

-2-

- ✓ C/270 - 1 civilian interned in the Burma internment camp;
- ✓ CM/7 - 140 prisoners of war interned in the Chosen POW camp, April 27, 1945, transferred from Fukuoka camp;
- ✓ D/21 - 1 civilian who died in the Philippine internment camp;
- ✓ D/61 - 1 civilian who died of illness in the Borneo internment camp;
- ✓ D/64 - 1 civilian who died of illness in the Malaya internment camp;
- ✓ DM/15 - 14 prisoners of war interned in the Mukden camp, March 28, 1945;
- ✓ FM/66 - 17 prisoners of war transferred from Taiwan to Fukuoka camp, March 9, 1945;
- ✓ FM/72 - 69 prisoners of war transferred from Osaka to Fukuoka camp, March 30, 1945;
- ✓ FM/74 - 102 prisoners of war transferred from Osaka to Fukuoka camp, May 10, 1945;
- ✓ JU/77 - 15 prisoners of war who died of illness in the Tokyo camp;
- ✓ JU/81 - 917 prisoners of war killed by enemy plane attacks on board a transport carrying POWs from the Philippine Islands to Japan;
- ✓ JU/82 - 25 prisoners of war who died of illness in the Osaka camp;
- ✓ JU/83 - 8 prisoners of war in transit from Java to Malaya camp missing owing to transport sunk by enemy submarine off the eastern coast of Sumatra, September 18, 1944;
- ✓ JU/84 - 10 prisoners of war who died of illness in the Fukuoka camp;
- ✓ JU/85 - 59 prisoners of war who died of illness on board a transport carrying POWs from the Philippine camp to Japan proper;
- ✓ JU/87 - 2 prisoners of war who died of illness in the Zentsuji camp;
- ✓ JU/88 - 90 prisoners of war who died of illness in the Thailand camp;
- ✓ JU/89 - 66 prisoners of war who died of illness in the Fukuoka camp;

JU/90

-3-

- ✓JU/90 - 51 prisoners of war who died of illness in the Fukuoka camp;
- ✓JU/91 - 13 prisoners of war who died in the Tokyo camp owing to aerial bombardment, July 25, 1945;
- ✓JU/92 - 2 prisoners of war who died in the Osaka camp owing to aerial bombardment, June 5, 1945;
- ✓JU/93 - 1 prisoner of war who died in the Sendai camp owing to bombardment from enemy warships, July 14, 1945;
- ✓JU/94 - 1 prisoner of war who died in the Osaka camp owing to aerial bombardment, March 13, 1945;
- ✓JU/95 - 2 prisoners of war who died in the Osaka camp owing to aerial bombardment, July 30, 1945;
- ✓JU/96 - 32 prisoners of war who died of illness during transfer from the Philippine camp to the Fukuoka camp;
- ✓JU/97 - 1 prisoner of war who died in the Fukuoka camp (No. 3 Subcamp Yahata) owing to Allied aerial bombardment, August 8, 1945;
- ✓KM/13 - 5 prisoners of war interned in Hakodate camp, August 25, 1945;
- ✓MM/112 - 2 civilians interned in the Malaya pow camp, February 10, 1945, transferred from Java camp;
- ✓NM/1 - 3 prisoners of war interned in the Nagoya camp, May 3, 1945;
- ✓OM/21 - 2 prisoners of war interned in the Osaka pow camp transferred from the Philippine Islands;
- ✓OM/64 - 335 prisoners of war interned in the Osaka camp, June 25, 1945, transferred from Hiroshima camp;
- ✓SM/8 - 7 prisoners of war interned in the Shanghai pow camp, December 31, 1943;
- ✓SM/9 - 17 prisoners of war interned in the Shanghai camp between December 30, 1944, and June 12, 1945;

TM/22

-4-

✓ TM/22 - 21 prisoners of war interned in the Taiwan
pow camp, January 11, 1945, transferred
from Philippine camp.

These lists constitute copies of telegrams sent by
the Japanese Prisoner of War Information Bureau to the
International Red Cross Committee at Geneva. The Legation
believes, therefore, that the Department received the
information contained in the enclosed lists from the
Prisoner of War Information Bureau at Washington.

Enclosure: ~~not at all~~ ~~Enc at - NHP~~

*sent to
Col. Kooning
PM* } 43 copies of lists - with
original of despatch only.

File No. 711.4
TJHadraba/mak
In quintuplicate to Department

724

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 13559
dated March 4/66 from the American
Legation, Bern.

APR 5 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 740.00114 A/3-1146

My dear Colonel Kavanaugh:

I am enclosing for your information copies of telegrams sent by the Japanese Prisoner of War Information Bureau to the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva listing American prisoners of War who were in Japanese camps or who died while in Japanese custody. The enclosed lists were furnished to the American Legation at Bern by the Swiss Foreign Office in single copy only and were transmitted to the Department by the Legation under cover of its despatch No. 13559, of March 11, 1946.

Sincerely yours,

EB
E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division

Enclosures:

(For enclosures, see following page.)

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph B. Kavanaugh,
Director, American Prisoner of War
Information Bureau,
Office of Provost Marshal General,
Room 5 - A - 526 Pentagon,
Washington, D. C.

SPD:HDreppard:ec *FLH*

Rev.
Dist.

APR 4 1946 P.M.



4/1/46

711.94114A/3-1146

711.94114A/3-1146
OS/AM

- 2 -

Enclosures:

Names of American
Prisoners held in
Japan or who died
in Japanese custody,
given as follows:

1. List No. A.M. 73
2. List No. A.M. 74
3. List No. A.M. 75
4. List No. C.M. 7
5. List No. D.M. 15
6. List No. F.M. 66
7. List No. F.M. 72
8. List No. F.M. 74
9. List No. J.U. 77
10. List No. J.U. 81
11. List No. J.U. 82
12. List No. J.U. 83
13. List No. J.U. 84
14. List No. J.U. 85
15. List No. J.U. 87
16. List No. J.U. 88
17. List No. J.U. 89
18. List No. J.U. 90
19. List No. J.U. 91
20. List No. J.U. 92
21. List No. J.U. 93
22. List No. J.U. 94
23. List No. J.U. 95
24. List No. J.U. 96
25. List No. J.U. 97
26. List No. K.M. 13
27. List No. N.M. 1
28. List No. O.M. 21
29. List No. C.M. 64
30. List No. S.M. 8
31. List No. S.M. 9
32. List No. T.M. 22

APR 5 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114 A/3-1146

My dear Colonel Kavanaugh:

I am enclosing for your information copies of telegrams sent by the Japanese Prisoner of War Information Bureau to the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva listing American civilians who were held in Japanese camps or who died while in Japanese custody. The enclosed lists were forwarded to the American Legation at Bern by the Swiss Foreign Office in single copy only and were received by the Department from the Legation under cover of its despatch No. 13559, of March 11, 1946.

Sincerely yours,

EB
E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division

Enclosures:

(For enclosures, see following page.)

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph B. Kavanaugh,
Director, American Prisoner of War
Information Bureau,
Office of Provost Marshal General,
Room 5 - A - 526 Pentagon,
Washington, D. C.

CR ✓
APR 4 1946 P.M.
SPD:HDreppard:ec

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>FLH</i>
Rev.	
Cat.	
Dist.	

4/1/46

711.94114A/3-1146

711.94114a-3-1146
CSM

- 2 -

Enclosures:

Names of American
civilians who were
held in Japanese
camps or who died
in Japanese custody,
given as follows:

1. List No.C. 173
2. List No.C. 175
3. List No.C. 177
4. List No.C. 202
5. List No.C. 203
6. List No.C. 204
7. List No.C. 270
8. List No.D. 21
9. List No.D. 61
10. List No.D. 64
11. List No.M.M.

112

3-18-46

MAR 10 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/3-1146

file

My dear Mr. Landis:

I refer again to your letter of March 11, 1946 with regard to the report that American personnel may be held hostage by the Indonesians in Java.

I have received a supplementary report from the Department's representative at Batavia, Java, in which he states that neither he nor the local military authorities believe that American personnel are held as hostages on the island. All of the Dutch civilian and military officials and the British military authorities throughout the Netherlands East Indies have received instructions to make all possible investigations with regard to missing American personnel and to report such information as they may be able to find to Batavia for the information of the Department's representative there. The Dutch have also instructed loyal natives and loyal native officials to make every effort to obtain such information.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

711.94114A/3-1246

711.94114a/3-1246

The Honorable
Gerald W. Landis,
House of Representatives.

Handwritten notes:
18 1946 P.M.

SPD:ETBailey:erk

3/18/46

AIRGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

Department of State

RESTRICTED

NO. A-29

Washington,

TIME _____

April 24, 1946

AMERICAN CONSUL,
BATAVIA, JAVA.

2711

2711

711.94114a/3-1246
711.94114a/2-2846

Department's telegram no. 64, March 7, and
your telegram no. 94, March 12.

Has any information been received as to whether
search of Japen Island area and New Guinea has been
completed by appropriate authorities?

Lieutenant Joseph M. Barkley, USNR, naval
aviator, was reported as missing on June 7, 1945,
off Kape d'Urville, Dutch New Guinea.

Acheson
acting

Cyruce
(AB)

711.94114A/3-1246

DCR - GP-C Unit	
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Rev.	
Cat.	<i>VT</i>
Dist.	

711.94114a/3-1246
CS/WJ

SPD:EDreppard:ATS

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4/19/46

SPECIAL PROJECTS DIVISION
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH
MAR 15 1946

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION COPY

3/18/46
Letter to Mr. Landis
ETB/erk
sent to SPD for action
Kollar

INCOMING TELEGRAM
4725
Batavia
Dated March 12, 1946
Rec'd 6:45 a.m., 13th

RESTRICTED

OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
DISTRIBUTION OFFICE
MAR 14 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION: ~~EUR~~ SPD
INFO: SECSTATE
FE
SPD
FC
DC/R

94, March 12, Midnight
Department's telegram No. 64, March 7

I do not believe the officers and men are held as hostages in Java. Local military authorities believe that if they were brought to Java the fact would have been known by now. All Dutch officials civil and military and British military authorities wherever they may be stationed in the Netherlands Indies have been instructed to make all possible investigations and to report promptly to Batavia for my information. Dutch have instructed loyal natives as well as officials to make every possible effort to obtain information concerning the fate of the men and to report promptly to Batavia for my information. Any information obtained will be reported promptly.

FOOTE

JT
RESTRICTED

AUG 12 1946
FILED

711.94114A/3-1246

DC/R

3699

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

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Department of State

RESTRICTED

Charge Department: 9.80

Washington

Charge to Mrs. John F. Pohl, 1708 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

APR 12 1946
spm

RESTRICTED
Government Agency

AMERICAN CONSUL,
BATAVIA, JAVA.

103

Croze family asks if specific individuals REURTEL 94, March 12, DEPTTEL 72, March 15, have been sent to Celebes to search for these men or if this duty has been added to the numerous other duties of officials in the area. STCOR.

711.94114A/3-1246

Byrnes (EB)

DCS - GI - Unit
Anal. Dorothea M. Laurion
Rev.
Cat.
Dist.

TELEGRAMS
DISTRIBUTION

APR 12 1946

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL

CS/WJ

711.94114a/3-1246

SPD:ETBailey:erk

NOE
[Signature]

4/11/46

CR ✓ sm
APR 12 1946 P.M.

copy

4574

DC/B

PREPARING OFFICE WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

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

Collect

Department of State

RESTRICTED

Charge Department:

Washington

Charge to

The contents must be preserved before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency.
RESTRICTED

MAR 15 1946
Sp

AMERICAN CONSUL,
BATAVIA, JAVA.

72

Croze wrecked plane was photographed at 00-50 South Latitude, 119-36 East Longitude, point on west coast of Celebes, 104 nautical miles south of equator.

REURTEL 94, March 12.

711.94114a/3-1246

Disappearance of officers + men in Batavia.

Dynnes (EB)

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RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

MAR 15 PM 7:20

SPD:ETBailey:erk

3/15/46

CS/WJ

711.94114A/3-1246 94114A/3-1246

✓
J. Mc

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

AIRGRAM SENT

Department of State

RESTRICTED

NO. A-32
2502
TIME _____

Washington,

455

AMERICAN CONSUL,
BATAVIA, JAVA.

May 3, 1946 455

Your telegram no. 94, March 12.

Please inform Department regarding any information that becomes available concerning Second Lieutenant Benjamin R. Wirz, 02065866, reported killed in action June 25, 1945, in vicinity of Maros Celebes.

Bynes Acheson
acting
(FB) acting

✓ CR LMK
MAY 3 1946

DOR - GP-C Unit
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SPD:HDreppard:ATS

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4/17/46

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TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
* RESTRICTED *

AIRGRAM SENT

Department of State

RESTRICTED

NO. A-26

Washington,

TIME _____

1874

AMERICAN CONSUL,

BATAVIA, JAVA

April 16, 1946 1874

A -

REURTEL 94, March 12, 1946.

Department desires to know whether search for missing American military personnel has been completed on Ceram Island by appropriate authorities and whether Consulate General has any information regarding Technical Sergeant Henry A. Kutz, Army Serial No. 31,164,888 USAAF who was reported missing in mission in vicinity Boela, Ceram Island on August 5, 1944.

