth R. Edmunds,
who is a prisoner of Japan.
I have been listed as the
official next of kin and
beneficiary of Kenneth R.
Edmunds in the War
Department and it seems
as information and
messages from him have
been transmitted to other
people who are trying to
collect his money and

FEB 9 1945
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711.94114A/1-2045

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CF/D

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION

JAN 23 1945

SENT TO DCA FOR INDEXING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JAN 23 1945

DC/R

get things put in their name.
I received a cablegram from
Kenneth through Geneva
Switzerland in September
and since then information
has been sent to another
party. Please give me
information about this.

How can the American
Region get in to get messages
and interview prisoners
when the Red Cross can't
get into see the prisoners?
I can't understand it. Can
the Salvation Army get in
where the prisoners are.

Do you know whether
there will be an exchange
of prisoners very soon.
Kenneth made his home

711.94114A/1-2045

711.94114A/1-2045
CP/15

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
JAN 23 1945
SENT TO DCR FOR INDEXING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JAN 2, 1945

DC/R

with me before going to the
C. C. C. camp and then he got
the job with the Naval
Contractors and went to Guam
where he was taken prisoner.

While he lived with me
he was unemployed and
I supported him. The rest
of his family would not
support him and they
gave him no home, how
his older sister is greedy
for his compensation.

Please let me hear
from you.

Yours truly
Mrs. Theodore F. Sonntag
Prairie Ave. R. R. 7
Rockford, Ill.

P. T. O.

711.94114A/1-2045

711.94114A/1-2045
CF/D

On Jan. 27, 1945 Captain Stafford, POW Information Bureau informed BP. on the Telephone that Kenneth R. Edmonds is officially listed at Camp Futatabi, Japan. In regard to Mrs. Sonntag being Mr. Edmond's beneficiary and officially designated next-of-kin, Captain Stafford suggested that BP. telephone the Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Dept.

On Jan. 27, 1945 Lieutenant Waller, Bureau of Yards and Docks, informed B.P. by telephone that Mrs. Theodore F. Sonntag is the designated next-of-kin of Mr. Edmonds. He suggested that should Mrs. Sonntag desire any further information she write directly to the Bureau of Yards and Docks.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
JAN 23 1945
SENT TO DCR FOR INDEXING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

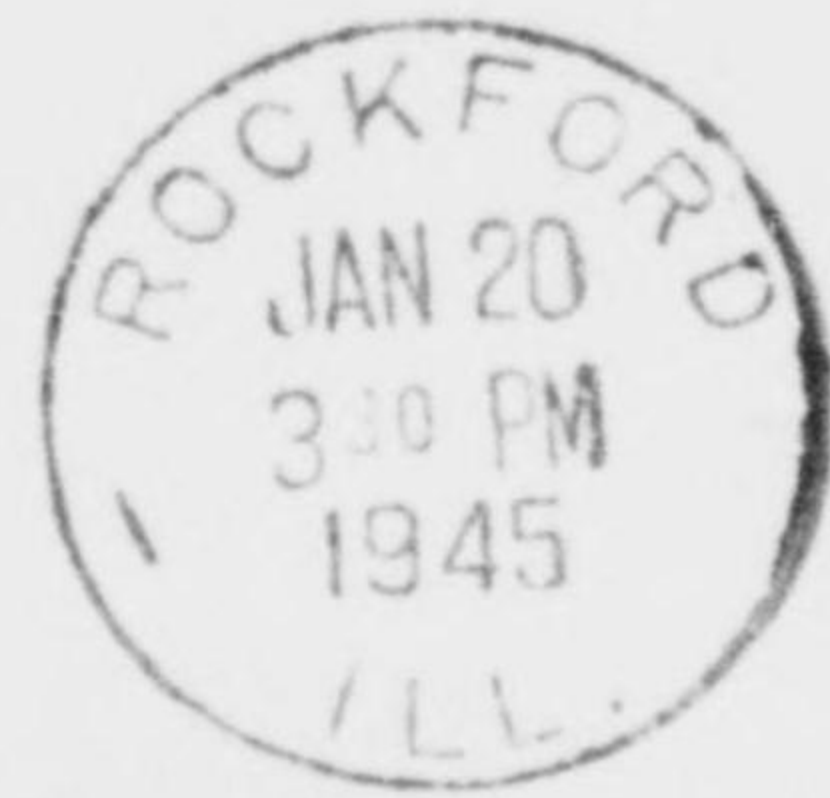
JAN 27 2, 1945

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711.94114N/1-2045
CB/D

Mrs Theo. F. Sonntag
Prairie Ave. R.R. 7.
Rockford, Ill.



Special War Problems Div.
Department of State
Washington,
D.C.

WP
BP
DC/R

AIRGRAM

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
FEB 9 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
file
BP
c. in SWP: g

FROM
Bern
Dated January 20, 1945
Rec'd February 5, 5p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-119 January 20, 6 P.M.

711.94114a Sida/24

*List of Am Pow's
held in Java*

American Interests - Java

Legation's Airmail 6810 December 10, 1943

Swiss Foreign Office note January 19 states Swiss
Legation, Tokyo telegraphs January 15:

Quote JM/135 Americans interned Java camp
11/8 1944. Merchant marine New York
Anthony ROJCIKOWSKI; Merchant
marine Seattle, Rockwell HORN, both
civilians. Endquote.

HUDDLE

Distributed
by SWP to

War { *Bryan*
Bressee
Sweet
Bismarck

GI/GMG/eb

DCR - CP-C Unit
Anal. *epm*
Rev. *P*
Cat. *FK*
Dist. _____
Date *FEB 13 1945*

Navy - 2
Justice - Kelly
W.B.F. - Hantz
H.D.

FEB 22 1945

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711.94114A/1-2045 CS/EG

X

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

EG-874

SPECIAL MAIL PROBLEMS DIVISION
file
JAN 23 1945
BP.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PLAIN

Bern

Dated January 21, 1945

Rec'd 10:40 p.m.

DC/R

Secretary of State

Washington

440, Twentyone

AMERICAN INTERESTS. FAR EAST.

Your 155, January 10. Intercross letter

January 18 states its records contain communication from Japanese to following effect:

One. June 20, 1944 transport ship with 772 American British and Dutch POWS aboard from Java was sunk Japanese waters casualty list received and names American prisoners 29 missing 13 survivors were communicated Washington Intercross telegram as 2414 October 23.

Two. September 7, 1944 ship transporting 750 American and British POWS from Philippines torpedoed off Mindanao no (repeat no) nominal list accompanied this information but following question

DCE - SP-C Unit
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Distributed by SWP to
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Bureau
Sweet

Date JAN 29 1945
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711.94114A/1-2145

Settled

2- 440, Twentyone from Bern.

question closely and effort being made by delegation Tokyo obtain names victims.

Three. September 21, 1944 transport ship with 1250 POWS aboard sunk by enemy aerial action off coast Bataan only 271 POWS rescued list of names which was to follow not yet received.

Since foregoing dates do not (repeat not) correspond your 155 Intercross endeavoring obtain necessary information its delegation Tokyo Inter-cross will insist on importance receiving casualty lists concerning sinkings under Two and Three above.

Swiss Foreign Office has not (repeat not) thus far replied Legation's note January 12 accordingly second note being sent.

HUDDLE

DU

Handwritten notes:
Bern 7147
Oct 27, 1944
Bern 7331
Nov 4, 1944
Bern 2935
May 29, 1945

ADDRESS REPLY TO
Secretary of the Navy
AND REFER TO INITIALS
AND No.

Serial No. 004613
(SC)A16-2(3)/EF74

NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
JAN 24 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



JAN 23 1945

SECRET

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

22 JAN 1945

5875

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Reference is made to your letter SWP 711.94114A/12-1844 of 1 January 1945 with enclosures regarding the decision of the Japanese Government with respect to visits to camps in occupied territory. It is noted in Bern telegram 8235 of 20 December 1944 that the Japanese Government propose visits to prisoner of war and internment camps where Japanese subjects are detained on New Caledonia, Saipan, Tinian and Guam and agree, on a reciprocal basis, to visits to Santo Thomas, the prisoner of war camp in Singapore and prisoner of war hospital in Thailand. Presumably, visitation is limited to only one camp, Santo Thomas, in the Philippines, for the reason that visits to other camps would interfere with Japanese military operations. Inasmuch as there are at least 16 camps in the Philippines the Japanese proposal leaves much to be desired from the point of view of this Government. Furthermore, the total number of American nationals in Singapore and in the Thailand hospital is not believed to be in excess of two hundred. Benefits of visitation in the latter theater would therefore largely accrue to the British.

In consideration of the fact that the Japanese proposal would limit visitation to a small percentage of American prisoners of war and civilian internees the Navy Department is opposed to acceptance of the proposal in its present form and strongly recommends that the Department of State press for complete reciprocity.

Sincerely yours,

Forrestal

DIR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>epm</i>
Rev.	
Cat.	
Dist.	Honorable E. R. Stettinius, Jr.,

Secretary of State.

MAR 18 1946

Confidential File

CS/D

711.94114A/1-22-45

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

*File
1/26/45
(625)*

TOP SECRET

DATE: January 23, 1945

SUBJECT: Proposal for the exchange of isolated garrisons in the Pacific.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. McDermott, Special Assistant for Press Relations, Colonel Yuddleson, G-1, War Department, Mr. Lockhart, Deputy for Byron Price, Censorship, Mr. Plitt, Special War Problems Division.

COPIES TO:

DIVISION OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES
File
APR 28 1950
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

This Document Must Be Returned To
DC/R
Central
Files
711.94114A/1-2345

Upon learning from Mr. Clattenburg of the likelihood of a story being published in the Chicago Sun on the proposed isolated garrisons exchange, I called on Mr. McDermott to acquaint him with the information obtained by Mr. Clattenburg and set forth in the underlying memorandum prepared by him. In line with Colonel Bernays' (G-1) plan to procure the assistance of Major General Surles, Army Public Relations, I proposed that Mr. McDermott and General Surles might prevail on Mr. Byron Price to stop the publication of the story. We examined the provisions of the existing newspaper code but found nothing therein to cover this subject, ~~however~~. Mr. McDermott expressed the opinion that Censorship might not, therefore, be in a position to be of any assistance. He nevertheless endeavored to get in touch with Mr. Price, in whose absence he spoke with Mr. Lockhart, Mr. Price's deputy. Mr. Lockhart confirmed Mr. McDermott's thoughts in the matter. I then called Colonel Bernays in whose absence I spoke with Colonel Yuddleson and gave him the result of my inquiry. Colonel Yuddleson then said he would try to get in touch with Colonel Bernays and see what further measures could be taken. Shortly thereafter Colonel Yuddleson called back to say that Colonel Bernays would refer the case to General Henry with the suggestion that General Henry propose to General Surles that the latter try to prevail on Censorship to withhold publication of the story on the ground that its publication would impair military security with reference to the Saipan exchange, which

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711.94114A/1-2345
TOP SECRET FILE

71

might

-2-

might be jeopardized should the Japanese learn that we had not refrained from publicizing the proposed isolated garrisons exchange as we had agreed to do in our telegraphic proposal through the Swiss to the Japanese Government. Colonel Yuddleson asked if General Surles might be told that the Department would go along with the proposal to be made to General Surles. This was agreed upon.

Later in the evening I asked Colonel Bernays what progress had been made by the War Department in regard to the proposed handling of this problem. He said that his Department would intercede direct with the Chicago Sun to prevent publication of any story on the subject.

SWP: EAPlitt: OBO

File
1/26/57
(SCS)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TOP SECRET

DATE: January 23, 1945

SUBJECT: Proposal for the Exchange of Isolated Garrisons
in the Pacific.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Tom Reynolds of the Chicago Sun
and
Mr. Clattenburg, Special War Problems Division

COPIES TO:

This Document Must Be Returned To
DC/R
Central
711.94114A/1-2345

Mr. Reynolds approached Mr. Byington in regard to a story which had come into the hands of the Chicago Sun regarding the proposed exchange of by-passed Japanese garrisons in the South Pacific for Americans held by the Japanese. Mr. Byington was told that the Department could not comment on this story, which seemed to be identical to the one given out by Drew Pearson some weeks before. He then stated that Mr. Reynolds wished to speak with Mr. Clattenburg.

Mr. Reynolds came and read out of his notebook a résumé of the material contained in Admiral Leahy's letter of June 2 to the Department and the enclosure to the Department's letter of November 14 to Admiral Leahy, using the same arrangement of names of islands, the expression "rank for rank" and the expression "safe conduct evacuation", all of which occur in these communications. He stated that he was satisfied that the proposal had been placed before the Japanese and that it was hanging fire.

It was explained to Mr. Reynolds that the Department could not state whether or not there was such a proposal but that it ought to be clear for reasons of face that if there were such a proposal and that if it were made known, the Japanese would find themselves compelled to reject it. Therefore any publicity would prevent the making of a proposal or its consideration. It was also pointed

711

711 94114A/1-2345
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out that the nuisance value of the garrisons in question was no doubt something of interest to the Japanese and that such a proposal would not normally be attractive to them. Mr. Reynolds stated that these considerations would be brought to the attention of his superiors, who would decide whether or not to publish the story. He seemed unwilling to give up the idea of publishing a story.

SWP:AEC1attenburg:OBO

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 1/23/45

TO : S-A/M Mr. Madison

FROM : SWS E. A. Peirce

SUBJECT: Underlying TOP SECRET!

I thought you might like to see our memo on yesterday's 'Isolated Journalism' case.

Please indicate any changes you may wish made in these records & return to me.

Thanks for your help.

Noted — E.
OK
mre.

711.94114e/1-2345

CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

NOTE

SUBJECT Suggestions for the text of a proposed reply to to Japanese proposal to allow International Red Cross Committee representatives to visit a limited number of camps in areas hitherto unvisited.

711.94114A/1-2345

For the original paper from which reference is taken ^{ra}

See Letter
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Feb. 23, 1945 From British Embassy
To xxx

File No. 740.00115PW/1-2345

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

Collect

Charge Department:

Charge to

4
TELEGRAM SENT**Department of State**

-2-

*Washington,*TO BE TRANSMITTED
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and healthfulness and that their quarters must be sufficiently heated and lighted.

This Government has also been informed that medicaments, anaesthetics, bandages and plaster which are essential for the treatment of the sick are not sufficient and that necessary surgical instruments are lacking. In view of the necessity for treating the seriously ill and accident casualties at the camp, the lack of medicines and surgical equipment seriously endangers the lives of the men. Article 14 stipulates that every camp must have an infirmary where prisoners of war shall receive every kind of attention they need.

This Government has been further informed that days of rest are accorded most irregularly to the prisoners of war. Article 30 states clearly that prisoners of war shall be allowed a rest of 24 consecutive hours every week.

And finally this Government has been informed that before an impartial investigation establishes guilt, punishments are inflicted upon prisoners of war and these punishments are severe and drastic. Article 46 expressly forbids ~~such~~ corporal punishment. Aggravation of the conditions

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

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TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

-3-

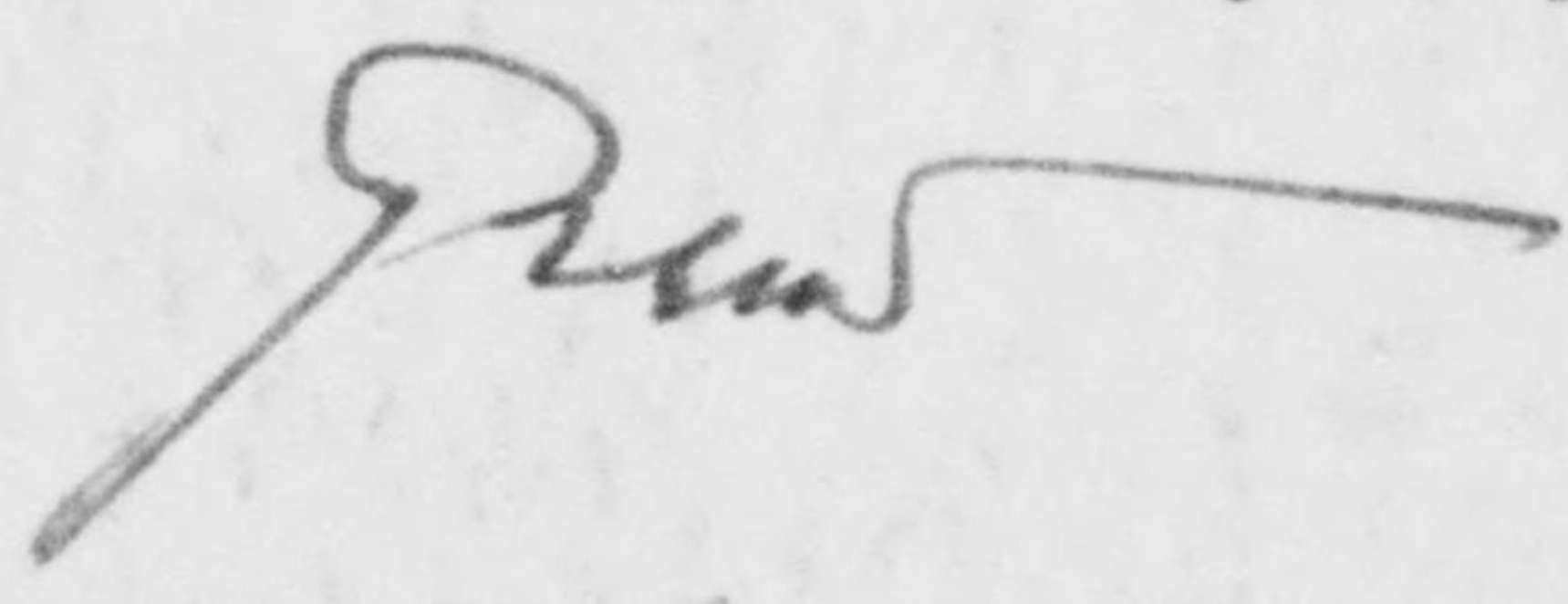
Washington.

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conditions of labor by disciplinary measures is forbidden in Article 32. By the provisions of Article 59, disciplinary punishment may be ordered only by an officer provided with disciplinary powers in his capacity as a commander of the camp.

The United States Government protests against the treatment of American prisoners of war herein set forth and demands that immediate steps be taken to remedy the situation. It further demands that a report of the action taken to right these wrongs be despatched to this Government. UNQUOTE

Please request the Swiss Government to visit this camp again in the near future and report any improvement.



Acting

for Claret...

SWP:BP:AW:mmc
BE
BP

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1/18/45

JAN 20 1945 P.M.
held for file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DIVISION OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES

APR 28 1950

London

Dated January 24, 1949

Rec'd 2:08 p.m.

CC-1620
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SECRET)

Secretary of State,
Washington.

US URGENT

839, January 24, 6 p.m.

REEMBTEL 10063 November 17, 3 p.m.

Although Foreign Office assumes that the amended proposal was made to Japanese Government in accordance with Department's intention set forth in last paragraph of Department's airgram A-2241 October 30 it has inquired as to date when proposal was made, whether any reply has been received from Japan and the nature thereof. Please instruct by telegraph.

Foreign Office would appreciate being kept informed of developments in this matter.