Department also desires to receive any information Consulate General may be able to obtain concerning Chief Radioman, Carl James Smith, U.S.N.R. whose ship, U.S.S. Bullhead, a submarine, failed to return from war patrol in July 1945 which took her through Lombok Strait into Java sea where ship was to operate north and east of Lombok Strait.

711.94114A/3-1346

CS/VJ 711.94114a/3-1346

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.	<i>Dorothea M. Laurion</i>
Rev.
Cat.	<i>MF</i>

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(SB)
Byrnes

711.94114A/3-1346

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APR 16 4 11 P.M.

4/11/46

SPD:HDreppard:ec

SPD

MAY 23 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/3-1846

My dear Governor Gates:

I refer to your letter of March 18, 1946, and to our previous correspondence, with regard to the whereabouts of K. J. Crow, AOM3/c, who is missing in action after the airplane on which he was serving was forced down in the Makasser Straits in June 1945.

I have now received another report from the Department's representative at Batavia, which states that a special searching party of the United States Army visited the place where Mr. Crow's plane crashed. The party also went inland. They found evidence that a fight had taken place on the beach in which six men died. The men were buried in the brush not far from the crashed plane. Four survivors were taken into the interior and held for a while by the Japanese Military Police, but they have not been heard of since. The Consul General states that he is reasonably sure that the natives are not holding any Americans, because the natives are friendly to Americans and would be the first to assist any of them who are alive. The search of the Netherland Indies military and civilian services is continuing wherever possible. Since the archipelago consists of more than 10,000 islands, the task is unending.

I shall not fail to forward to you any further information I may receive concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

The Honorable
Ralph F. Gates,
Governor of Indiana.
Indianapolis.
SPD:ETBailey:erk

Anal.	DCR - GP-C
Rev.	Dorothea M. Laurion
Cat.	14C
Dist.	

5/21/46

711.94114A/3-1846

CS/VJ

711.94114A/3-1846

MAY 22 1946

STATE OF INDIANA

RALPH F. GATES
GOVERNOR



INDIANAPOLIS 4

HD SPT

DC/R

March 18th, 1946

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
MAR 20 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Hon. James F. Byrnes
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Byrnes:

I want to thank you and those of your staff for the cooperation you have extended this office concerning K. J. Crow, AOM3/c, who is one of our Hoosier boys missing in action having been forced down in the Makasser Straits in June of 1945.

I appreciate the efforts you have extended in his behalf, and was certainly pleased to learn from your letter of March 16th that Dutch and British authorities, together with loyal natives have been instructed to continue a search for Mr. Crow and other American soldiers who may be held hostages.

Again I wish to reiterate the fact that I do not believe any condition or set of conditions political or otherwise which might exist in this territory are important enough to prevent our Country from taking every step possible, regardless of their nature or severity in seeing that every American boy who may be held hostage in this area is searched for and liberated. I am sure you join with me in this belief.

Thanking you again, and with kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ralph F. Gates
Governor

711.94114A/3-1846

711.94114A/3-1846
CS/VJ

RFG:RS-ec

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1946 MAR 22 11 31 AM '46

RECORDS BRANCH

DCB - GP-3 Unit
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Rev. 113
Cat. WMM
Dist.

AUG 6 - 1946

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DC/R ROUTING SLIP

FROM Canberra

NO. # 1315

ACTION: 4 SPD

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5 copies



No. 1315

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
3rd to War
MAY 3 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1946 APR 29 AM 10 17

AMERICAN LEGATION

UNRESTRICTED

Canberra, Australia, March 28, 1946.
RECORDS BRANCH

Subject: Whereabouts of Mr. Albert Evanson

711.94114A/11-3045
SPD

The Charge d'Affaires ad interim has the honor to refer to the Department's airgram no. 163 of December 12, 1945 requesting the Legation to ascertain the present whereabouts of Mr. Albert Evanson, an Australian national, and contact him with a view to obtaining from him information concerning Lieutenant Thompson, U.S.A.A.F., and other American citizens who may have been held by the Japanese at a camp at Rabaul together with Mr. Evanson.

The Legation sought the aid of the Commonwealth Department of External Affairs in ascertaining the present whereabouts of Mr. Evanson. It has now received a note from the Department of External Affairs, dated March 26, 1946, stating that no trace of Mr. Evanson has been discovered. The note goes on to state, however, that the Lieutenant Thompson mentioned in the Department's airgram under reference may be identical with a Lieutenant Thompson whose name appears in a report made by Headquarters South East Japanese Navy at Rabaul on August 31, 1945 to the Australian military authorities. This report also contains particulars in regard to a number of other members of the United States forces who were captured in the Territory of New Guinea. The Department of External Affairs consequently supplied the Legation with extracts from the report dealing with American citizens. A copy of the note from the Department of External Affairs, together with its enclosure (the extracts referred to above), is enclosed.

711.94114A/3-2846

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 28 1946
DIVISION OF RECORDS
AND COMMUNICATIONS

/1

Enclosure: *att-114A*

Copy of note from External Affairs, dated March 26, 1946 with enclosure thereto.

Anal. *FZH*
at 3
SA

711.4
Douglas Jenkins, Jr./vr

To the Department in original and hectograph.

[Handwritten signature]
CS/A
711.94114A/3-2846

AIR MAIL

Enclosure to despatch no. 1315, dated March 28, 1946, from American Legation, Canberra, Australia, on subject of "Whereabouts of Mr. Albert Evanson."

The Department of External Affairs presents its compliments to the Legation of the United States of America and has the honour to state, with reference to the Legation's Note of 21st January, 1946 regarding the present whereabouts of Mr. Albert Evensen, that no trace of Mr. Evensen has been discovered.

It is noted that the information is required by the United States Department of State in order to ascertain whether any information can be supplied by Mr. Evensen regarding Lieutenant Thompson, United States Army Air Force, as well as any other American citizens who may have been held in the internment camp at Rabaul.

The Department of External Territories has stated that Mr. Evensen was one of a party of ten civilians reported to have been still in Rabaul as late as May, 1944, but it has so far been unable to obtain any authentic information of their movement or probable fate subsequent to that date.

In the circumstances, it is regretted that it is not practicable to comply with the Legation's request, but certain particulars concerning a member of the American Forces, who may be identical with Lieutenant Thompson mentioned in the Legation's memorandum, appear in a report made by Headquarters South East Japanese Navy at Rabaul on 31st August, 1945. This report was received from the military authorities and also contains similar particulars in regard to a number of other members of the United States Forces who were captured in the Territory of New Guinea.

As it is thought that this information may be of value, extracts of certain sections of the Report have been made by the Department of External Territories and are forwarded herein.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

26th March, 1946.

AIR MAIL

-2-

List of American Prisoners of War and Civilian
Internees under the Protection and Care of the
Imperial Japanese Navy (Compiled by HQ SE
Japanese Navy at Rabaul on 31.8.42)

1. Those who were sent to the Japanese homeland.

Welles, W. T., Sub-Lieutenant 2nd Class (Navy A.F.)
Captured November 10, 1943 at Buka. Transferred
from Army Forces' Camp to the Navy on December 19,
1943, hence sent by air on December 20, 1943.

Nyarady, Stephen Albert, Sub-Lieutenant 2nd Class
(Navy A.F.). Captured November 11, 1943 at
Rabaul. Transferred from Army Forces' Camp to
the Navy on December 19, 1943, hence sent by
air on December 20, 1943.

O'Hagen, Jerry, Radioman 2nd Class. Captured
November 11, 1943 at Rabaul. Sent by sub-
chaser on December 28, 1943.

Taylor, Charles Kersey, Captain (A.A.F.). Captured
October 22, 1943 at Rabaul. Sent by air on
February 16, 1944.

Arbuckle J. M., Captain. Captured November 22, 1943
at New Ireland. Sent by air February 16, 1944.

Boying, Gregory, Major (Marine A.F.). Captured
January 3, 1944 at Rabaul. Sent by air
February 16, 1944.

Doyle, Donald Winsor, Lieutenant-Commander. Captured
January 24, 1944 at Rabaul. Sent by air February 16,
1944.

Ardel, Nord, 1st Lieutenant. Captured February 14, 1943
at Choiseul. Sent by "Kokai Maru" on February 20,
1944.

Willman, Howard Huey, 2nd Lieutenant. Captured Febru-
ary 14, 1943 at Buin. Sent by "Kokai Maru" on
February 20, 1944.

Beck, Philip Louis, 1st Lieutenant. Captured June 13,
1943 at Rabaul. Sent by "Kokai Maru" on Febru-
ary 20, 1944.

Beasley, Walter Albert, Sub-Lieutenant 1st Class.
Captured June 13, 1943 at Buin. Sent by "Kokai
Maru" on February 20, 1944.

Crocker

AIR MAIL

-3-

Crocker, Edward Albert, 1st Lieutenant (Marine A.F.).
Captured September 16, 1943 at Belalei. Sent by
"Kokai Maru" on February 20, 1944.

Artel, Arthur, Sub-Lieutenant 1st Class. Captured
November 12, 1943 at Buka. Sent by "Kokai Maru"
on February 20, 1944.

Phillis, Philip Kirk, Sub-Lieutenant. Captured
November 23, 1943 at New Ireland. Sent by
"Kokai Maru" on February 20, 1944.

Bailey, J.P., 2nd Lieutenant. Captured November 23,
1943 at Buka. Sent by "Kokai Maru" on Febru-
ary 20, 1944.

Hamilton, W. S., Chief Petty Officer. Captured
November 28, 1943 at New Ireland. Sent by
"Kokai Maru" on February 20, 1944.

Painter, Steven Wallace, 1st Lieutenant (Marine A.F.).
Captured January 5, 1944 at Duke of York Island.
Sent by "Kokai Maru" on February 20, 1944.

Martelles, Paul James, Petty Officer 2nd Class.
Captured January 10, 1944 at New Ireland.
Sent by "Kokai Maru" on February 20, 1944.

Note: At the instant sinking of the "Kokai Maru" not
more than a few passengers were rescued by our
side and the rest are presumed to have died.
However, in view of fine weather and calm sea
and the operations of the Allied rescue air-
crafts on that day, there are possibilities
of survivors living. Therefore, the total
number of the dead are unknown.

2. Dead

Bartvett, H.V.O., 2nd Lieutenant (Army A.F. Captured
October 29, 1943 at Gabubu. Died of malaria
January 10, 1944.

Manon, Paul Monroe, Petty Officer 2nd Class. Captured
November 22, 1943 at New Ireland. Died of malaria
February 22, 1944.

Sciara, Charles, Staff Sergeant. Captured January 14,
1944 at Rabaul. Died of malaria and beri-beri
February 24, 1944.

Marshall, R. W., 1st Lieutenant. Captured January 20,
1944 at Rabaul. Died of excessive bleeding
January 20, 1944.

Kirk

AIR MAIL

-4-

Kirk, James, Petty Officer 1st Class. Captured November 22, 1943 at New Ireland. Killed by bombing, April 12, 1944.

Morgan, Carls, Petty Officer 2nd Class. Captured November 22, 1943 at New Ireland. Killed by bombing, April 12, 1944.

Thompson, N. B., 1st Lieutenant. Captured November 22, 1943 at New Ireland. Killed by bombing April 12, 1944.

Clemens, Carl Clifford, 1st Lieutenant. Captured January 9, 1944 at Rabaul. Seriously injured by bombing April 12, 1944. Died soon after.

Osgen, Cieon Isaac, Captain. Captured January 10, 1944 at New Ireland. Killed by bombing, April 12, 1944.

Slipkas, Edward Michael, Staff Sergeant. Captured February 14, 1944 at Rabaul. Seriously injured by bombing April 12, 1944. Died soon after.

Marvin, Cecil, Gunner. Captured February 14, 1944 at Rabaul. Killed by bombing, April 12, 1944.

3. Those who were temporarily interned in Prisoners' Quarters and later transferred to other places.

Cornelius. P.O.W. February 15, 1944. 1st Lieutenant (Marine A.F.). Transferred February 29, 1944 to Army. Died of malaria at Army Military Police Corps, April 29, 1944.

Hank, Bill Donald. P.O.W. April 18, 1944. 1st Lieutenant (Marine A.F.). Transferred April 22, 1944 to Army. Died of malnutrition at Army Military Police Corps, August 25, 1944.

Paragraph 3 of Report reads:

"When the Headquarters of the Southeastern Japanese Navy, the Headquarters of the 8th Base Corps, the Headquarters of the 81st Defence Corps and Prisoner of War Camp was burnt and destroyed by bombings on February 27, 1944, at the beginning of March and on April 12, 1944, all official documents concerning prisoners of war were burnt. As the present list of prisoners of war and civilian internees has been compiled only by a memorandum remaining in the headquarters and the memory of the prisoners' guard, we are not sure of its accuracy."

MAY 11 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114 A/11-3045

The Acting Secretary of State refers to a letter dated November 30, 1945, reference AFPPA-8, from Brigadier General Leon W. Johnson, Chief, Personnel Services Division, AG/AS-1, enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Thomas O. Thompson concerning his son, Second Lieutenant Thomas O. Thompson, Jr., United States Army Air Forces.