WINANT

WSB

DCR - CP-C Unit	
Anal.
Rev.
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SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
JAN 25 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*Del. to Bern
1-25-45
acc: OSO*

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1/26/45
P82*

*SUP
EVR
JA
FE
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DCR*

711.94114A/1-2445

CS/HS
Confidential File
711.94114A/1-2445

Proposal of Joint Chiefs of Staff regarding exchange of prisoners held in Japanese hands

*711.94114a/8-2244
SWP JOE EVR JA FE BC*

*711.94114a/11-1944
SWP EVR JA FE BC*

SWP
S

March 9, 1945

SECRET

No. 2788

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,

Bern.

The Acting Secretary of State refers to his telegram no. 820 of February 23, 1945 and transmits herewith supplementary information concerning the Americans named in the Department's telegram under reference. Army serial numbers are designated by the letters ASN; Navy serial numbers by the letters USN; cables from International Red Cross to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau by US numbers; WI indicates War inquiry made of International Red Cross by Prisoner of War Information Bureau, War Department, Washington, D. C.

The following four Americans were officially reported as dead and later officially reported as prisoners of war:

1. Private Edward J. Free, ASN 6289530; POW US/753; Dead US/1008; POW US/2672.
2. Pharmacist Mate, Third Class Robert Wendroff, USN 385-91-77; POW US/529; Dead US/874, Broadcast May 17, 1944; Dead US/1618, reply to WI; POW US/2317, reply to WI.
3. Sergeant George S. Williamson, ASN 6914275; Dead US/872; POW US/2556, correction due to WI on November 30, 1944; Also US/2564.
4. Russel Ferguson, USN 287-26-17; POW US/386 and 978; Dead US/1087. POW card received dated March, 1943; POW letter received dated June 29, 1943; POW reply to WI on US/1496.

The following American was officially reported as dead and by a letter received in the United States in December 1944 was revealed to be a prisoner of war at Osaka:

1. WT 1/c

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 E.M.S.
 G.P.O. Unit

711.54114A/1-2445

OS/MAR 1945/1-2445

Confidential File

- 2 -

1. WT 1/c Will C. Bagwell, POW US/381, Dead US/804, POW by letter Osaka received in United States, December 1944. WI/245 sent on status December 16, 1944. No reply.

The following ten Americans have not been officially reported through Intercross, but postal communications received from them indicated that they were prisoners of war:

1. Private William W. Earley, Osaka, Y. B. Camp.
2. Corporal Howard W. Eastwood, ASN 20814103, POW #10200. Moulmein WPC #5, Burma.
3. Sergeant George Julius Eckhardt, ASN 6976416, Philippine Island Camp #2.
4. Electrician's Mate 2/c, Douglas Wayne Egelston, USN 375-93-34. POW #10065, Thai WPC #3, Nike, Thailand.
5. Private George Embrock, ASN 37036012. POW #10403. Moulmein, WPC #5, Burma.
6. Sergeant Leo G. England, ASN 19056565, Philippine Island Camp #10C.
7. Corporal Jack C. English, ASN 6294266. Philippine Island Camp #2.
8. Corporal Erving A. Evans, ASN 6860791, Philippine Island Camp #10A, POW card received dated August 12, 1944.
9. Private First Class J. O. Eves, ASN 38038733. POW #10218, WPC #5, Moulmein, Burma.
10. Sergeant Fred E. Ewing, ASN 6284750, Philippine Island Camp #2.

The initial place of internment of the following four Americans was not reported through International Red Cross but was ascertained from cards or letters received from them:

1. Sergeant Homer L. Edmonds, ASN 20843322. US/2681, Fukuoka Camp.
2. MM 1/c William Thomas Ehrhart, USN 311-28-69, US/2449, Tokyo.
3. Private Rudolph L. Eklund, ASN 38027525. US/1252, Thai Camp.
4. Sergeant Joe P. Errington, ASN 20900711. US/2677, Fukuoka Camp.

The

- 3 -

The following ten Americans have not been officially reported as prisoners of war. Their names have been obtained from Japanese short wave broadcasts.

1. Staff Sergeant Joseph C. Pose, ASN 12013918.
2. Ship's Cook Third Class Charles William Sullivan, USN 262-46-09.
3. Sergeant John R. Zeselovsky, ASN 6945463.
4. Corporal Lewis E. Lowman, ASN 20843754.
5. Private John T. Marks, ASN 34083937.
6. Robert C. Powell, ASN 14450516.
7. Private First Class Donald P. Lebow, ASN 20500765.
8. Clyde S. Linde, ASN 19016799.
9. Private Robert R. Brown, ASN 37085702.
10. Seaman First Class Robert C. Rushing, USN 360-17-82.

The Legation is requested to furnish to Mr. Junod at its discretion such of the foregoing supplementary information as would seem likely to be of assistance to him in making his representations to the Japanese Government.

SWP
SWP:HDreppard:mmc

3/3/45

8 1945



FB



HEADQUARTERS ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

24 January 1945



Special War Problems Division,
Department of State,
17th and New York Avenue, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Miss Wagner.

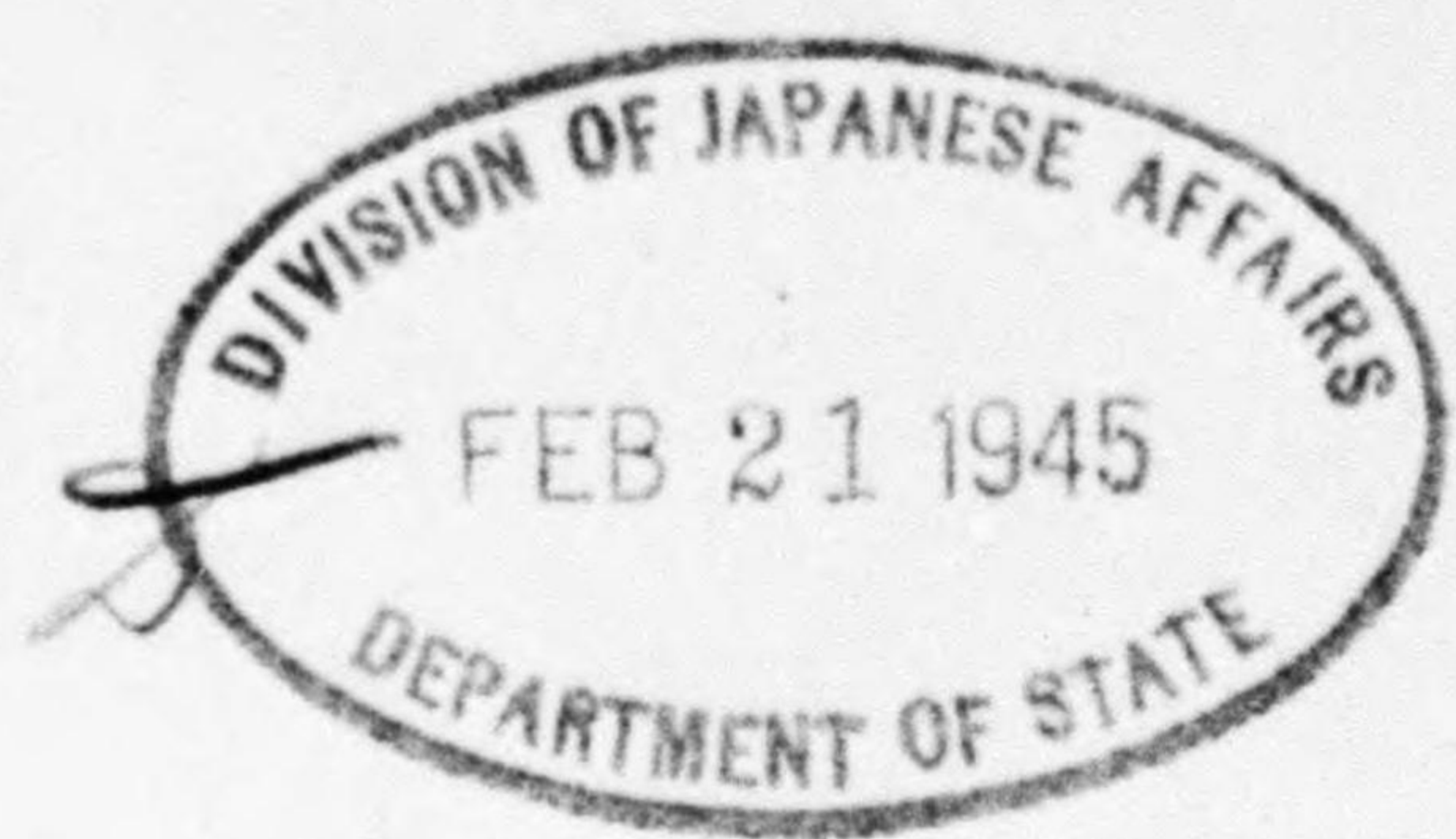
Gentlemen:

The Provost Marshal General directs me to write to you in regard to information requested by the Department concerning reports on American prisoners of war of Japan.

The following is a list of American Personnel reported as prisoners of war, dead, and later information received by sending inquiries to the International Red Cross, developed reports to the effect that they were prisoners of war:

1. Free, Edward J., Pvt. ASN 6289530
POW US/753, Dead US1008, POW US/2672.
2. Wendroff, Robert, PHM 3/c USN 385-91-77
POW US/529, Dead US/874, Broadcast 17
May 1944, Dead US/1618, reply to WI,
POW US/2317 reply to WI.
3. Bagwell, Will C., WT 1/c - POW US/381,
Dead US/804, POW by letter Osaka received
in US Dec. 1944. WI 245 sent on status
16 Dec. 44 - No reply.
4. Williamson, George S., Sgt. ASN 6914275
Dead US/872, POW US/2556, correction
due to WI on 30 Nov. 44. Also US/2564.
5. Ferguson, Russel USN 287-26-17 - POW
US/386, and 978, Dead US/1087. POW card
rec'd dated March 1943, POW letter rec'd
dated 29 June 1943. POW reply to WI GP-0 Unit
on US/1496.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
JAN 26 1945
Instruction to Bureau
NO: mine 3/2/45
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



FEB 23 1945

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NVA 1 1945
711.94114A/1-2445



-2-

The following is a list of fourteen American Personnel reported as prisoners of war only by receipt of cards or letters, and not reported through the International Red Cross:

1. Earley, William W. Pvt. - P.Cen #2, dated 8/24/43. Osaka, Y.B. Camp.
2. Eastwood, Howard W. Cpl. ASN 20814103. P.Cen. List #6. POW#10200 Moulmein WPC#5, Burma.
3. ECKHARDT, George Julius Sgt. ASN 6976416. pow postal P.I.Camp #2.
- ① ✓ 4. Edmonds, Homer L. Sgt. ASN 20843322. P.Cen. List #2. P.I.Camp #1. US/2681 Fukuoka Camp.
- 4 5. Egelston, Douglas Wayne EM2/c 3759334 Navy. P.Cen. list #6. POW PC POW#10065. Thai W.P.C. #3, Nike, Thailand.
- Nov 4, 1944 ② ✓ 6. Ehrhart, William Thomas MM1/c 311-2869 Navy. P.Cen. List #2. US/2449 4/11/44 Tokyo.
- ③ ✓ 7. Eklund, Rudolph L. Pvt. 38027525. P.Cen. List #2. US/1252 Thai Camp.
- 5 8. Embrock, George Pvt ASN 37036012. P.Cen. List #6 POW#10403 Moulmein WPC#5, Burma.
- 6 9. England, Leo G. Sgt. ASN 19056565. P.Cen.List #2. POW Card P.I. Camp #100.
- 7 10. English, Jack C. Cpl. ASN 6294266. POW Card P.I. Camp #2.
- ④ ✓ 11. Errington, Joe P. Sgt. ASN 20900711. P.Cen. List #6 P.I. Camp #1. US/2677 Fukuoka.
- 8 12. Evans, Erving A. Cpl. ASN 6860791. P.Cen. List #2. POW Card 8/12/44 P.I.Camp #10A.
- 9 13. EVES, J.O. PFC ASN 38038733. P.Cen. List #6 POW#10218 WPC#5, Moulmein, Burma.
- 10 14. Ewing, Fred E. Sgt. ASN 6284750. P.Cen. List #6 P.I. Camp #2.

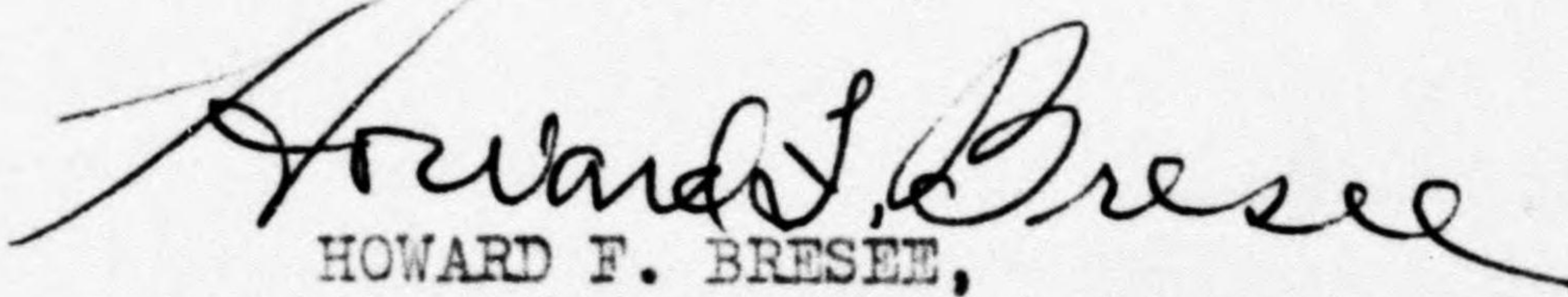
-3-

The following are ten American Personnel reported as prisoners of war by Japanese propaganda short wave broadcast:

1. Pose, Joseph C. S/Sgt ASN 12013918.
2. Sullivan, Charles William SC3c Navy. ^{USN} ASN 262-46-09.
3. Zeselovsky, John R. Sgt. ASN 6945463.
4. Lowman, Lewis E. Cpl. ASN 20843754.
5. Marks, John T. Pvt. ASN 34083937.
6. Powell, Robert C. ASN 14450516.
7. Lebrow, Donald P. PFC ASN 20500765.
8. Linde, Clyde S. ASN 19016799.
9. Brown, Robert R. Pvt. ASN 37085702.
10. Rushing, Robert C. Slc Navy. ^{USA} ASN 360-17-82.

It is requested that this office be advised when any information has been received in reference to the American prisoners of war listed in the above categories.

Sincerely yours,


HOWARD F. BRESEE,
Colonel, C.M.P., Director,
Prisoner of War Information Bureau.

scot
DC/A

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

DATE:
February 19, 1945

SUBJECT: Identification of abbreviations employed in letter dated January 24, 1945, from Colonel Bresee.

PARTICIPANTS: Captain Thomas, Executive Officer in Colonel Bresee's Office, and Miss Dreppard, SWP.

COPIES TO:

SPECIAL WAR PRISONER DIVISION
MAR 1 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
[Handwritten signature]

1-1403

Miss Dreppard telephoned Captain Thomas and referred to the letter of January 24, 1945, from Colonel Bresee which furnished the names of Americans in Japanese custody who had been reported by Intercross and subsequently reported as dead, or who had not been reported through Intercross at all. Miss Dreppard pointed out that since it was necessary to pass this information on to Bern it was felt necessary to clarify the abbreviations employed in Colonel Bresee's letter. Miss Dreppard informed Captain Thomas that a telegram was being dispatched to Bern giving the names of the persons in question but that supplementary information, serial numbers, etc., was being forwarded by air mail instruction.

Captain Thomas confirmed that the following abbreviations stand for the following:

- US - cables sent by Intercross to Prisoner of War Information Bureau.
- WI - "wire inquiry" sent by Prisoner of War Information Bureau to Intercross.
- ASN - Army Serial number.
- USN - United States Navy. (Navy numbers employ dashes between digits.)

Miss

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Col.	<i>[Handwritten]</i>
Dist.	<i>[Handwritten]</i>

DCR - GP-C Unit

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FW 711.94114A/1-2445
OS/MAR 24 45

NOV 15 1945

- 2 -

Miss Dreppard pointed out that the list had carried certain navy personnel whose numbers were prefixed by ASN. Captain Thomas replied that this was undoubtedly in error and should have been USN.

Miss Dreppard inquired if Postal Censorship lists were sent to Intercross. Captain Thomas replied in the negative. Miss Dreppard stated that in that case it would not be of any use to Bern to have such information and it would seem advisable to omit reference to Postal Censorship lists.

2/10
SWP:HDreppard:DF

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: February 8, 1945

SUBJECT: War Department's January 24, 1945

PARTICIPANTS: Colonel Bresee, Director, Prisoner of War Information Bureau
Miss Dreppard, Special War Problems Division

COPIES TO:

SPECIAL WAR PRO
DIVISION
MAR 1 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1-1408

Miss Dreppard telephoned Colonel Bresee with regard to his letter of January 24, 1945 which furnished lists of names of prisoners of war in Japanese custody who had not been reported through Intercross and referred to the paragraph listing "14 American personnel reported as prisoners of war only by receipt of cards or letters and not reported through the International Red Cross." Miss Dreppard pointed out that some of the names listed under the aforementioned category carried US cable numbers of lists from the International Red Cross, and read one name and accompanying information as an example.

Colonel Bresee clarified this by stating that these persons had been originally held at prisoner of war camps and not so reported through Intercross and that only cards or letters received from them had shown their first internment camp. Their transfer or internment at another camp had been reported through Intercross.

SWP:HD:gll

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FW 711.94114A/1-2445
CS/MAL

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

3260 Gough Street,
San Francisco, 23-
California.

January 25, 1945

1945 JAN 31 AM 9 23

State Department,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

After reading the enclosed clipping I am writing to ask if there is a wee possibility that there will be an exchange of War prisoners, especially those who have been sick there in camp those who are over fifty years of age and unfit for further military duty.

My husband, Colonel Leslie T. Lathrop, U. S. A. Inf., is on Formosa or was on Aug. 5, 1944 when he wrote to us, the letter which we received January 23, 1945. These are very tense moments for us I assure you.

Thanking you for any information you can give me. I am

Very truly yours.

Mrs. Cleaved Lathrop

enc. att.

A Feb. 5, 1945. POW information Bureau informed BP on telephone that Colonel Leslie T. Lathrop is officially listed at Taiwan T.S.P.

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Mr. Tolson	epm
Mr. E.A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Feb 10. BP again tele phoned POW - to request verification of above. Was informed that Mrs Lathrop had been notified that Colonel Lathrop had been transferred to Camp Hoteu - Oranthuria by air T.S.P.

BP - action
info - information
D/R
SP-1
Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Feb 8 11 37 - 2 1945
File BP:
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A/1-2545

CS/8/M/14/1-2545

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er Wallace

U. S.-Jap Exchange of Nationals Believed Near

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (INS). The State Department today saw the possibility of another exchange of American and Japanese nationals.

The department disclosed receipt of a communication from the Japanese government, for-

warded by the Spanish Embassy in Washington, which said:

"Japanese government carefully considering further exchange of nationals between Japan and United States and expects to be able to carry it out during next year (1945)."