The Department has had an inquiry made through the United States Legation at Canberra in an effort to locate a Mr. Albert Evansen, an Australian civilian, who had been interned at Rabaul during 1944, and who was reported to have information about Lieutenant Thompson.

A reply has been received to this inquiry informing the Department that Mr. Evansen cannot be located. Enclosed with the reply is an extract from a report made by the Japanese Navy, dated August 31, 1945, concerning allied personnel held at Rabaul. A Lieutenant Thompson is mentioned in this report under paragraph 2. Dead, but the report does not furnish sufficient evidence to indicate that this officer is the subject of the inquiry. A copy of the report is furnished herewith for the information of the War Department.

711.94114A/3-2846

CS/WJ

711.94114a

3-2846

DCR - GP-C

Qual.
Rev.
Dist.

FH

W

A true copy of the report is enclosed.

Enclosure:

Despatch No. 1315,
March 28, 1946,
with enclosure.

MAY 13 1946

SPD:LSNPhillipp:erk

5/10/46

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Memorandum of Conversation
TELEPHONE

DATE: April 3, 1946

SUBJECT: Briefing of Naval Observer being assigned to Batavia regarding missing naval personnel in Java, Celebes and adjacent areas.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Allen, NOE, and Miss Dreppard, SPD.
Commander H.D. Atkinson, Bureau of Naval Personnel and Mr. Bailey, SPD.

COPIES TO: NOE

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
APR 3 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A/4-346

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Mr. Allen telephoned Mr. Bailey and in his absence talked with Miss Dreppard concerning the recent letter drafted in SPD to the Secretary of the Navy regarding missing American naval personnel in the Celebes. Mr. Allen stated that a week or so ago he had talked with a Captain McCollum (?) who was being assigned as a Naval Observer to Batavia, who knew nothing whatever regarding the matter of these missing naval personnel and that he thought SPD should informally contact an appropriate officer in the Navy Department in this regard in order that the Naval Observer assigned to Batavia might be properly briefed.

Miss Dreppard subsequently informed Mr. Bailey of Mr. Allen's suggestion, whereupon Mr. Bailey telephoned Commander Atkinson in the Bureau of Naval Personnel and informed him that an officer of this Department had learned informally that a naval observer, whose name was believed to be Captain McCollum, was being sent to Batavia and that the officer stated he had not been informed regarding the naval personnel missing in that area. Commander Atkinson thanked Mr. Bailey for this information and informed him that he would call this to the attention of the Office of Naval Intelligence in order that it might brief the Naval Observer in this regard.

PKH
Rev. *us*

SPD:HDreppard:ATS

FILED

CS/V 711.94114a/4-346

APR 29 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114a / 4-1646

The Secretary of State transmits to the Secretary of War for the information of the Adjutant General a copy of an airgram dated April 16, 1946, sent to the American Consul General at Batavia by the Department concerning Technical Sergeant Henry A. Kutz, Army serial number 31,164,888 USAAF, who was reported missing in the vicinity of Boela, Ceram Island, on August 5, 1944.

In this connection, the War Department will be interested to know that numerous inquiries have been received by the Department of State from various individuals regarding the efforts being made by this Government to search for Army and Navy personnel reported as missing in the Netherlands East Indies. As a result of these inquiries, the Department brought the matter to the attention of the American Consul General at Batavia and requested him to approach the appropriate authorities regarding the efforts being made by them to search for missing American military personnel in the Netherlands East Indies. In reply, the Consul General informed the Department early in March 1946 that all Dutch civilian and military officials and British military authorities throughout the Netherlands East Indies had had the matter brought to their attention and had been given instructions regarding searching for missing American military personnel and reporting their findings to Batavia. He likewise reported that similar instructions had been given by the Dutch to loyal native officials.

Upon receipt of information from the Consul General at Batavia concerning missing Army personnel, the War Department will be promptly informed.

Enclosure:

To Batavia, airgram no. 26,
April 16, 1946.

SPD:HDreppard:ATS

4/22/46

711.94114A/4-1646

711.94114a/4-1646
CS/IA
5B

Handwritten notes and stamps:
APR 23 1946 P.M.
APR 29 1946
C-7
Handwritten initials

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1946 APR 30 PM 12 21

DC/R
RECORDS BRANCH

5/2/46 Ltr. to Mrs. Goble
file

"Instr. to Batavia"
"Telegram to Batavia"
HD/AB

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
APR 29 1946
POINT TO FILE FOR INFORMATION
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

April 25, 1946

Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division
State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bailey,

Since talking to you on April 10, 1946 about my brother Navy Lieutenant De Land Joseph Croze who is "missing" in the Celebes I have received a letter from a merchant in Macassar, Celebes which states that three of the members of my brother's crew were alive when last seen in Palopo, Celebes, and that information concerning the disaster to the Navy PBM piloted by my brother was published in the Japanese bulletin in the Celebes.

This information is proof positive that the natives in that region AND the Japanese stationed there have information concerning the disaster. IT IS THE OBLIGATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROCURE THIS DATA.

No search mission has been sent into this particular area by any nation and no one has made an organized attempt to rescue this particular crew since the termination of the war.

When I called on you in Washington on March 14, 1946 and again in my telephone conversation on April 10th, I explained to you the need for great haste in procuring a search mission into the Celebes to get information about this crew. The 325,000 Japanese in the Indies, of which at least 35,000 are still at large, are being repatriated and once the Japs get to Japan there is no chance of procuring from them any data of the disaster.

It was a stunning blow to learn that the special search mission requested for this particular crew by Navy Secretary Forrestal on March 15, 1946 was not transmitted to the British Authorities in Washington but rather was forwarded to our Consul General in Batavia. Certainly no very positive information has come from that source, (I have learned that the 6 weeks required in the past for the arrival of information from the Consul General in Batavia is a ridiculously long time.) and also certainly the Dutch are in no position to

~~84-23664-1-2546~~
711-94114A/4-2546

811-3356H/4-2546
711-94114A/4-2546

CS/VJ

711-94114A/4-2546

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HR
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RR

JUL 1 1946

page 2.

ETB from BCP 4/25/46

carry out such a search mission at the present time when they can't even rescue their own countrymen held hostage in Java let alone a few American Airmen lost in the Celebes. The reports today from Amsterdam indicate the the negotiations between the Indonesians and the Dutch are not progressing and that the Indonesians are returning to Java without a peaceful settlement of their differences.

It is quite apparent that the United States has abandoned American Citizens in an area infested with Japanese who are still at war in spite of the August 1945 surrender in Tokyo.

The United States MUST send into the Celebes immediately a special search mission to learn the whereabouts of these United States Citizens sent into a United States Combat area by the United States.

Frankly, my patience has finally been exhausted over this period of the last eight months. If an efficient search mission is not forthcoming immediately for these particular men my only alternative is to transmit my mass of thoroughly authenticated data to every Congressman, selected Newspaper Editors and Radio Commentators showing the neglect and abandonment of United States Citizens by the United States Government.

Very truly yours,

B. C. Pohl

B. C. Pohl
1708 Irving Avenue S.
Minneapolis 5, Minn.

SPD

MAY 23 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 811-4456H/4-2546

711.94114a/4-2546

My dear Mrs. Pohl:

I refer to my letter of May 14, 1946, and to our previous correspondence concerning the case of your brother, Lieutenant De Land Joseph Croze, who was reported missing in the Celebes.

The Department has now received another report from its representative at Batavia, which states that a special searching party of the United States Army visited the place where Lieutenant Croze's plane crashed. The party also went inland. They found evidence that a fight had taken place on the beach in which six men died. The men were buried in the brush not far from the crashed plane. Four survivors were taken into the interior and held for a while by the Japanese Military Police, but they have not been heard of since. The Consul General states that he is reasonably sure that the natives are not holding any Americans, because the natives are friendly to Americans and would be the first to assist any of them who are alive. The search of the Netherland Indies military and civilian services is continuing wherever possible. Since the archipelago consists of more than 10,000 islands, the task is unending.

I am sorry that the report from Batavia is not encouraging, and I shall continue to forward to you any information which I may receive.

Sincerely yours,

DOR - GROZE
Dorothea M. Lawson
E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division

Mrs. B. C. Pohl,
1708 Irving Avenue, South,
Minneapolis 5, Minnesota.

SPD:ETBailey:erk

5/21/46

MAY 22 1946 P.M.

711.94114a/4-2546

811-4456H/4-2546

CS/VJ 711.94114a/4-2546



aw

MAY 10 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

No.

To the

American Consular Officer in Charge,
Batavia, Java.

The Acting Secretary of State refers to the Department's instruction dated April 4, 1946, and to previous correspondence exchanged with the Consulate General concerning American naval airmen missing in the Celebes. There is now enclosed a copy of a letter dated April 25, 1946, sent to the Department by Mrs. B.C. Pohl, a sister of Lieutenant De Land Joseph Croze, one of the missing airmen.

The Consular Officer in Charge is authorized to convey to the local military officials such information given in Mrs. Pohl's letter as will assist them in their search. If a copy of the Japanese bulletin mentioned in Mrs. Pohl's letter as having carried a report of the disaster of her brother's plane can be obtained, it is requested that it be forwarded to the Department.

Enclosure:

From Mrs. B.C. Pohl,
April 25, 1946.

~~811.3356H/4-2546~~

SPD:HDreppard:ATS

NOE

5/7/46

MAY 10 1946 P.M.

Handwritten: *Dorothée M. Louison*

Stamp: DOR - GP-C Unit

Stamp: *1*

Stamp: *the street*

711.94114A/4-2546

CS/RH

~~811.3356H/4-2546~~

CS/VJ

711.94114a/4-2546

MAY 14 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 911.4456H/4-2546

811 3336 H

My dear Mrs. Pohl:

I have received your letter dated April 25, 1946, with further reference to the case of your brother, Lieutenant De Land Joseph Croze, who was reported missing in the Celebes.

My deepest sympathy is extended to you and your family during this period of anxiety which you have undergone. I assure you, however, that the Department has taken and will continue to take all possible steps to obtain information concerning your brother.

In your letter you refer to a letter dated March 15 from the Secretary of the Navy to the Secretary of State. This letter requested that the Department "request the proper British officials to make a thorough search of that section of the Celebes where the plane" of your brother was known to have crashed. As you know, the American Consul General at Batavia, Java, about the same time reported that the British military authorities in the Netherlands East Indies had been instructed to make all possible investigations with regard to this matter. You are also aware that information concerning the wrecked plane was also sent to Batavia. In addition, a Navy Department report was sent to Batavia for the use of the authorities there. Since the Department has sent to Batavia all of the information it has received concerning the loss of your brother's plane and several members of its crew, and since it has been assured that the local British, Dutch and loyal native officials have been instructed to search for the missing men, I fail to see additional steps the Department should have taken in the matter. It is not within the scope of the Department's activities to send out a special mission to search for missing military personnel.

I am

Donna M. Lounion
Mrs. B. C. Pohl,
1703 Irving Avenue, South,
Minneapolis 5, Minnesota.

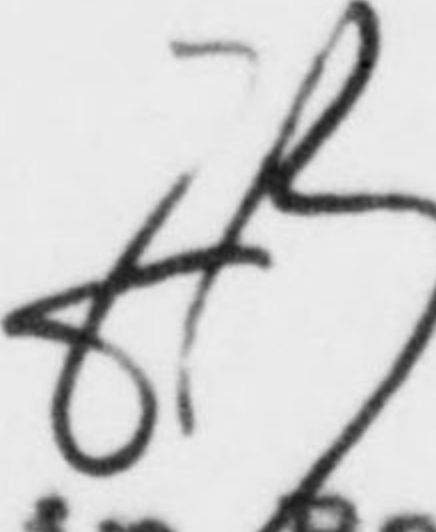
711.94114A/4-2546

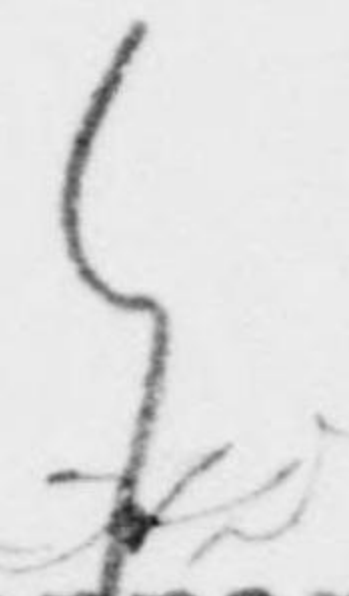
CS/VJ/11.94114a/4-2546

-2-

I am sending the information contained in your letter under acknowledgement about the communication from a merchant in Macassar to the American Consul General in Batavia with the request that this information be brought to the attention of the local military authorities. I suggest that you provide a photostatic copy of the letter from Macassar to the Department so that it, too, may be forwarded to Batavia.

Sincerely yours,


E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division


SPD:(HDreppard):ATS
(ETBailey)

✓
NOE

5/7/46

MAY 10 1946 P.M.