This indicates, according to the State Department, that Japan is now ready to bring to a favorable conclusion the "many and continuous efforts" made by the American government for the exchange of American and Japanese nationals.

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-2545

February 13, 1945

My dear Mrs. Lathrop:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 25, 1945 regarding the possibility of an exchange of prisoners of war between the United States Government and the Japanese Government. You state that your husband, Colonel Leslie T. Lathrop, is a prisoner of the Japanese.

The Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington, informed this Department on February 10, 1945 that Colonel Leslie T. Lathrop has been transferred from Formosa to Camp Hoten, Manchuria and that a letter had been sent to you concerning this matter.

I regret to inform you that there is no customarily accepted practice among nations nor provisions of international law for the return or the exchange of able-bodied members of the armed forces of one belligerent who may be captured by the forces of an opposing belligerent. Article 68 of the Geneva Convention of 1929 provides that, under certain conditions, belligerents are bound to send back to their own country seriously sick and seriously wounded prisoners of war. Although the Japanese Government has pledged itself to apply the humane provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929 in its treatment of prisoners of war and civilian internees it has never ratified that Convention. The United States Government pressed the Japanese Government to honor Article 68

of

Mrs. Leslie T. Lathrop,
3260 Gough Street,
San Francisco 23, California.

And *lpm*
Rev. *lpm*
Cat. _____
Dist. _____

711.94114A/1-2545

-2-

of the Geneva Convention by including seriously sick and seriously wounded prisoners of war in the first two civilian exchanges. The Japanese Government refused. When negotiations were reopened in March 1944 for the third civilian exchange the United States Government again proposed that seriously sick and seriously wounded prisoners of war be repatriated. The Japanese Government has not replied to this proposal. The chances therefore of an exchange of seriously sick and seriously wounded prisoners of war between the Japanese and the United States Governments is slight.

The welfare of American nationals in the Far East is of deepest concern to this Government and, I assure you, no possibility of rendering aid to them is being overlooked or neglected. I deeply sympathize with the anxiety and strain you must endure.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:



E. Tomlin Bailey
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division.

CF ✓
FEB 12 1945 P.M.

BP
SWP:BP:ec

A true copy of
the signed original.

2/10/45

sup

January 25, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of War and transmits herewith for the attention of the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, a letter addressed to the President by Mr. Peter S. Kilgren, 6949 West Greenfield Avenue, Milwaukee (14), Wisconsin. Mr. Kilgren is deeply concerned with regard to his failure to receive letters from his son, Corporal Jack A. Kilgren, who is held as a prisoner of war by the Japanese. The letter in question reached the Department of State by reference from the White House.

A telephone inquiry made of the Prisoner of War Information Bureau by an officer of this Department on January 13, 1945 revealed that the War Department addressed a letter to Mr. Peter S. Kilgren on December 12, 1944 at a California address informing him of the internment of his son at Fukuoka. This letter was subsequently returned to the War Department by the postal authorities since they were unable to deliver it to the addressee.

It is therefore hoped that the enclosed inquiry from Mr. Kilgren will prove instrumental in enabling the War Department to notify Mr. Kilgren of his son's present place of internment. In view of the circumstances surrounding this case, it would be appreciated if the War Department would also undertake to reply to the questions raised in Mr. Kilgren's present inquiry.

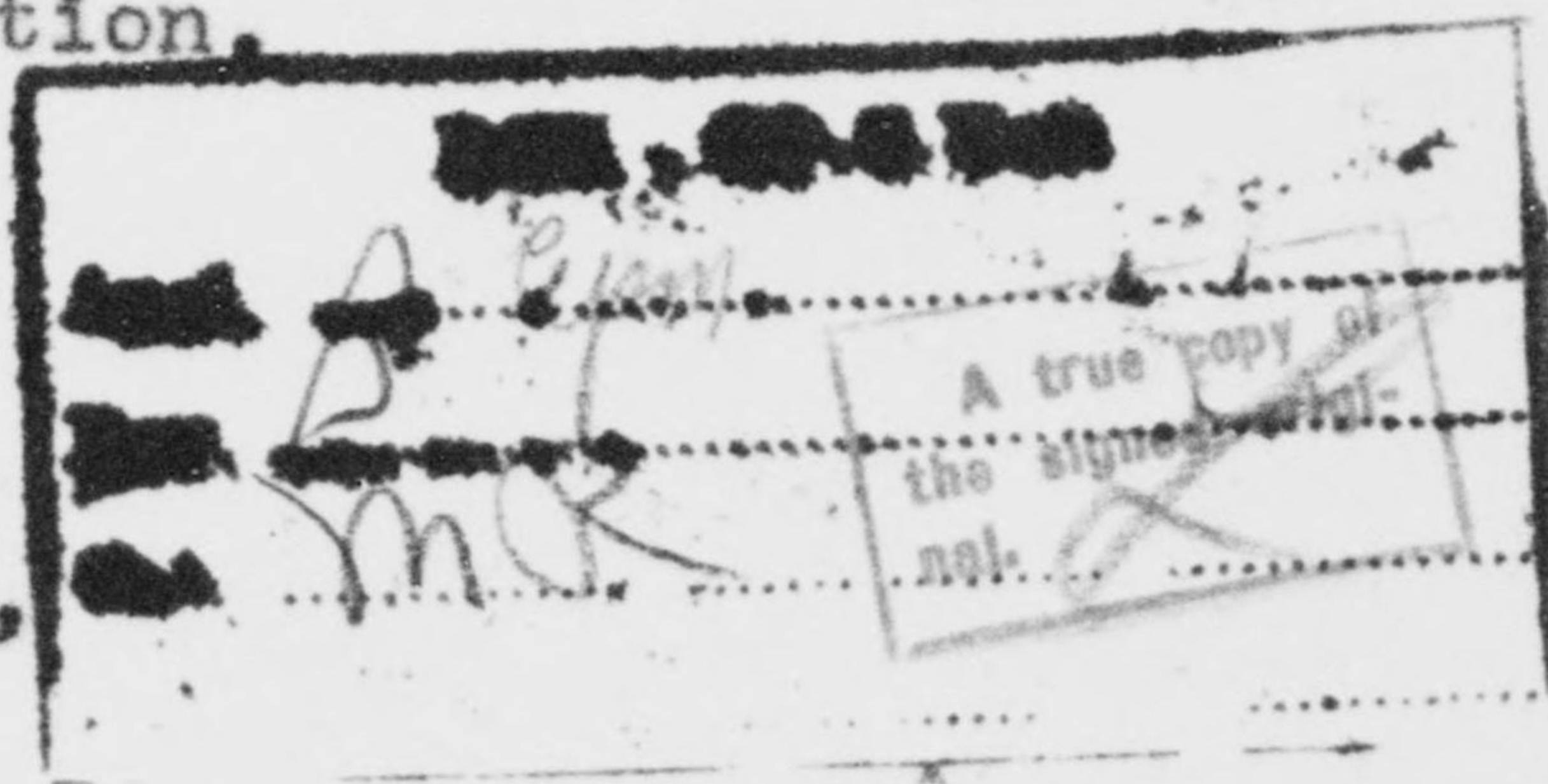
No acknowledgement has been made by the Department of State to the letter in question.

Enclosure:

From Mr. Peter S. Kilgren,
dated December 19, 1944.

JAN 24 1945 P.M.

SWP:HD:mmc



1/19-20/45

711.94114A/1-2545

CS/D

711.94114A/1-2545

CYPHER (O.T.P.)

Telegram No. 671

of January 27th, 1945

From: Lord Halifax

To : Foreign Office

Des : 6.00 P. M. Jan. 27, 1945

MOST IMMEDIATECHANCERY (P.O.W.'s)
DISTRIBUTION

Chancery - Action

T. File

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Red Box B

Red Box C

H. E.

Roger Makins

H. B. Butler

J. H. Magowan

Sir G. Sansom

Sir G. Campbell

A. D. Marris

R. Opie

B. Cockram

G. G. McKenzie

J. S. Dent

D. Bowes-Lyon

A. McD. Gordon

P. H. Gore-Booth

J. W. Russell

J. S. M. (6)

Comm. Coleridge

Roger Stevens

Col. G. D. Loup (2)

G. R. Ranken

Major Berkeley

Your telegram No. 690 of
January 20th: reciprocal visits by IRCC
to Far East Camps/.

State Department are replying to Swiss pointing out that Japanese offer less and ask more than U. S. originally suggested, and that their proposal as it stands is not acceptable. Reply continues that U. S. have learned that in last few months many U. S. nationals have been transferred from Philippines to sub-camps in Japan, the location of which even has not been made known to U. S. authorities. When Japanese are willing to permit IRCC visits to all camps U. S. Government will be glad to reciprocate.

2. State Department have agreed to hold above reply until Monday evening January 29th but it will then be despatched unless we have by that time submitted further observations to them. If you desire to comment will you therefore let me have comments immediately.

3. Japanese offer to the U. S. to allow visits was specifically confined to Santo Tomas in Philippines, prisoners of war hospital in Thailand and prisoners of war camp at Singapore, and was conditional upon visits not being obstacle to military operations.

1400: PHGB:GRR:CPW

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Rev.	MP
Dat.	

711,94114a/1-27-45

711.94114a/1-2745

CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

NOTE

SUBJECT Informs the Japanese government refuses to apply the provisions of the civilian exchange arrangements to civilians captured on the Philippine Islands, Guam and Wake.