In reply refer to
Le 711.94114a/4-3046

MAY 28 1946

My dear Mr. Williams:

The Department acknowledges the receipt, by reference from Mr. C. S. Anstead, Parish Service Officer, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Louisiana, of your letter concerning a claim against Japan for losses sustained by you as a prisoner of war of the Japanese forces.

While the Department is not as yet in a position to indicate what procedure will be adopted to deal with claims against Japan or what classes of claims will be entitled to share in any funds which may become available for the settlement of such claims, it is suggesting to former prisoners of war who desire to file with the Department, for possible future consideration, claims for compensation on account of mistreatment and losses sustained, that such claims be prepared along the lines indicated in the enclosed memoranda dated December 20, 1945 and January 5, 1946 which contain detailed suggestions regarding the proper preparation of claims of that character. As indicated in the memoranda, it will greatly facilitate the consideration of claims if the suggestions, as far as applicable, are carefully followed.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothea M. Lavin

For the Secretary of State:

Anal.
Rev.
Cat.
Dist.

Benedict M. English
Assistant to
the Legal Adviser

Enclosures:

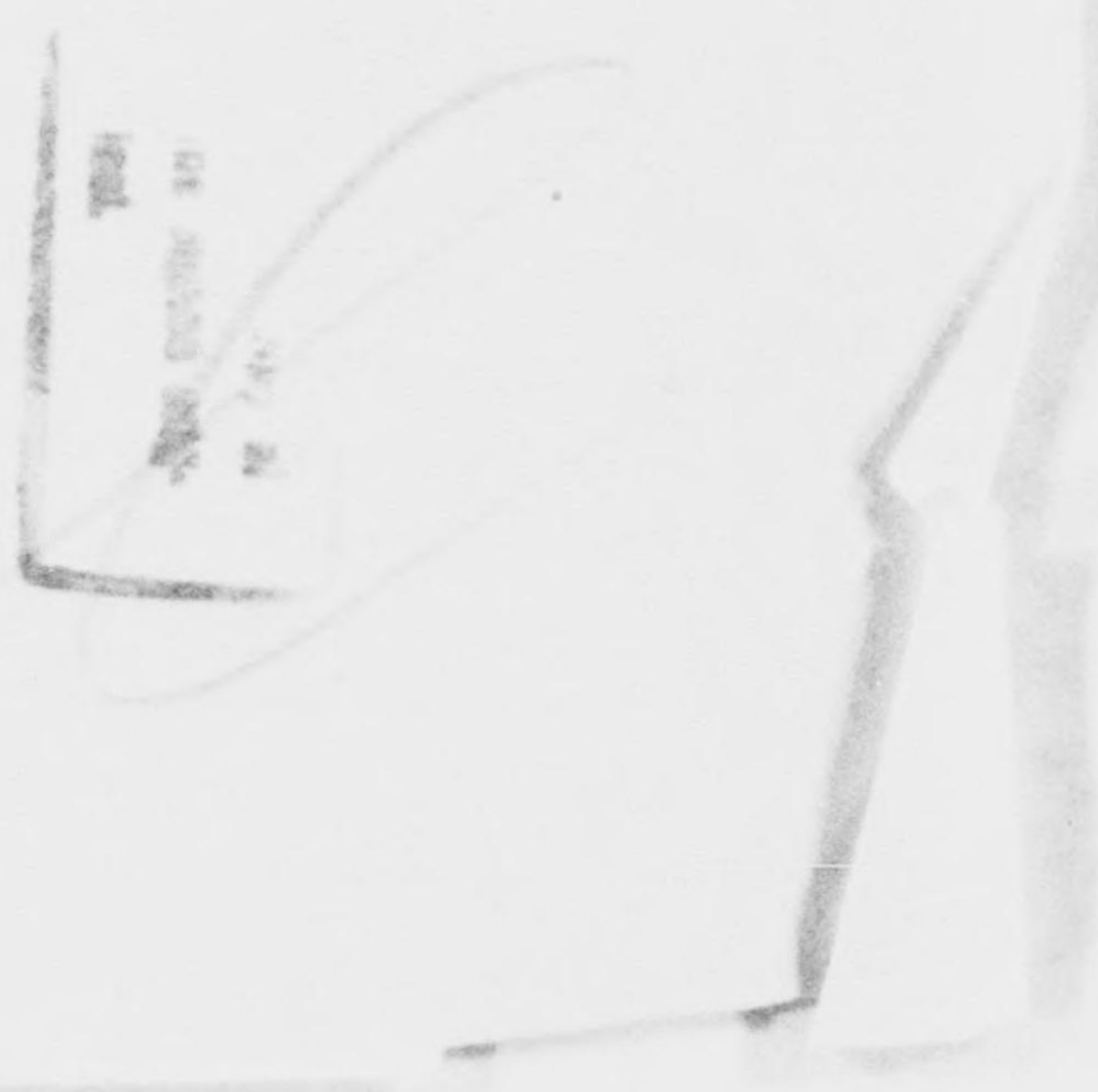
- 1. Memorandum,
December 20, 1945.
- 2. Memorandum,
January 5, 1946.

Mr. Luther Williams,
Rosedale,
Louisiana.

MAY 28 1946

Le:AO/jeil:fje
5/27/46

201 711.94114a/4-3046





JOE DARWIN
DIRECTOR

STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS
BATON ROUGE 4

ADDRESS REPLY TO
TANGIPAHOA PARISH SERVICE OFFICER
CITY HALL
HAMMOND, LA.

Hammond, La.
April 30, 1946

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ WILLIAMS, Luther
USMC 280-118

file
ans 8/8/46
ad [unclear]
SPECIAL PROJECTS
MAY 2 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LEGAL ADVISER
ack 5/27/46
MAY 10 1946
C. J. [unclear]
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

State Department,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:-

The subject veteran has requested the attached letter
be submitted to you.

Yours truly,
C.S. Anstead
C.S. Anstead,
Parish Service Officer

CSA/ia

RECEIVED
MAY 3 3 PM
1946

DC/R
RECORDS BRANCH

Anal. *FCH*
MAY 31 1946
FILED

Emil
att
207

SHOULD YOU CALL ON ANYONE FOR ADVICE CONCERNING YOUR CASE, BRING THIS LETTER

711.94114A/4-3046

CS/WJ 711.94114a
4-3046

WILLIAMS Luther
USMC 2802118

State Separtment,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:-

I served with the 1st Defense Battalion, U.S. Marines on Wake Island and on Dec. 23, 1941 I was captured by troops of the Japanese Government and transferred to Shanghai, China where I was placed in a prison camp and compelled to do manual labor for which I received inadequate pay and was paid occasionally very small amount and was compelled to work on inadequate rations.

It is respectfully requested that this be considered a claim for adjustment of pay from the Japanese Government.

Luther Williams
Luther Williams
Cpl. 1st Defense Bat.
5 Inch Artillery
B Battery Wake Island

5/24/46 72E-1E
(Called Navy concerning address.
L. Williams was discharged
Apr. 5, 1946. Home address:
Rosedale, La.)

Letter mailed to above
address, Rosedale, Louisiana,
returned; sent to new
address 90 C. S. Anstead
Parish Service Officer,
Dept. of Veterans Affairs,
New Orleans, 8.9.46
(M.S.)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Projects
SPECIAL DIVISION

May 8, 1945

A-R: Mr. Chapman

The underlying file regarding missing naval airmen in the Celebes contains four draft communications, one of which is a letter to Mrs. Hick's for Mr. Russell's signature.

I am therefore combining the two cases in the underlying file in order that you may have a thorough picture of the most recent efforts made by the Department.

EB
E. Tomlin Bailey

SPD:HDreppard

Mr Russell
I asked you a really
informative letter for you to
send to Mrs Hick's.
WTC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE SPECIAL PROJECTS
 5/8/46 DIVISION
 Assistant Secretary *Letter to Mrs. Hicks*
 MAY 7 1946
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

May 7, 1946

EXPEDITE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
 MR. RUSSELL
 MAY 7 - 1946
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPD
Mr. Bailey:

Please prepare an appropriate reply to the attached letter which Mr. Russell can forward to Mrs. Hicks.

W.W.C.
 W. W. Chapman, Jr.

Attachment:
 Letter from Mrs. Hicks re her husband, Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.

SPD

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MR. RUSSEL
MAY 3 - 1946
5-7-46
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

May 2nd, 1946.

JCR

Mr. Donald Russel
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Russel:

From recent letters forwarded to you from Senator Burnet R. Maybanks of Washington, D. C., and Governor Ransom J. Williams of Columbia, S.C., I'm sure you have the history of the case I am now putting before you.

My Husband Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr. Serial No. 424612 has been missing in action for eleven months. We have one more month in which to work for information before the Government presumes him dead.

I have no intention of excepting this statement until they furnish me definite proof, either one of the crew or his body...because presuming him dead is no proof whatsoever and he could still be alive.

They went down in June and the Austrialians said they were alive in July so if they were alive then the odds are he is still alive.

The goverment says there are no Navy prisoners left unfound...yet the Austrialians said the natives said there were four of this crew prisoners in July of '45. What do you make of this? There was no need for them to say this if it wasn't so.

There is supposed to be rescue squads on thsi island. I haven't seen any progress yet..JUST WHAT ARE THEY DOING? Who is making this search? Could you mention anyone they have found? Just any progress whatsoever that they are now making.

Dorothea M. Laurion

Rev. _____
Capt. B.R.T.
Dist. _____

AUG 7 - 1946

FILED

711.94114A/5-246

CS/WJ 711.94114a/5-246

(2)

In every letter I receive, you and the other say you are doing everything you possibly can, or you have a routine to follow. I've waited now for your routine work and I'm at my wits end. Now I want some ACTION. Eleven months is eleven months and I'm not waiting for the year to end without doing nothing for him.

I would appreciate an early reply and anything you can do to help me.

The year is rolling around to its end, and I am looking for action not a telegram persuming.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.
1209 Colleton St.
Columbia, S. C.

~~SPD~~

MAY 24 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/5-246

My dear Mrs. Hicks:

I refer to my letter of March 14, 1946 regarding your husband, Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr, who was reported missing in the Celebes.

The Department has now received another report from its representative at Batavia, which states that a special searching party of the United States Army visited the place where Ensign Hicks' plane crashed. The party also went inland. They found evidence that a fight had taken place on the beach in which six men died. The men were buried in the brush not far from the crashed plane. Four survivors were taken into the interior and held for a while by the Japanese Military Police, but they have not been heard of since. The Consul General states that he is reasonably sure that the natives are not holding any Americans, because the natives are friendly to Americans and would be the first to assist any of them who are alive. The search of the Netherland Indies military and civilian services is continuing wherever possible. Since the archipelago consists of more than 10,000 islands, the task is unending.

I am sorry that the report from Batavia is not encouraging, and I shall continue to forward to you any information which I may receive.

Sincerely yours,

Anal. FZIT
Rev.
Cat.

Donald Russell
Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.,
1209 Colleton Street,
Columbia, South Carolina.

MAY 22 1946

SPD:ETBailey:erk

5/21/46

5/23

FID 711.94114A/5-246

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF
COORDINATION AND REVIEW

5/10

SPD

Mr. Bailey
This is primarily a Navy problem
and any future blame for failure of
search should rest on its doorstep.
While all this is implied in your com-
munications I'd like to point out
that you are dealing with women -
S. take a woman's advice as
most copies of all correspondence
to Navy are via inform the witness
They should turn on some heat
in that direction. I've a peculiar
hunch these messengers have some-
thing. Would it U.K. agents a reaction
from U.S.N.?
S and D. Moore

MAY 14 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114 a/5-246

My dear Mrs. Hicks:

I have received your letter of May 2, 1946 referring to correspondence which I have had with Senator Maybank, and Governor Williams of South Carolina, regarding your husband, Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr., who was reported missing in the Celebes. You state that in another month, unless evidence is produced to the contrary, your husband will be presumed to be dead by the military authorities and you are therefore anxious that all possible action be taken before that time.

The case involving the missing personnel of the plane on which your husband served has received the attention of the Department and its representatives at Batavia, Java, over a period of many months. I assure you that it has not been handled perfunctorily or in a routine manner. There has been a great deal of correspondence with members of the families, Congressmen, Governors, and the Secretary of the Navy, who has provided the Department with a full report from the naval files. That report has been forwarded to Batavia, as has all information which the families have been able to supply. The first inquiry of Batavia was made January 10, 1946, and there have been several exchanges of telegrams since that time. I think you know that our Consul General there has reported that not only the British military authorities, but also the Dutch civilian and military officials and the loyal native officials, have been instructed to search for these men. I do not know if a particular small group has been given this mission and no other duties, but I am trying to get this information.

Since

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.,
1209 Colleton Street,
Columbia, South Carolina.

Dorothea M. Laurion
Anal.
Rev.
Dist.

711.94114 a/5-246

- 2 -

Since the Department has sent to Batavia all of the information it has received concerning the loss of this plane and several members of its crew, and in view of the assurances which it has received from the field, I fail to see any additional steps the Department should have taken in this matter. Perhaps I should point out, in this connection, that it is not within the scope of the Department's activities to send out a special mission to search for missing military personnel.