711.94114A/1-2745
FIS

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See letter
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Jan. 27, 1945
From | Dworshak, Henry C.
To | M.C.
From

File No. 711.94115 Exchange/1-2745

Oakland Calif.
Jan 28th 1945.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION

FEB - 3 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
FEB 2 - 1945
SENT TO DCR FOR INDEXING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Hon. Edward R. Stettinius.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Dear Mr Stettinius,-

I am Frank Thatcher, formerly of Stirling City, with the Diamond Match Co. under the Presidency of your father. I remember your visit to Stirling City with him in July of 1916. You were but a boy of thirteen or so. I remember asking you how you liked California, and you said, "O, I think it grand. Nothing to do in New York, no place to play, no place to go but picture shows". I have watched your career with interest, and I am happy to see 'you have gone places' since then.

My youngest son, Frank Jr, is held captive by the Japanese Gov. in Shanghai China. (Kiang Wan). He was on the Island of Wake when it fell to the Japanese in 1941. We have heard from him fairly regularly since then, the last letter was dated Aug. of last year. 1944. I am writing with the hope you may be able to effect his return to the United States.

When captured he was a civilian construction worker, but it appears the Japanese are holding him as a Military prisoner tho, he was not a member of the Armed forces. He suffers a heart ailment and is hard of hearing, and because of his disability he is not required to do manual labor, but does odd jobs about the barrack, so it would appear the Japanese recognize his deficiencies.

I hear another exchange is in the making and want to do every thing I can to bring him home. I am well aware of the difficulty of the Geneva treaty, but feel confident you will help me if you can,

Very Sincerely,

Frank M. Thatcher.
722 Rand Ave,
Oakland IO. Calif.

Frank Jr's address.

Frank Thatcher Jr.
Barrack No 4.
Section No 6.
Shanghai War-prisoners Camp.
Kiang Wan.

DCR - GP-C Unit
FEB 28 1945
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Rev. _____
Cat. _____

CS/D

14A/1-2845

February 20, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-2845

My dear Mr. Thatcher:

In the absence of the Secretary of State I have for reply your letter of January 28, 1945 addressed to Mr. Stettinius in which you recall meeting him in California when still a boy. You express the hope that your son, Mr. Frank Thatcher, Jr., who is in Japanese custody, having been captured on the Island of Wake, may be included in the next exchange of American and Japanese nationals.

At the moment the Japanese Government in response to our numerous and continuing communications on the subject has gone no further than to intimate that it may consider negotiations for an exchange of nationals between the United States and Japan to take place some time during 1945. The form in which this intimation was conveyed is indicated in the enclosed announcement to the press issued by the Department of State on January 22, 1945. Additional information with respect to the plans of the Japanese Government is awaited.

You may be assured that the Department will in the future, as it has in the past, lose no opportunity to endeavor to secure the release and exchange of those Americans who were captured by the Japanese on Wake Island, as well as on Guam. You should, however, bear in mind that an exchange of nationals can only take place provided the enemy is willing to cooperate and deliver on its part American citizens in its custody. Heretofore the

Mr. Frank M. Thatcher,
722 Rand Avenue,
Oakland, 10, California.

Japanese

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open

711.94114A/1-2845

-2-

Japanese have steadfastly declined to include in the exchanges Americans who were captured on Wake and Guam Islands. Unfortunately, the Japanese have not, despite our representations, given any indication that they will alter their viewpoint on this question. Nevertheless, the Department will do everything in its power to effect the release of these men. The fact that your son is not in the best of health might, if the Japanese should agree to the exchange of the men from Wake and Guam, be a factor in favor of his early return.

Further developments in reference to an exchange will be issued to the press.

Sincerely yours,

For the Acting Secretary of State:

AB
Albert E. Clattenburg, Jr.
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Enclosure:

Press release,
no. 56, January 22, 1945.

CF ✓
FEB 19 1945 P M

Jur
SWP:JHChapman:JSF

2/15/45

A true copy of
the original
document.

February 10, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mr. Dworshak:

711.94114a / 1-29-45

I have received your letter of January 29, 1945 transmitting a letter addressed to you by Mr. E. G. Chaffer, Assistant Manager of the First Security Bank of Idaho, Nampa, Idaho, in which he requests you to intercede in behalf of Frederick Herman Schafer, a construction employee on Wake Island, who is interned in Japan. Mr. Chaffer urges in behalf of the parents of Mr. Schafer that their son be included in the next exchange of United States and Japanese nationals.

You may assure Mr. Chaffer that every possible consideration will be given to the case of Mr. Schafer when the details of the next exchange are being considered. However, from a recent letter to you on the general subject of the repatriation as a group of the civilian employees of Contractors Pacific Naval Air Bases on Wake and Guam, and in the Philippines, you will have gained an idea of the difficulties inherent in any effort to effect the exchange and repatriation of those Americans who were captured by the Japanese on Guam and Wake. For ready reference I enclose a copy of this previous letter.

Mr. Chaffer's original letter is enclosed, a copy having been retained in the Department's files.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Grew

Acting Secretary.

Enclosures:

- 1. To Mr. Dworshak.
- 2. From E. G. Chaffer, January 27, 1945.

The Honorable

Henry C. Dworshak,

House of Representatives.

SWP
OR

FEB 7 945 P.M.
FEB 12 1945

SWP

SWP:JHC:MA

2-6-45

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W R B
Routine

711.94114a / 1-29-45

HENRY C. DWORSHAK
2D DISTRICT IDAHO

MARTHA RUBEY
SECRETARY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

HOME ADDRESS:
BURLEY, IDAHO

RECORDS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

1945 JAN 31 PM 3 22
Washington, D. C.

January 29, 1945

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

REC'D
JAN 30 1945
SOCIAL WAR PRISONERS
DIVISION
FEB - 2 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
file
Jm

Honorable E. R. Stettinius
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Enclosed you will find a self-explanatory letter from Mr. E. G. Chaffer, Assistant Manager of the First Security Bank of Idaho, at Nampa, Idaho, in reference to Frederick Herman Schafer, a construction employee who was taken a prisoner by the Japanese and has been interned in Japan since that time.

I shall appreciate any consideration you may give to Mr. Chaffer's request that this young man's name be placed on the next exchange list of war prisoners.

Very truly yours,

Henry C. Dworshak

711.94114A/1-2945

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71194114A/1-2945

enc. att.

DCR - GP-C Unit	
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FEB 23 1945

COPY SWP:MA
COMP _____

FIRST SECURITY BANK OF IDAHO

Nampa, Idaho.

January 27, 1945

Representative Henry C. Dworshak
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing in behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Schafer of Nampa, Idaho, who are the parents of two sons. One son, Conrad Herman Schafer-39904737-was with the Armed Forces in France and very recently reported "missing in action". The other son, Frederick Herman Schafer was a construction employee on Wake Island. He has been a prisoner of war for the Mainland of Japan.

Since this boy is one of the oldest prisoners of war, I feel he should be among the first to be exchanged, if our Government is allowed to make any choice as to who is to come.

This boy and his parents are deserving of your influence and of any assistance you might be able to render through the proper channels, in placing the name of Frederick Schafer with the group of war prisoners to be next exchanged with Japan.

The two boys mentioned above are the only children in the family. Their parents and this community will appreciate very much any favor or help you might be able to give in this connection.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Very truly yours,

E. G. Chaffer
Assistant Manager

J.H.Hoskins Box 53
Okanogan, Wash.

file

DC/R

Hon Edward R. Stettinius
Secretary of State, Wash, D.C.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1945 JAN 29 PM 3 44

SPECIAL WAR REPARATIONS
DIVISION
Lee reply
Feb. 17, 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
File

Dear Sir

I am writing you in reference to my son Jack Richard, Hoskins. Jack was taken prisoner when the Japanese overpowered Wake Island. Which fell Dec 22nd 1941, Jack was a civilian working for Morrison Knudson construction Co, Jack was taken to Shanghai, China and from there to a prisoner camp at Osaka Japan Island of Honsyu. I feel that repatriation cannot come to soon to save his life, Jack is 26 years old and had a promising future in mining engineering, His reason for going to Wake Island was to secure money enough for his senior year at the University of Idaho. I feel that Jack is sick or something terrible has befallen him, I recieved a letter just before Xmas, Letter follows, Dear mother and dad, I am glad of the chance to tell you I am still alive, And am hoping to return. May it not be long. In hope you are all well. It is permissible to send packages. I hope I see you soon,

Good - Bye Jack Hoskins

I have sent Jack packages several times also over a hundred letters in three years and only one letter has been acknowledged by him, Trusting you can arrange repatriation for my son Jack, Could you please advise me what procedure is necessary to have Jack's name on the list of exchange repatriates.

Thanking you
I am sincerely Yours.
J. H. Hoskins

MAR 8 1945

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SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
FEB 3 - 1945
SENT TO DCR FOR INDEXING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Ans'd 2/10/45 - Jones file

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1945 FEB 1 PM 3 24

1472 Filbert St.,
San Francisco, California.
January 29, 1945.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
FEB - 6 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Let to Mrs West 2/14/45 JWC/SL

Let to Sen Crowley 2/10/45 JWC/SL

Edward R. Stettinius, Jr.,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

My husband, Carl Miland West, formerly Chief Engineer for Pacific Naval Air Bases at Guam, is now interned at Futatabi Camp in Kobe, Japan.

From press and radio information Japan has expressed willingness to enter into negotiations for another exchange. This seems a most opportune time to bring pressure to bear and I am writing to urge you to exert every effort possible to have the Guam men receive special consideration for the coming exchange.

I assure you that all you can do in this regard will be greatly appreciated by the families of all the men concerned.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Carl M. West

711.94114A/1-2945

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711.94114A/1-2945

February 16, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-2945

My dear Mrs. West:

I have received your letter of January 29, 1945 in which you refer to recent publicity to the effect that the Japanese Government has signified a willingness to enter into negotiations for another exchange of civilians. You state that you therefore consider the time opportune to bring pressure to bear in order that those Americans who were captured on the Island of Guam, including your husband, Mr. Carl Miland West, may receive special consideration in the coming exchange.

You may be assured that the Department will in the future, as it has in the past, lose no opportunity to endeavor to secure the release and exchange of those Americans who were captured by the Japanese on Guam, as well as on Wake Island. You should, however, bear in mind that an exchange of nationals can only take place provided the enemy is willing to cooperate and deliver on its part American citizens in its custody. Heretofore the Japanese have steadfastly declined to include in the exchanges Americans who were captured on Guam and Wake Islands and unfortunately they have not, despite our representations, given any indication that they will alter their viewpoint on this question.

At the moment the Japanese Government in response to our numerous and continuing communications on the subject has gone no further than to intimate that it

Mrs. Carl M. West,
1472 Filbert Street,
San Francisco, California.

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FW
711.94114A-1-2945

-2-

may consider negotiations for another exchange of nationals between the United States and Japan to take place some time during 1945. A reply is now being awaited to a request of the Swiss Government in charge of United States interests in Japan for additional information with respect to the plans of the Japanese Government.

In the circumstances the Department cannot give any assurance that Americans from Guam and Wake Islands will be included in the next exchange, if, and, when, it takes place.

There is enclosed for your information a copy of the announcement to the press issued by the Department of State on January 22, 1945 which was the source of the publicity referred to in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

For the Acting Secretary of State:

Bel
Albert E. Clattenburg, Jr.
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Enclosure:

Press release, no. 56,
January 22, 1945.

Jm
SWP:JHChapman:SL
2/10-14/45

GR ✓ *47*
FEB 15 1945 P.M.

A true copy of
the signed origi-
nal.

March 2, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-3045

My dear Mr. Sandback:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated January 30, 1945 (T-168, T-168-372) quoting a message you have received from Radio-Suisse, Bern, Switzerland, in regard to cable messages between prisoners of war in Japan and Japanese-occupied territory and their relations in the United States.

The arrangement under reference was made by the American Red Cross with the International Committee of the Red Cross and is in operation. It is assumed that the message you quote was sent by Radio Suisse only for your information.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Eldred D. Kuppinger
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

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DCR - GP-C Unit	

Mr. Charles Sandback,
Manager, Tariff Bureau,
R. C. A. Communications, Inc.,
66 Broad Street,
New York 4, New York.

MAR 1 1945

SWP:ABCORRELL:amg

2-28-45

Cleared with Mr. Cotton, ARC.

Keep this copy of the signed original.

711.94114A/1-3045

AMERICAN RED CROSS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FEB 7 1945
DO H
RECORDS NOH

January 30, 1945

AW
BP
SPECIAL WAR P
DIVISION
FEB 7 1945
DEPT OF STATE
etc

Mr. Eldred D. Kuppinger
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kuppinger:

I am enclosing herewith the first
collect cable messages we have received from the
Far East. You will note that it is No. SA 2, apparently
SA 1 contains two messages and is temporarily missing.
These messages are typed so that each message may
be cut and pasted to a form letter from the Provost
Marshal General to the prisoner's family.

Sincerely yours,

John F. Cotton
John F. Cotton
Relief to Prisoners of War

FEB 7 1945
Dist.

711.94114A/1-3045

FIS

PTLAND

711.94114A/1-3045

enc,

COPY OF INCOMING CABLEGRAM

AMERICAN RED CROSS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Date sent: January 22, 1945
Date received: January 30, 1945

Cablegram received from:

GENEVA (SWITZERLAND)

W1170/SZ8065 Geneva 988/987 22 1710

NLT

AMERICAN RED CROSS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SA 2. 3-E. TOKYO CAMP. Mrs. Francis Bleeker, 703 Strand Street, Santa Monica, Cal. Health excellent, Happy New Year. Love to all. From CPL. Frank Bowne 337.

4-E. Mrs. Nora Hogg, 1716 Northwest Flanders Street, Portland, Oregon. Dear Mother: I am well, hope you are the same. From PFC Harold W. Hogg 3901.

5-E. Mrs. E. E. Measimer, China Grove, North Carolina. Hello folks, best wishes for a Happy New Year. From PFC Thomas Honeycutt 721.

6-E. Mrs. Mabel MacDiarmid, RFD Suisun, Cal. Happy New Year, am in good health. Love to all. From CPL. William Glen MacDiarmid 3629.

7-E. Judge Raymond W. Johnson, S Jumanit Beagle Kennel, Forrestville, New York. Excellent health, hoping for early reunion. Happy New Year. From PFC Arthur Wilson Johnson 3644.

8-E. Mr. Michael Mohnac, 2800 Winton Street, Philadelphia, Penn. Dear folks: In excellent health, wishing you are same. Love. From First Lt. Alex Michael Mohnac 3615.

9-E. Mrs. James L. Strain, 3811 Center Ave., Richmond, Cal. Well good spirits, send love best wishes to all. From CPL. James L. Strain 4375.

- 2 -

10-E. Mrs. Anna O. Torkelson, Brocton, Minnesota. Happy New Year, hope to see you soon. From PFC. Wallace E. Torkelson 3838.

11-E. Mrs. Thomas William Reed, 1928 Franklin Ave., Harrisburg, Penna. I am doing fine, Happy New Year. Love to all. From Chief Machinist Roland M. Reed 3803.

12-E. Mrs. Horice Miller Clark, 821 East 226th Street, New York City, N.Y. Happy New Year, love to all. From Staff Sgt. Horice Miller Clark 5311.

13-E. Dr. Lawrence Clayman, 1465 Broadway, New York City, N. Y. Dearest Folks, health fine, hope you same. Happy New Year. From Captain Sigmund Clayman 3607.

14-E. George W. Poss, Hanson, Texas. Fair health, regards, seasons greetings to everyone. From Radioman LC Edgar Louis Poss 3474.

15-E. Mrs. Lulla Smithey, RFD 2, Box 125, Huntsville, Alabama. Fair health and regards to everyone. From Carpenter W/Off Talmadge A. Smithey 3817.

16-E. Mrs. Ethel Cianfarina, 913 Fairview Ave., Bellefonte, Delaware. Aunt Ethel and all, Merry Xmas and Happy New Year. From CPL Harry Satterfield 3799.

17-E. Rowena Peggy Pianka, 2615 A Street, San Diego, Cal. Seasons greetings happy birthday, miss you all. Received cablegram. From Motor Machinist LC John K. Pianka 2413.

18-E. Mr. John P. Abel, Route 3, Hico, Texas. Seasons greetings. Love to you all. From PFC Johnnie Luis Abel 3959.

19-E. Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Thompson, Wagy, Texas. Am fine and well. God bless you all, love. From SGT James Melton Thompson 3821.

- 3 -

20-E. Mr. Fred Boushley, Pelican Rapids, Minnesota. Am well, seasons greetings. Love to you all. From PFC Williard LeFoy Boushley 3969.

21-E. Mr. James F. McBeathe, 1493 Vyse Ave., Bronx, New York, N. Y. Had a good Christmas. Love to all at home. Love from PHMLC John Joseph McBeath 3475.

22-E. Mrs. Clyde L. Jackson, 1334 Chestnut Street, San Bernardino, Cal. Love to all, am doing fine. Happy New Year. From PFC Paul N. Jackson 3643.

23-E. Johnson Conrad, Spencer, Indiana. Am doing o'kay. Regards to all. Happy New Year. From PVT. Dacel O. Conrad 3846.

24-E. Patsy O'Brien, Espanola, KW, Mexico. Hello Patsy Patsy, Doc still in good health. With Love. From CPL. Boyce Springer 3958.

25-E. Helen Jean Bowman, 456 East Washington Str., Sunnyvale, Cal. I am doing fine. Happy New Year. Love from Staff Sgt. Charles Bowman, Junior 3594.

26-E. Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Knox, 1012 West Street, Butler, Indiana. Had a good Christmas. Love to all at home. Love from PFC Ralph Morris Knox 2064.

27-E. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen, RFD 1, Box 83 F, No. Scituate, Rhode Island. Christmas delightful, well healthy, homesick. Regards to all from First Sgt. Joseph Roy LeBlanc 3927.

28-E. Angela Boog, 1625 Carroll Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota. Health excellent Happy New Year to all from PFC Stewart Boog 3636.

29-E. Mrs. Mary Hoffman, Pierce, Nebraska. I am well. Love to all at home from PFC Edward I. Hoffmann 5335

30-E. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pluchino, 530 Monticello Ave., Chicago, Ill. Dear Mother and Dad, love to all. Your loving son from PFC Angelo P. Pluchino 3638.

- 4 -

31-E. Mr. and Mrs. George Stauber, 110 Masten Street, Buffalo, New York.
I am well, hope you the same. Happy New Year from MotorMM2G George Frederick
Stauber 3477.

32-E. Margret Libert, 2940 University Ave., Morgantown, West Virginia.
Am okay, love to everyone. Best wishes happy New Year from PFC Arthur J. Libert
3647.

33-E. Willa Mae Lockhart, 1018 South Washington Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.
Am well, love to all. Happy New Year from PFC John Franklin Lockhart 3648.

34-E. Mrs. Mildred C. Carlson, 2891 Hillcrest Drive, Southeast, Washington, D.C.
Fair health, regards. Seasons greetings to everyone. Love all from Gunner Carl
A. Carlson 3781.

35-E. Mrs. Rudolph Nikkonen, 158 Elm Street, North Cambridge, Massachusetts.
Seasons greetings. Love to you and folks, am well from Gunner W/Off US Navy
Rudolph J. Nikkonen 3885.

36-E. Mrs. Dorothy LaSupell McBride, 5522 Hammond Street, Fort Worth, Texas.
Happy New Year. Love regards to all from Pvt. Paul Vincent Brewer, Junior 3806.