I have noted that in your letter you state that the Australians report that your husband and other members of the crew were alive in July. This report has not come to my attention previously, and I suggest that you give me the exact wording of the report and its source, so that I may, in turn, send it on to Batavia for the use of the authorities there.

I understand your anxiety in this matter and shall certainly see that anything which representatives of this Department can do to help you will be done.

Sincerely yours,

Donald Russell
Assistant Secretary

OR *from*
MAY 10 1946

SB
SPD:HDreppard:erk

NOE
JWA

5/8/46

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2050

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

ROOM 717-515-2205

A-BR/A
accp

20WU X 6

UD-New York, N. Y., 12:04 p.m., May 2, 1946.

L. Henkin,
State Department,
Washington, D. C.

Arrive at 2:55 P.M. by airplane.

Anton Goster.

1711.94114a/7-345

12:50 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
file 14
MAY - 3 1946
ALIEN ENEMY
CONTROL SECTION

711.94114A/5-246

CSN

711.94114a/5-246

JUL 1 1946
DOR - G.P. Unit
Director M. Laurion
Rev. _____
Cat. *CE*
Dist. _____

FILED

PHONED 125 of 75.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION DATE: May 8, 1946.

Rec'd 7/30/46

SUBJECT: Latest Information About Lieutenant Thomas O. Thompson, Jr.

PARTICIPANTS: Major Marshall, PMGO, War Department (78357)
Mr. Phillipp, SPD

*5/10/46
3rd to War
LSNP/erk*

COPIES TO:

STANDARD FORM NO. 64 1-1493

Mr. Phillipp called to ask what was the latest War Department information concerning Lieutenant Thomas O. Thompson, reported missing in action over Rabaul in January 1944.

Major Marshall returned the call to state that Lieutenant Thomas O. Thompson was reported missing in action January 22, 1944. He was reported in Rabaul camp in February 1944 by Lieutenant Commander Arbuckle of the Navy. The Army has him listed as Presumed Dead as of January 17, 1946.

711.94114A/5-846

3

Anal.	<i>RLH</i>
Rev.	
Dist.	<i>W</i>

SPD
SPD:LSNPhillipp:erk

5/8/46.

CS/VJ

711.94114a/5-846

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UNRESTRICTED

..-10

[Handwritten mark]

ORIGIN: SPD
EUR
SPD

March 28, 1946

3075

AMERICAN LEGATION,
CANBERRA.

Reference Department's A-163, December 12, 1945.
Request report of Legation's progress in obtaining
information concerning Lieutenant Thomas O. Thompson,
ASN O-353217.

Acknowled

act

711.94114A/11-3045

SPD:LSN:hillipp:erk

3/28/46

Collect
JH

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

9798 3646
TELEGRAM SENT

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

Department of State

RESTRICTED

Charge Department:

Washington

Charge to Department

US URGENT

AMERICAN CONSUL,

BATAVIA, JAVA.

163

DEPTEL 103, April 12, A-26, April 16, A-29, April 24.

Pressure being brought on Department re missing

airmen in NEI demands that specific information be
forthcoming immediately regarding efforts being made
by British and Dutch authorities to search for missing
men. Report areas in NEI where searches have been
completed, by which authorities, and when searches
~~shall have been~~ *will be* completed in each area.

RESTRICTED
U.S. GOVERNMENT

MAY 14 1946

11 am

711.94114A/3-1246

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Dorothea M. Laurin
And
Rev
Cat
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DIVISION OF
CENTRAL TELETYPE
MAY 16 1946
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May 16, 1946

Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division
State Department
Washington 25, D. C.

file
Rewrite 6/6/46
Letter to Mrs. Pohl
Instr. to Batavia
SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
MAY 21 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ETB/jerk

DOR

Dear Mr. Bailey,

Your letter of May 14, 1946 with reference to the case of my brother, Navy Lieutenant DeLand Joseph Croze who is missing in the Celebes, has been received. Thank you for your offer to send the Macassar merchant's letter to Batavia. I am having more photostats made and will send you one as soon as I can procure them. In the meantime the merchant's address is:

Mr. Frans Meyer
Mardekajaweg Gang 61 2
Macassar, Celebes
Netherland East Indies

I am enclosing a copy of the letter which I have just received from Admiral Ramsey. I am hoping that at last an actual search mission is going into the Celebes. If there is any diplomatic arrangement that must be made before an American search mission can go into the Celebes the facilitation of these arrangements would be appreciated.

The fact that the enemy Japanese are being repatriated in American ships is indescribably enraging when NO ONE (the United States, Britain, nor the Netherlands; and they have had ample opportunity) has made any attempt in the Celebes for the nine months since the Japanese surrender to get the easily obtainable information concerning American men who either gave their lives for their country or are waiting in intolerable surroundings for someone to come and rescue them.

It appears to me that the responsibility for getting immediate information of these men, whether dead or alive, is the responsibility of both the United States Navy, since the "missing" men are Navy men sent into combat by the United States Navy; and of the United States Department of State, since the men are United States Citizens sent into Indonesia by the UNITED STATES to cover the AUSTRALIAN invasion of DUTCH Borneo.

DOR - GP-O
Dorothea M. Lamm
Very sincerely yours
B. C. Pohl
B. C. Pohl
1708 Irving Avenue S.
Minneapolis 5, Minnesota

JUL 13 1946

FILED

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CS/V

711.94114a/5-1646

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington 25, D. C.

Serial 1520P21

May 8, 1946

Dear Mrs. Pohl:

Your letter to Captain Taylor of 22nd April has been referred to me for reply.

The State Department has informed the Navy Department that the Netherlands authorities are conducting a search by loyal natives throughout the East Indies for missing personnel.

Further, instructions have been sent to the United States Naval Liaison Officer in the Dutch East Indies to have a search made in Celebes by American personnel for your brother and those who were on his plane.

Present conditions in the Celebes area are not clearly known here, and it is probable that some time may elapse before an investigation is completed, but I assure you that you will be informed of its result at the earliest ~~of~~ date possible.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. B. C. Pohl
1708 Irving Avenue S.
Minneapolis 5, Minn.

D. C. Ramsey
Admiral U. S. Navy

C
O
P
Y

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
TELEGRAPH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INCOMING TELEGRAM

~~SPD~~
ACTION COPY

DCR

ERA- W
Paraphrase before com-
municating except to
Government Agencies

6384

Batavia

Dated May 17, 1946

Rec'd 11:13 a.m., 17th

RESTRICTED

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
MAY 18 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

File
*Letter to Peil, Smith, Hicks,
Connally, Barkley, Pohl,
Egan, Navy, Judd, Landis,
Gates, Gellie*
SRB/ERK

7/16/46
Mr. Pohl
LSNP/ATS

ACTION: SPD
INFO: SECSTATE
EUR
FE
FC
DC/R

202, May 17, 3 p.m.

Reference Department's telegram No. 163, May 13,
11 a.m. re missing naval air men.

All of the missing air men and other personnel whose names have been referred to the Consulate General by the Department are undoubtedly dead. Assistance of the Netherlands Indies Army, Navy and Civil Services have been sought and they have searched and are still searching wherever possible. The task is unending since there are more than 10,000 islands in the Archipelago. In the case of the missing air men in the Celebes a special searching squad of the United States Army visited the place of the crash and went inland. They found evidence that six men died in the fight on the beach and buried in the brush near the crashed plane. Four prisoners were taken inland and held for some time by the Kempei but they have not been heard of since. I am reasonably sure that no Americans are being held by the natives since they are friendly to Americans and would be the first to assist them if still alive. A report containing part of the findings of the United States Army searching party is being forwarded by airmail via Amsterdam. Further efforts will be made.

FOOTE

MRM

RESTRICTED

Dep. mil. police corp
Long B. J. G. S.
SB.

JUL 12 1948

FILED

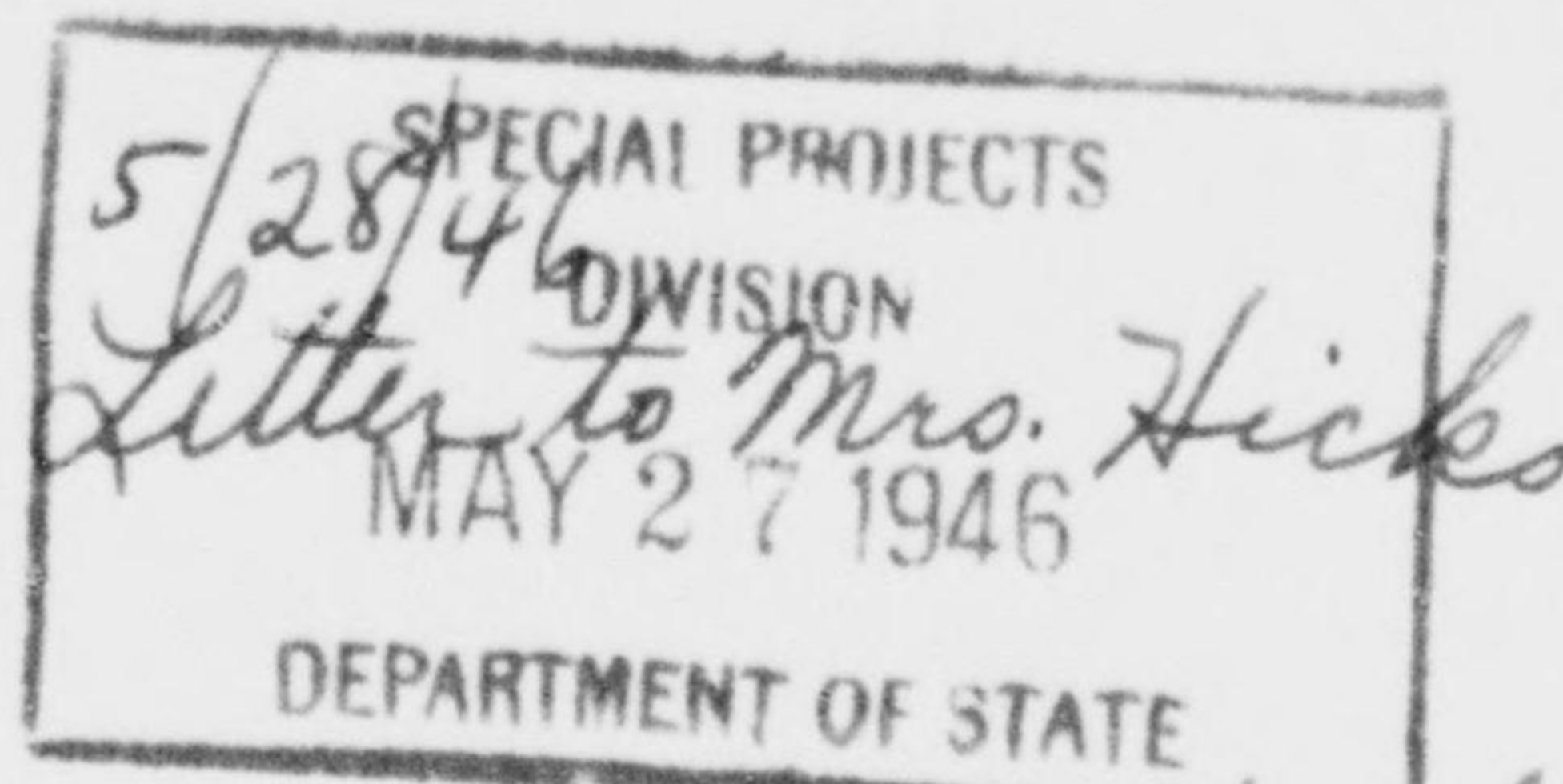
PERMANENT RECORD COPY: THIS COPY MUST BE RETURNED TO DC/R CENTRAL FILES WITH NOTATION OF ACTION TAKEN.

711.94114A/5-1746
CS/V 711.94114a/5-1746

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

May 25, 1946

SPD
Mr. Bailey:

The enclosure from Mrs. Marshall Hicks, Jr. regarding further information concerning her husband who was reported missing in the Celebes is forwarded to your office for appropriate action.

A copy of Mr. Russell's interim reply is enclosed herewith for your information.

W. W. Chapman, Jr.
W. W. Chapman, Jr.

Attachments:
Stated.

~~SPD~~
ack: *[initials]*
5/25/46

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
MR. RUSSELL
MAY 24 1946
5/25/46
DC/R

May 23, 1946.

Mr. Donald Russell
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Russell:

I have received your letter of May 14, 1946 in regards to my husband Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr. who was reported missing in the Celebes.

You suggested that I give you the exact wording of the report and its source, so that you may, in turn, send it on to Batavia for the use of the authorities there.

I am enclosing copies of the letter and of its use since the time that I have had this information. Its origin came from the Twentieth Bombing Squardon, a Lt. Comdr. R. M. Harper first wrote me of this in September, and stated that it had taken place in July. I am sending the paragraph in this letter.

I am also enclosing the letter that I wrote to The Honorable John Jacob Riley, Representative from South Carolina, on January 9, 1946, giving these facts, and I have also written the same to Senator Maybanks in previous letters.

The other Copy comes from Mrs. D. J. Corze, wife of Lt. Deland Croze, a member of my husbands crew also, and where she got her information I think it came from Lt. James Hall, also of the Twentieth Bombing Squardon, in the Pacific.

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AUG 7 - 1946

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5-2346

711,94114A

Page 2

This Squardon has already broken up and come home, and most likely have their discharges by now. This is supposed to be actual facts of the case, and what most of us state our hopes that they are still alive after all these months, but we can't understand what happened if all the Navy prisoners have been accounted for, just what has happened to these boys?

I do hope you have found out if they can send a special group in to look for these boys, and what progress they are making in Batavia in finding them, what information leads them to believe they are still alive.

I will await your reply with great interest.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.
1209 Colleton St.
Columbia, S. C.

We are not in any sense deluding ourselves in believing the possibilities that my brother is a prisoner of war. While we realize that the Division of the War Department charged with the affairs of prisoners of war has done an outstanding job we are also cognizant of the fact that it has been a stupendous task and that the records available to them, particularly the Japanese ones, have not always been complete. The Navy Department informed us on June 29, 1945 that at least 4 members of my brothers crew were taken prisoner by the Japanese. This information was procured from Australian Scouts. In September 1945 we were informed by a pilot in my brothers squadron, in a completely unsolicited letter from an individual never before heard from, that my brother was one of those prisoners. You can readily see therefore that there is factual evidence pointing to the belief that he is a prisoner of war in spite of the fact that there is no record in the prisoner of war division of the War department.

From: Mrs. Betty
Phol.

page 2

there was a native village nearby wherein there was a large enough Japanese radio station to warrant radio towers.

The fact that there were at least 4 prisoners in the group was obtained from an Australian Commando investigation of the region where the plane was forced down. The spot where the Japanese attacked the American crew was not a completely isolated one since

Lt. Comdr. R. M. Harper.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

May 27, 1946

SPD
Mr. Bailey:

5/28/46 SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
Letter to Mrs. Hicks
MAY 28 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Will you please prepare an *8/13/46*
appropriate reply to the attached
letter which Mr. Russell can for-
ward to Mrs. Hicks?

W. W. Chapman, Jr.
W. W. Chapman, Jr.

STD

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MR. RUSSELL
MAY 27 1946
S.P. Pailey
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DC/R

May 24, 1946.

Mr. Donald Russell
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Russell:

I just mailed you a letter yesterday in regards to my husband Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr. missing in the Celebes.

I just last night received the enclosed letter from Mrs. B. C. Phol, whose brother is missing also, and who was in the same crew as my husband.

It looks from this letter, that they are going to make a special search for these boys, and you said in your last letter that you didn't know if they did send special small groups to look for missing personnel.

This letter as you see come from the State Department, so I want to know its truth, or value in believing, as it looks now, things are beginning to look toward the better if they are, and will send a group in to look for them.

Thanking you for all you have done, and will do to help us find Marshall, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.
1209 Colleton St.
Columbia, S. C.

1 Incl.

FCH

MAY 27 1946

FILED

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711.94114A/5-2446

C
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P
YNAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington, D.C.

Serial 1520P21

May 8, 1946.

Dear Mrs. Phol:

Your letter to Captain Taylor of 22 April has been referred to me for reply.

The State Department has informed the Navy Department that the Netherlands authorities are conducting a search by loyal natives throughout the East Indies for missing personnel.

Further, instruction have been sent to the United States Naval Liaison Officer in the Dutch East Indies to have a search made in Celebes by American Personnel for your brother and those who were on his plane.

Present condition in the Celebes area are not clearly known here, and it is probable that some time may elapse before an investigation is completed, but I assure you that you will be informed of its result at the earliest date possible.

Sincerely yours,

D. C. Ramsey
Admiral U. S. NavyC
O
P
Y

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/5-246

MAY 31 1946

My dear Mrs. Hicks:

I have received your letters of May 23 and May 24 referring further to your husband, Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.

In my letter of May 24 I gave you the latest information which the Department has received concerning the personnel missing with your husband. You will remember that in that letter, it was said that the Department's representative at Batavia had reported that four survivors of the plane were taken into the interior and held for a while by the Japanese Military Police. This report appears to be the same as the one to which you refer as having been received by you from Australian sources. Since it now appears that the Consul General at Batavia is aware of this report, I am not informing the consulate of the Australian report.

I assure you again that I shall continue to forward to you any information which I may receive concerning your husband.

Sincerely yours,

Donald Russell
Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.,
1209 Colleton Street,
Columbia, South Carolina.

SPD:ETBailey:erk

MAY 31 1946

5/28/46

SPD 711.94114A/5-246

5/29

SPD

file

May 27, 1946

6/6/46
SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
Letter to Mrs. Pohl
JUN 5 1946
Instr. to Batavia
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ETB/erk

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
MAY 29 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPD-~~611-1150~~/4 - 2546

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711 94114A/5-2746

Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

711 94114 a/4-2546
1-2546
1-546

Dear Mr. Bailey,

Thank you very much for forwarding to me the information in your letter of May 23, 1946 with reference to the case of my brother Navy Lieutenant DeLand Joseph Croze, who is "missing" in the Celebes.

We were very glad to know that the bodies of the six men were found at the site near the crashed plane. It is a great relief to know just what happened to a loved one and the anxiety is greatly lessened.

It has just now become apparent from Japanese records that the four survivors captured by the Japanese were my brother, Calhoun, Crow, and/or Hicks, ~~and/or~~ Wheeler, ~~and/or~~ Garcia. This bears out our persistent contention pointed out since last October that the other officers of VPB20 believed De to be one of the prisoners.

It is also known that the four prisoners were alive as late as July 5, 1945 in the prison camp at Singkang, Celebes but so far nothing more has been determined of their whereabouts.

When the Army search mission investigated the spot where the men were encamped on the night of June 4, 1945 did they find the body of Owen Huls in the village? He was captured in the village and his body would probably not be found with the other six.

I am enclosing herewith the photostatic copy of Frans Meyer's letter to which I referred in my letter of May 16th. The letter was written to Chaplain Noel A. Calhoun whose brother Edward Calhoun was another of the four prisoners taken by the Japanese.

FZH

I hope it will be possible to procure positive information concerning the whereabouts of my brother soon.

Very sincerely yours,

Betty Croze Pohl

711.94114A/5-2746
CS/RH
711.94114a
5-2746

JUN 10 1946

JUL 13 1946

from
Mrs. John F. Pohl
1708 Irving Avenue S.
Minneapolis 5, Minn.



Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.



From
Mrs. John F. Pohl
1708 Irving Avenue S.
Minneapolis 5, Minn.



Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey
Assistant Chief
Special Projects Division
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.



COPY OF PHOTOSTATIC COPY

Mr. Frans Meyer
Mardekajaweg Gang 61 2
Macassar, Celebes
Netherlands East Indies

Dear Mr. Chaplain:

I have already received your letter and I have make inquiry on the Japanese bulletin about your brother. Somewhat fit in with what you write. The nine be left are divided in three groups, but the two groups are betray through the population and they killed them. My cousin has seen the last group and the Japanese gestapo has take prisoner them. Probable you brother are on the last group too. They are two young men and one from I think maybe 35 years old. After that they are disappear without a trace. You must know when the Japanese catch the pilot they must killed them. This is now all what I heard about your brother and what I can communicate to you. I'm very sorry that I must write a happy and an unhappy news to you. Mr. Chaplain many thanks for your letter and I find it very good that you will write us about your brother for look to him. I hope that after you received my letter, you write to me back and let us now stay best friend. Please, if you meet Philip Nagele, say to him many greetings from us. For you "Many lovely greetings"

from your new friend

(SIGNED) FRANS MEYER

For the last time my cousin have seen them at Palopo. You can see here under

(A MAP WAS ATTACHED)

DC/R

JUN 10 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/5-2746

My dear Mrs. Pohl:

I have received your letters of May 16 and May 27, 1946 informing me that Mr. Frans Meyer, Mardekajaweg Gang 61 2, Macassar, Celebes, is the merchant from whom you learned that three members of the crew of the airplane piloted by your brother, Lieutenant DeLand Joseph Croze, were seen alive at Palopo, Celebes, and that information concerning the disaster was published in a Japanese bulletin in the Celebes. Your letter of May 27 transmitted a copy of a letter from Mr. Meyer.

The copy of Mr. Meyer's letter is being forwarded to the American Consul General at Batavia, so that it may be brought to the attention of the local authorities and any search teams which are operating in the area.

In your letter of May 27 you asked if the body of Owen Huls was one of those found by the Army search mission. I do not have this information and suggest that you communicate with the War Department.

Sincerely yours,

Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Rev.		E. Tomlin Bailey
Cat.		Assistant Chief
Dist.		Special Projects Division

Mrs. B. C. Pohl,
1708 Irving Avenue, South,
Minneapolis 5, Minnesota.

[Handwritten signature/initials]

711.94114A/5-2746

JUN 7 1946 P.M.

SPD:ETBailey:erk

6/5-6/46

DS
DC/R

JUN 10 1946

RESTRICTED

No.

To the

American Consular Officer in Charge,
Batavia, Java.

The Secretary of State refers to the Consul General's telegram number 202, May 17, 1946, and to previous correspondence concerning American naval airmen missing in the Celebes.

Mrs. B. C. Pohl, a sister of Lieutenant DeLand Joseph Croze, one of the missing airmen, has supplied the enclosed photostat of a letter from Mr. Frans Meyer, Mardekajaweg Gang 61 2, Macassar, Celebes, indicating that three of the members of her brother's crew were alive when last seen in Palopo, Celebes, and that information concerning the disaster involving Lieutenant Croze's plane was published in a Japanese bulletin in the Celebes.

The Officer in Charge is authorized to exhibit the enclosure to the local military officials and to such search teams as may be proceeding to the area, in order that every effort will be made to find the missing airmen.

Enclosure:

From Mr. Meyer.

DCR - CP - 1000	
Anal.	<i>PLH</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Cat.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Dist.	

711.94114A/5-2746

CS/V

711.94114A/5-2746

JUN 7 1946 P.M.

711.94114A/5-2746

SPD:ETBailey:erk

6/5-6/46

FB

6/12/46

LC: Mr. Gray

LEGAL ADVISER
JUN 13 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Hereinwith ~~letter~~

dropped in LC, as
agreed by phone.

Geo Morris

SPD: J H Choynnes

6/7/46

LC:

An attached letter
raises a legal question.
It is referred to LC
for attention.

SPD: J H Choynnes

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

JHK
Seems to be LC misses
print. Would not you
drop legislation cover
this type case?

Bob

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE LEGAL ADVISER

June 10, 1946.

SPD

Mr. Flornoy:

Captain Freeman, who was formerly Chief of the International Law Division of the Judge Advocate General's Office of the Army, stated that there was no provision in the Hague Conventions with respect to this subject. It seems advisable, however, to suggest that these attorneys communicate with the War Department, as there may have been some special regulation on the subject.

Attachment:

Let. to Stern & Reubens,
New York,
file 711.94114A/5-2846

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
JUN 11 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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STERN & REUBENS
COUNSELORS AT LAW

BENJAMIN H. STERN
ALEXANDER G. SCHEER
HARRY BUCHMAN
ARTHUR E. FARMER
JOHN B. REUBENS

RECEIVED
MAY 23 AM 11 20

RECORDS BRANCH

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
JUN 4 1946

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
One East Forty-Fifth Street
(551 FIFTH AVENUE)
New York 17, N.Y.

TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 2-2150
CABLE ADDRESS "RAYBEN" N.Y.

SPP
je
DC/P

May 28, 1946

State Department
Washington 25, D. C.

LEGAL ADVISER
File Ans. 7/17/46
JUN 6 - 1946
WR/vm
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ATT: WAR CURRENCY CONTROL

Gentlemen:

We have been retained by English counsel, in connection with a possible suit. Basis of the claim is a note given by an American officer to a British officer as re-payment for money loaned at a time when both were prisoners of the Japanese.

The transaction on which our client's claim is based, may be boiled down to this: Our client obtained, by using his personal checks, monies which were expended for the benefit of a group of Allied prisoners of war. As security and re-payment for these loans, he accepted the note of an American officer who in turn received checks from the other American officers who were benefitted. These checks aggregated the face value of the note which is held by our client.

Upon returning to the United States, the American officer was advised that such debts were not enforceable. Acting upon this advice, he destroyed the checks given to him by the other American officers. We believe this to have been erroneous. Our client has so far honored his own checks and redeemed the same by payments in the sum of 555 £.

Will you be good enough to supply us with a copy of the pertinent regulations covering this particular type of transaction or related to any financial transaction between prisoners of war. If there should be no such regulations, can you give us any information as to the authority for the statement made to the American officer-debtor that such claim is unenforceable? If this inquiry is not properly directed to you, will you be good enough to supply us with the name of the proper person, department or agency to whom such inquiry should be directed.

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy, we remain,

Very truly yours,
Sten + Reubens

jbr;jb

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A. Sob?

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711.94114A/5-2846

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711.94114a
5-2846

~~FE~~

JUL 19 1946

In reply refer to
Le 711.94114A/5-2846

Stern & Reubens,
One East Forty Fifth Street,
New York, New York.

Sirs:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 28, 1946, inquiring whether there are any regulations relating to financial transactions between prisoners of war.