37-E. Mr. Roy Cawthon, 7023 Edison Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri. Merry
Xmas and Happy New Year to all. Love from Radioman LC Hugh Dane Cawthon 848.

38-E. Mr. Homer O. Thomas, RFD 2, Canton, Georgia. Am well, trusting you
the same. Happy New Year from Pvt Wesley Loreto Thomas 3813.

39-E. Mrs. Frederick T. Niederhauser, 1356 Elm Street, Stratford, Conn.
Seasons greetings, love to you all and Mollie from Tech. Sgt. Harold F. Niederhauser
3860.

- 5 -

40-E. Mrs. Joe Ivy, Route 1, Box 46, Ola, Arkansas. Love you still, well active Happy Birthday to you from Sgt. Joe Ivey 1924.

41-E. Mrs. George Rice, 528 Fifth Street, Alta Vista, Virginia. Dear Mother am well, good wishes for A Happy New Year from Pm1c William E. Rice 534.

42-E. Mr. Egbert J. Shaw, 4801 Touzlan Ave. Lincoln, Nebraska. Am well, love to all best wishes Happy New Year, from Pm1c Gilbert J. Shaw 531.

43-E. Mrs. Joseph Baker, 314 Maine Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts I am fine and well, Happy New Year to all from PFC. Joseph N. Baker 4920.

Intercroixrouge C-1562.

Total Forty-one messages.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

2/28/45

EDH

This was given to
me today. I believe
you were working on
the case last.

CM

*44 415
Crum*

*507
50*

R. C. A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

A SERVICE OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
66 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK 44, N. Y.



1945 JAN 31

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

ADDRESS FOR RADIOGRAMS "TELCORCA"

January 30, 1945
T-168
T-168-372

4. 1945

The Honorable Edw. R. Stettinius, Jr.
Secretary of State
Washington 25, D.C.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
FEB - 2 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*Let to Mr. Landback
2/28/45 ABC/any
File*

Sir:-

We are in receipt of the following service telegram from Radio-Suisse, Berne, Switzerland:

"RE MESSAGES FAMILIAUX ENTRE PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE AMERICAINS EN CAPTIVITE AU JAPON OU DANS DES REGIONS OCCUPEES PAR LES JAPONAIS ET LEURS PARENTS EN USA OU VICE-VERSA STOP MODALITES SUIVANTES ONT ETE CONVENUES AVEC GOUVERNEMENT JAPONAIS ET INTERCROSS GENEVE PRIMO EN PRINCIPE TOUT MESSAGE DOIT ETRE ADRESSE A INTERCROSS GENEVE DANS LES DEUX DIRECTIONS QUI SE CHARGE DE LA REEXPEDITION SECUNDO OUTRE ADRESSE ET SIGNATURE LE NOMBRE DE MOTS DE TEXTE EST RESTREINT A DIX MOTS REPETONS DIX TERZO LES MESSAGES FAMILIAUX SONT TRANSMIS SUR LE PARCOURS TOKIO-GENEVE ET GENEVE-AMCROSS WASHINGTON OU VICE-VERSA AU TARIF NLT"

*no to
571.7694*

We are referring the message to you as this would appear to be a matter requiring attention of the State Department.

Respectfully yours,

Charles Sandbach

Manager, Tariff Bureau

MAR 7 1945

FILED

DCB - GP-C Unit
Anal. *Sp*
Rev. *DR*
Cof. *DR*
Dist.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
MAR 5 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CS/D

711.94114A/1-3045

711.94114A/1-3045

TRANSLATION

Service telegram from Radio-Suisse, Berne, Switzerland.

"Regarding family messages between American prisoners of war in Japanese captivity in Japan or in the regions occupied by the Japanese and their relatives in the United States or visa-versa STOP Following have been agreed to between Japanese Government and Intercross Geneva

Primo. In principal, all messages in both directions must be addressed to Intercross Geneva which will take care of forwarding them.

Secundo. Besides address and signature, the number of words of text is restricted to ten words (repeat ten words)

Terzo. Family messages will be transmitted by the way of Tokyo-Geneva and Geneva-Amcross Washington, or vice versa, as night letter telegrams."

SWP:HDreppard (translation)

711.94114A/1-3045

CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

NOTE

SUBJECT Transmission of packets containing medicines to American civilians and prisoners of war held by Japanese.

mr/fmb

711.94114A/1-3045

FIS

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Letter
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Jan. 30, 1945
From | Post Office Department
To |

File No. 794.41114/1-3045

711.94114A/1-3045

CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

NOTE

SUBJECT: Transmission of packets containing medicines to American civilians and prisoners of war held by Japanese.

mr/fmb

711.94114A/1-3045

FIS

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Letter
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Jan. 30, 1945 From Post Office Department
xxxx

File No. 794.41114/1-3045

TOP SECRET

SWP

DIVISION OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES

APR 28 1950

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

From: London

De/R

Dated: Jan. 30, 1945

TOP SECRET
NO DISTRIBUTION WHATSOEVER

Recd.: ~~XENX~~ Feb. 5, noon

SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
FEB - 5 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*Letter to
Wax + Navy
2-7-45
acc: 030*

*file
11-26-45
R (805)*

SWP enrga fe bc

A-92, January 30, 1945.

*711.94114a/11-17-44
CF*

Embassy's telegram No. 10063, November 17, 3 p.m.

The following communication (No. K.W.57/50) dated January 30, 1945, has been received from the Foreign Office:

"In my letter to you of the 17th November last I said that we were consulting the Governments of the Dominions and India in regard to the amended proposals of the United States Chiefs of Staff for an exchange of United States, British and Netherlands prisoners of war against isolated Japanese garrisons in the Central Pacific.

"Replies have now been received from all the Governments concerned and I am authorised to say, on their behalf, that they take note that the United States Government are proceeding with the amended plan on the lines proposed."

In delivering the foregoing communication Sir Michael Palairot, Assistant Secretary of State superintending the Prisoners of War Department of the Foreign Office, stated orally that while the British authorities recognized the reasons that prompted the Department's making the so-called isolated garrisons exchange proposal, they hoped that in the future any exchange of Allied nationals which may be effected under similar arrangements will be on a pro rata basis, and that the British authorities expect that the present proposal will not establish a precedent.

RECEIVED
FEB - 6 1945

TOP SECRET

711.94114 A/1-3045

KFC

Confidential File

FEB 8 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114 A/1-3045

DIVISION OF
PROTECTIVE SERVICES

file
APR 28 1950 *file*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TOP SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I refer to the Department's letter of January 20, 1945 and quote for your information the text of a further communication received from the British Foreign Office regarding the proposal to exchange isolated Japanese garrisons in the Pacific for prisoners of war held by the Japanese Government:

"In my letter to you of the 17th November last I said that we were consulting the Governments of the Dominions and India in regard to the amended proposals of the United States Chiefs of Staff for an exchange of United States, British and Netherlands prisoners of war against isolated Japanese garrisons in the Central Pacific.

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authorities

The Honorable

Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of War.

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>RR</i>
Rev.	
at.	

711.94114A/1-3045

TOP SECRET

EDB

-2-

authorities expect that the present proposal will not establish a precedent.

A similar letter is being sent to the Secretary of the Navy.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH C. GREW

Acting Secretary.

CR
FEB 7 1945 P.M.

pat
ml

SWP:AEClattenburg:OBO 2/7/45

BC
EM
JA

EUR

JA

SPD

A true copy of the signed original. *AS*

FEB 8 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114 A/1-3045

DIVISION OF
PROTECTIVE SERVICES

APR 28 1950

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TOP SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

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will be

The Honorable

James Forrestal,

Secretary of the Navy.

DOR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.
Rev.
at.

TOP SECRET

711.94114A/1-3045

EDB

-2-

will be on a pro rata basis, and that the British authorities expect that the present proposal will not establish a precedent.

A similar letter is being sent to the Secretary of War.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH P. GERRARD

Acting Secretary

CR
FEB 7 1945 A.M.

pure
SWP:AEClattenburg:OBO

2/7/45

BC
EUR

JA
[Signature]

A true copy of the signed original.
[Signature]

AIRGRAM

FROM

Bern

Dated January 31, 1945

Rec'd February 7, 1945

February 23, 1945

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-192, January 31 6 p.m.

American Interests - Japan

Letter to War
SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
2/16/45
FEB 10 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
File

711.94114A/1-3145 CS/EG

Foreign Office note January 30 states Swiss Legation Tokyo telegraphs January 25:

"First Sergeant L.W. Stevens, prisoner Hakodate, asks news his mother, Lucy Stevens, Potosi Hotel, Potosi, Missouri, and desires allot her one hundred dollars monthly from army pay."

HUDDLE

Form with fields: Att. *for*, Rec., Cat. *for*, Dist.

GT/GHG/eb

FILED
FEB - 2 1945

711.94114a-1-3145

X

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

6/7/45

D.C.R. Card room
has no card on
Stevens since Jan 19,
1945 -

Cm

SWP

February 23, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/1-3145

The Acting Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of War and transmits herewith for the attention of the Adjutant General a copy of an airgram received from the American Legation at Bern. The message states that First Sergeant L. W. Stevens, a prisoner of war at Hakodate, requests news of his mother and desires to allot her one hundred dollars monthly from his army pay.

The Department will be pleased to transmit to the Legation at Bern such reply as the War Department may wish to make in this connection.

Enclosure:
From American Legation,
Bern, A-192, January 31,
1945.

711.94114a-1-3145

D. E. W. P. C. Unit	
no.	DR
rev.	AVB
cat.	
Dist.	

FEB 2 1945

A true copy of the signed original.

SWP:HD:VL

2-16-45

Handwritten initials