For some time, the Department in conjunction with the War and Navy Departments has been considering measures relating to the subject of monies loaned to prisoners of war and civilians during the time of their internment abroad. It does not appear likely that legislation can be adopted at this session of Congress, but it is hoped that during the next term of Congress legislation can be considered which would constitute a solution to these problems.

Your letter will be kept on file and as soon as further information is available you will be advised.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Benedict M. English
Assistant to the Legal Adviser

[Signature]
Le:GGray:vb
7-17-46

[Handwritten notes]
JUL 16 1946

DR - CAC Unit
Rev. _____
Col. _____
Dist. _____

[Handwritten signature]

[Vertical handwritten note]
711.94114A/5-2846

STATE OF INDIANA

RALPH F. GATES
GOVERNOR



SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
JUN 10 1948
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INDIANAPOLIS 4

SPD

DCR

File

June 3rd, 1946

*7/16/46 Let. to Gov. Gates
LSP/475*

Hon. James F. Byrnes
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Byrnes:

I want to thank you for your letter of May 23rd in which you give me additional information concerning the search which has been made for the crew of which K. J. Crow, AOM3/c of Indiana was lost after being forced down in the Makasser Straits in June of 1945.

I have been very interested in receiving all the information possible for I am sure you can understand the anxiety which the parents of this boy feel under these circumstances. I will appreciate receiving any additional word from time to time which you may be able to learn.

Thanking you, and with kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Ralph F. Gates
Ralph F. Gates
Governor

RFG-RS-ec

711.94114A/6-346

CS/RH

AUG 6 1946

FILED

711.94114A/6-346

Dorothea M. Laurion
DM

No. 56

RESTRICTED

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

BATAVIA - JAVA, June 6, 1946.

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION CONCERNING SECOND LIEUTENANT BENJAMIN R. WIRZ, 02065866.

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
5
1946 JUL 8 P 4 15

RECORDS BRANCH

6-13-47 mdy
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON.

I have the honor to refer to the Department's airgram No. 32 of May 3, 1946 - (455) requesting information concerning Second Lieutenant Benjamin R. Wirz, 02065866, reported killed in action on June 25, 1945 in the vicinity of Maros, Celebes.

From a letter received on May 21, 1946 from Mr. Will Wirz, Lieutenant Wirz's father, of 1817 Ninth Street, Wichita Falls, Texas, it appears that Lieutenant Wirz was navigator on Army B-24 plane No. 431, which was shot down on a raid near Macassar on June 25, 1945.

This crash was investigated by U.S. Army and Navy field teams and Australian war crimes personnel also in September, 1945 and subsequent months after the Japanese surrender. Of the crew of 10 or 11 (there is some discrepancy here) only four survived; these were made prisoners but were apparently beheaded by the Japanese shortly after the crash in or near the city of Macassar.

Captain Daniel J. McCallum, U.S.N., United States Naval Liaison Officer at Batavia, has just returned from a trip to Macassar under orders of the Navy Department to investigate the crash of a naval airplane which occurred near Macassar in May, 1945. He was furnished what details were available regarding the crash of the Army B-24 in which Lieutenant Wirz was presumably a victim, and requested to investigate this matter also.

I enclose a copy of his memorandum report. From this report it is probable that Lieutenant Wirz was one of those who died in the crash and was presumably buried with five other crewmen near Maros, Celebes.

DOR - GP-C Unit	
Att.	MAZ
Rev.	
Dist.	

only
JUG 10 1947
OFFICE OF FAR
EASTERN AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A/6-646

CS/V FILED 711.94114A/6-646

OCT 21 1947

Handwritten initials and marks at top right.

File
DEPT. OF STATE

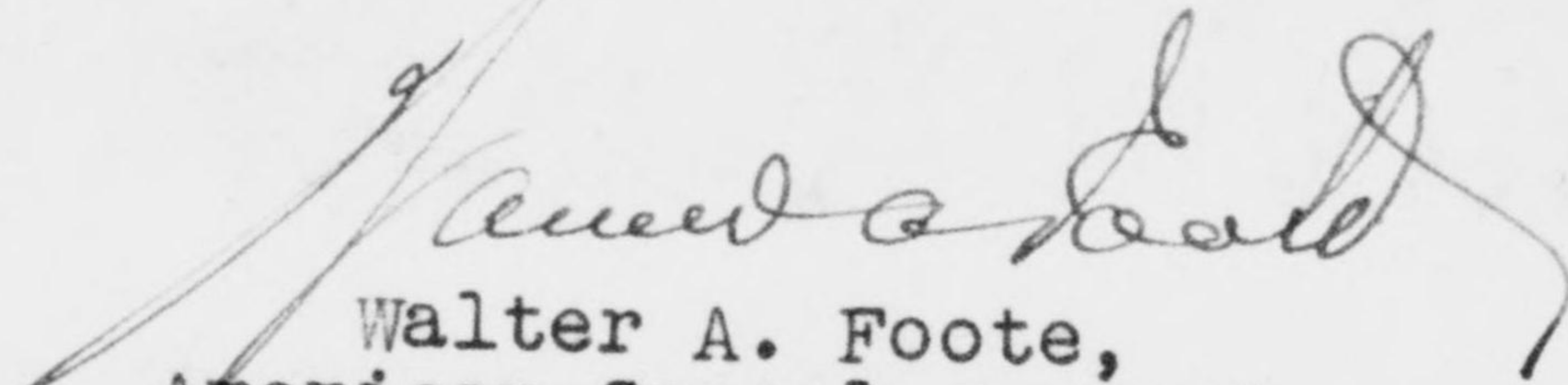
- 2 -

Only one member of the crew has been positively identified, Lieutenant Howard A. Shellington, the co-pilot. The Japanese naval officers interviewed by Captain McCallum at Macassar believed that none of the four men who survived and were later executed was a commissioned officer and it is thought that these men may have been Peyron, Geltz, Farthing or possibly Allman, and Carson, all listed as crew members. The crash presumably killed all men in the forward compartment including the four commissioned officers.

The bodies of the six men found near Maros were picked up in April by an American War Graves Registration unit and transported by plane to Calcutta, and it is understood the remains will be taken to the United States for internment.

The Consulate General encloses with this despatch a copy of the letter sent to Mr. William Wirz, Lieutenant Wirz's father, the original of which is transmitted through the Department. A copy of the report from the Naval Liaison Officer was not sent to Mr. Wirz, as it was thought this was a matter for the Department's discretion.

Respectfully yours,


Walter A. Foote,
American Consul General.

MA 3
Enclosures: *att 1/11/46*

1. Memorandum Report by U.S. Naval Liaison Officer, Batavia.
2. Copy of letter dated June 6, 1946, addressed to Mr. William Wirz.

310
John B. Ketcham/teh
RESTRICTED
Ozalid.

No.1
(Enclosure/to Despatch No.56, dated June 6,1946)

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL
BATAVIA - JAVA.

MEMORANDUM REPORT BY CAPTAIN DANIEL J. McCALLUM, U.S.N.,
U.S. NAVAL LIAISON OFFICER AT BATAVIA

FACTS CONCERNING LOSS OF B-24 IN VICINITY OF MAROS,
CELEBES, ON 25 JUNE, 1945.

At about 11:00 a.m. on 25 June, 1945, a flight of B-24's attacked MANDAI airfield near Maros, Celebes. One of the planes was shot down in flames by a Japanese fighter plane. In the crashed plane were found four bodies burned beyond recognition and near the plane were found two other bodies of men who had fallen clear but who had failed to parachute safely to earth. One of these was identified as the body of Lieut. Shellington but the other body could not be identified.

The above six bodies were buried in the vicinity of Maros but were all exhumed about the middle of April by an American War Graves Registration Unit. The ultimate destination of the bodies could not be ascertained in Celebes but it is probable that further efforts to identify them have been or will be made and that they will eventually be interred in the United States.

Of the entire plane crew only four men reached the earth safely and these were captured by the Japanese and taken to the Naval Police Headquarters in Makassar for questioning. The names of all the four survivors could not be remembered definitely by any witness contacted but two of them, Naval Lieutenant Saito who was a staff officer in Makassar and Naval Lieutenant Shirato who was a member of the Naval Court Martial Board at the same place, were quite positive there was not a commissioned officer among them. Lieutenant Saito remembered the names as Payron, Geltz and FARUWAN. The latter name might be a corruption of either Allman or Horan due to the difficulty in pronouncing foreign names in Japanese. He also thought that the fourth man was Carson but he was not insistent in regard to this point. The investigator cautioned him that the names Geltz and Wirz might also sound similar to the Japanese but he stated he was convinced that one of the men was Geltz and that he had never heard the name Wirz mentioned in connection with the incident.

The four prisoners were turned over to the charge of a group of Japanese under the command of Lieutenant Commander ISHIDA in early July and returned to the vicinity of Mandai airfield where they were all beheaded. Lieut. Shirato and Lieut. SAITO, mentioned above, both stated that they were eye witnesses of the executions, that Lieut. Comdr. ISHIDA was in command of the execution party, and that Lieut. Comdr. Imamura and a number of other Japanese were present. Lieut. Comdr. ISHIDA committed suicide in

October

October, 1945 but it is not known whether he was under arrest at the time as a war criminal.

The witnesses at the execution were not aware of the spot where the four bodies were buried and as far as is known their grave has not been found. Assurances were received from Dutch authorities, however, that all known deaths are still being investigated by them so the grave may be found in the future.

The Commanding Officer of Japanese Naval Forces in Makassar on 25 June, 1945 was Rear-Admiral OSUGI while the commander of the Naval Police was Captain TOYAMA. Both of these officers are now in the custody of War Crimes Prosecutors in Manila.

(Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No.56, dated June 6,1946)

- COPY -

JBK/teh
310/102.2

American Consulate General
Batavia, Java, June 6, 1946.

Mr. Will Wirz,
1817 Ninth Street,
Wichita Falls, Texas.

Dear Mr. Wirz,

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter with enclosed Army Air Forces report concerning your son, Second Lieutenant Benjamin R. Wirz, U.S.A.A.F., O-2065866, believed lost in the crash of Army B-24 bomber No. 431 near Macassar, Celebes, on June 25, 1945.

The Consulate General also received an instruction from the Department of State requesting that any information received concerning your son be reported to the Department.

The U.S. Naval Liaison Officer at Batavia, Captain Daniel J. McCallum, USN, who was proceeding to Macassar on a naval investigation, was requested to find out what he could concerning the loss of Army bomber No. 431, and particularly the fate of your son. He has just returned and has reported that of six bodies found buried near Maros, Celebes, only one could be identified, that of Second Lieutenant Shellington. These six bodies were exhumed about the middle of April by a United States Army Graves Registration unit and transported by plane to Calcutta, India, where it is understood they will be shipped to the United States for internment.

Of the other four who were captured alive there seems little doubt but that they were executed by their Japanese captors. Their graves have not been located but the Dutch authorities have given assurances that all known deaths are being investigated and the graves may eventually be found. Japanese officers interrogated recall distinctly that none of the four captured men were commissioned officers.

A full report has been submitted to the Department of State in this case and it is presumed that you will hear directly from the Department.

I assure you that every effort has been made by United States Army and Navy personnel, also the Australians and the Dutch, to investigate lost and missing Army, Navy and Air Forces personnel, and such efforts are continuing. These investigations include your son, Lieutenant Wirz, and in fact Captain McCallum made a special effort to look into his case. It is believed almost certain that he was one of those who perished in the crash of the bomber and that he was not one of the four survivors, later executed.

If

- 2 -

If anything further develops in this case you may be sure that I will inform you.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Foote,
American Consul General.

PROJECTS
/

April 17, 1946

FA: Miss Ellis

SPD has received numerous inquiries from individuals regarding military personnel missing in the Netherlands East Indies and has addressed numerous communications to our Consul General at Batavia on the subject. It is suggested, therefore, that your letter to Mr. Wirz be revised along the following lines:

The Department has received from various individuals numerous inquiries regarding the efforts being made by this Government to search for military personnel reported missing in the Netherlands East Indies, and on the basis of these inquiries requested the American Consul General in Batavia to contact the appropriate authorities in this regard.

The American Consul General in Batavia, in reply to the Department's request, informed the Department in March 1946 that all Dutch civilian and military officials and British military authorities through the Netherlands East Indies had been informed regarding American military personnel missing in that area and had been given instructions regarding searching for them. He further stated that the Dutch authorities had also given instructions to loyal native officials in this regard.

The Department is informing the Consul General in Batavia that your son was among the military personnel reported killed in the Netherlands East Indies and requesting the Consul General to furnish to the Department any information that he may be able to obtain concerning your son. If any information becomes available concerning your son, you will be promptly informed.

SPD:HDreppard:ATS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE*Memorandum of Conversation*

TELEPHONE

DATE: April 16, 1946

SUBJECT: Lieutenant Benjamin R. Wirz, 02065866.

PARTICIPANTS: Major Marshall, AGO (Branch 78357, War Department),
and Miss Dreppard, SPD.

COPIES TO:

o p c 1-1493

Miss Dreppard telephoned Major Marshall and inquired on what basis the War Department had assumed Lieutenant Wirz to be dead.

Major Marshall later telephoned Miss Dreppard and stated that on information received from the field he was presumed to be dead, and not as a result of the public law that applies to such persons. The body of Lieutenant Wirz was never found.

SPD:HDreppard:ATS

Celebes

1322 Barkley

Unrestricted.

SPD

0.1-9

W 1312 11:50

Pro. Batavia, Java.
Date sent: June 10, 1946.

Rec'd: July 9, 1946
11:50

SPECIAL PROJECTS
 DIVISION
 JUL 10 1946
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
3-1246
to Mr. Barkley
LSNP/AFS
Mr. & Mrs. Kennedy

DP
ACTION-SPD
INFO
DOA
EUR
FE
RG

711.94114A/6-1046

reference Department's airmail no. 29 of April 24,
 1946 (3711). It is understood that Japan Island and
 Cape d'Urville area Netherlands New Guinea has been
 searched by American and Netherlands military and
 naval personnel since Japanese surrender. A request-
 ing definite answer from Dutch civil authorities now
 in charge this territory with particular reference
 information on Lieutenant Joseph M. Barkley, U.S.N.R.
6-3-47 mby

Note

JO
John J.etcham/lys

711. 94114A/6-1046

AUG 6 1946

FILED

LRC

LEGATION OF SWITZERLAND

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

SPECIAL PROJECTS
 DIVISION
File Lead
 JUN 26 1946
 LSN Phillips: ac 6/28/46
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

STB
FE
SA
DCR

The Minister of Switzerland presents his compliments to the Honorable the Acting Secretary of State, and has the honor to remit herewith for the attention of the Provost Marshal General lists of American prisoners of war and civilian internees, as well as casualties, in the Far East, which have just been received from the Swiss Legation in Tokyo.

These lists are those which were communicated to that Legation by the Prisoners of War Agency of the International Red Cross in Geneva, from the sailing of the exchange ship "Teia Maru" on September 14, 1945, until the 15th of October, 1945. An inventory is also enclosed. Undoubtedly the originals of this documenta-

tion have already been received by the American Govern-

711.94114 A/6-2146

RECEIVED
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUN 24 4 45 PM '46
 JUN 21 1946
 180/r1
 RECORDS BRANCH

Enclosures not seen
S. J.

LEGATION OF JAPANESE INTERESTS
 JUL - 3 1946
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED

711.94114 A/6-2146
FILED

See 740.00114 A PW/5.2946
not seen

XR 740.00115 a PW
XR 811.22

DOB - GPO UP

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NO. 64

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

Batavia, Java, Netherlands Indies.

JUN 23 1946

SUBJECT: LOSS OF AMERICAN NAVAL AIRMEN
IN THE CELEBES. 7/19/46

Mr. To Forestal
Mr. Smith
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Bell
Reg. Steele
Mr. Gates
Mr. Judd
Mr. Dahl

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to my telegram No. 202, May 17, 3:00 p.m., concerning American Naval Airmen lost in the Celebes.

I now have the honor to transmit attached a copy of a report prepared by certain American army officers who made a thorough investigation in the area where the plane crashed. From this report, it appears that none of the men is alive.

Captain D. J. McCallum, U. S. Navy, now serving at Batavia, recently visited the Celebes for the purpose of investigating further into the matter. Captain McCallum agrees with me to the effect that there is hardly a possibility that any of the men are living.

Australian forces, Dutch army and naval forces, Dutch civil service and United States army and naval officials all have investigated as thoroughly as possible but with no encouraging results.

I am convinced beyond doubt that they are not in the hands of the natives. If so, the natives would have communicated with me at once.

Respectfully yours,

Walter A. Foote
Walter A. Foote,
American Consul General.

File no. 832.
Walter A. Foote/waf

Enclosure: Copy of report by Lieut. Newlands, A.U.S.

Dorothea M. Laurion
AP
B.R.T.

AUG - 6 1946

FILED

711.94114A/6-2346

CS/V

711.94114A/6-23

Makassar, Celebes
11 March 1946

SUBJECT: Murder of American Airmen at SINGKANG, CELEBES.

TO :

1. The following is a summary of information concerning the murder of five Americans in SINGKANG:

2. Source:

- (a) Conversations with Australian War Graves Group, Central Pacific, c/o G.P.O., Makassar, Celebes.
- (b) Letter from and conversations with DJAUHARSJAH JENIE, local doctor at Singkang. (2 March 1946).
- (c) Conversation with Mr. RAMBEN, Civilian Veterinary, Singkang. (2 March 1946).
- (d) Interrogation of MAKAM ISA, former Heiho, who served prison term when Americans were there. Interpreted by Dr. JENIE. (2 March 1946).
- (e) Interrogation of following Japanese at Japanese Concentration area. (4 and 5 March 1946):

Sub. Lt. Yoshio ARAKI, OC of Japanese Naval Patrol, first contacting Americans near Donggala.

Chief of Civil Police, BONE District, Kameyoshi TERAMOTO.

W.O. Toshio SHOJI, Guard at Military Prison, Singkang.

Maj. Osamu ADACHI, Sr. Intell. Officer, HQ, 2nd Army, Singkang.

Cpl. Mitsugo YAMAMOTO, Kempei Tai, Singkang Branch.

Sgt. Maj. Mamoru UEMURA, Guard at Military Prison, Singkang.

Sgt. Kazuo KOBAYASHI, Kempei Tai, Singkang Branch.

Intendance Capt. Yoshio YAZAWA, HQ, 2nd Army Kempei Tai, Singkang.

Lt. Mamoru SATO, Intelligence Branch, HQ, 2nd Army.

Lt. Tokimori MIURA, Propaganda Branch, HQ, 2nd Army.

Surg. Capt. Yoshiatsu YAMADA, HQ, 2nd Army, Kempei Tai.

Sgt. Maj. Tatsuichi MURAKAMI, HQ, 2nd Army Kempei Tai.

-2-

W.O. Rikio YUGAWA, HQ. 2nd Army Kempei Tai.

Cpl. Masami NAKAHIRA, Kempei Tai, Singkang Branch.

(f) Signed statements of the following taken at MANDAI Prison Camp, MAKASSAR. (7 and 8 March 1946).

Col. Michinori NAKAMURA, C.O., 2nd Army Kempei.

Lt. Col. Shigeru ISHIRO, Intelligence Staff Officer, HQ. 2nd Army.

Capt. Kazue SHIOZAWA, Java POW Administration with Temporary Camp at WATTANPONE, Celebes.

Sgt. Tokujiro KATO, Interpreter, HQ 2nd Army Kempei.

W.O. Harukichi MATSUMOTO, HQ 2nd Army Kempei.

Sgt. Shiro SATO, HQ 2nd Army Kempei.

Sgt. Toshio IWAMOTO, HQ 2nd Army Kempei.

3. We were first informed of this case by the Australian War Graves people in Makassar. They told us that the bodies of five men had been exhumed at Singkang. They believed at least four of them to be Americans. They also handed us a letter from Dr. JENIE, who had first discovered the matter through inmates of his Leper Colony.

4. In Singkang we met Dr. JENIE, who showed us the grave and told us all he knew of the case. (His letter and sketch are attached). No dates or names were known to him but he had been told the location of the grave and guided the Australians to the spot and helped them exhume the bodies. He states that four of the bodies were partially clothed in which could be identified as American. The fifth was clothed in only a sarong. All had been beheaded. The bodies were reburied and the grave marked for removal at a later date.

We also spoke to Mr. RAMBEN, who told us that he had seen four prisoners brought to Singkang by truck. Although he was not definite as to dates, he states that this was in June and that he saw them again at the Kempei Tai in July. He also states that propaganda photographs had been taken of two of the POW and distributed to some members of the local population. He had been given one, but said that all of them had been collected by the Civil Police for the Kempei just before the end of the war.

Dr. JENIE interpreted for us in an interview with MAKAM ISA, a former member of the Heiho, who was held in the Military Prison pending court martial proceedings for the murder of a Kempei. He told us that the Americans had been held in the same jail (Military Prison) for a considerable period. He was able to give descriptions and certain other details that are mentioned in his statement, a copy of which is attached.

5. We then went to the Japanese Concentration areas in MALIMPOENG and BENTENG and to the Prison camp for Japanese Suspects in MANDAI, where we contacted the Japanese Army and Navy personnel listed above.

-3-

6. The following is a narrative, so far as facts could be reasonably established. Copies of the more important statements are attached.

A.U.S. PBV 5 was forced down on a beach about 20 Km south of Donggala near the village of Tanameja. Lt. Yoshio ARAKI of the Japanese Navy was sent out from Donggala with a patrol of 12 to investigate. They contacted the Americans on the morning of 5 June. A fight ensued in which 4 Americans were killed, 2 wounded, and 4 taken prisoner on 6 June. ARAKI reports that one of the crew who had been wounded while in flight was sheltered by a parachute tent, but was dead when they reached him. Two wounded men were Ens. WHEELER and Ens. HICKS. WHEELER died of wounds about an hour after the fighting, and HICKS, who was taken to a native hospital in PALOE, died on 13 June 1945 and was buried there by the Japanese Civil Administrator, SUDO. (Sent to MOROTAI?).

The four prisoners, Lt. CROZE and N.C.O.s 'CALHOUN', GARCIA, and CROW were handed over to the Kempei who took them to Singkang. They were reported in good health at this time.

The six men who died at the beach were buried in the brush about 100 meters north of the plane. At that time the plane was still intact but was later bombed by Allied aircraft. The wreckage is still believed to be visible.

The four prisoners were brought to Singkang in June, where they were put with another POW who is reported to be an American. He had been there since about the middle of May. The four were interrogated by various people, though most of it was done on the order of HQ 2nd Army by Sgt. KATO. A copy of his statement is attached.

7. What happened thereafter is very vague but the majority of the men put the date of their departure at the end of July or the early part of August. All seemed to think that they had been sent to the Temporary POW Camp in WATTANPONE, BONE District. However, Capt. SHIOZAWA, who was running the Temporary POW Camp at that time was also questioned and denies that they were ever brought to him or that he had received any information indicating that they were to be sent to him.

8. Present available information indicates that all five POW were removed from the Kempei Jail one night and the escort was a Sgt. Maj. Kunio MATSUMOTO who died of malaria soon after the surrender.

9. During their stay in SINGKANG the POW were kept in the Kempei Jail except for a period in mid-July when they were kept in the Military Prison while the Kempei Jail was being rebuilt.

RYO ARAI, 2nd Lt., AUS
Interpreter

L.T. NEWLAND, 2nd Lt., AUS
Interrogator

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

(Signed) RYO ARAI
2nd Lt., AUS

~~SPD~~

JUL 24 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/6-2346

My dear Dr. Judd:

I refer to my letter of May 23, 1946, and to our previous correspondence concerning the whereabouts of Lieutenant De Land J. Croze and other naval personnel missing in action in the Celebes on June 4, 1945.

I have now received a despatch from the Department's representative at Batavia, Java, which encloses the report of an investigation conducted in this area by American military authorities. Assisting in the investigation were Australian forces, Dutch military and naval personnel, Dutch civil officials and local inhabitants. From the evidence obtained by the investigators, the graves of eleven persons believed to have been the members of the crew of the plane in which Lieutenant Croze served have been discovered. An informal report has been received from the Navy Department concerning the information contained in this despatch. I have been informed also that the Navy Department has sent official notification containing full details of this discovery to the next of kin of the personnel involved, and that it is having dental records flown to the authorities in the field in order to make positive identification in each case.

It would appear from the information received from all sources that there is no longer the possibility that any of the members of the crew of this plane are still alive.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

DCR - GPC Unit	
Andl.	<i>W.H.</i>
SPD	
<i>W.H.</i>	
JUL 23 1946	

The Honorable
W.H.
Walter H. Judd,
House of Representatives.

W.H.
SPD:BSNPhillipp:ATS

Routing

7/19/46

FW 711 94 114a- / 6-2346

~~SPD~~

STATE OF INDIANA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
INDIANAPOLIS 4

July 30, 1946.

DC/R



RALPH F. GATES
GOVERNOR

RECORDS
DEPARTMENT

1946 AUG 1 PM 1 24

DC/R
RECORDS BRANCH

[Signature]
SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
AUG 2 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Hon. James F. Byrnes,
The Secretary of State,
Washington 25, D. C.

In Re: SPD 711.94114A/6-2346

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thanks ^{mc} very much for your letter of
July 24th concerning the whereabouts of K. J.
Crow, AOM 3/c.

I have passed this information on to
the parents of the boy, and wish to assure you
now of my appreciation for the splendid co-
operation your department has given in this
matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph F. Gates
Ralph F. Gates,
Governor.

RFG:he

DCR - GPC Unit
Encl. *jm*
Rev. *ws*
Ct.

F.W.
711.94114A/6-2346

AUG 6 - 1946
FILED

~~SPD~~

JUL 24 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/6-2346

My dear Mr. Gillie:

I refer to my letter of May 23, 1946, and to our previous correspondence concerning the whereabouts of K. J. Crow, AOM 3/c, missing in action in the Celebes on June 4, 1945.

I have now received a despatch from the Department's representative at Batavia, Java, which encloses the report of an investigation conducted in this area by American military authorities. Assisting in the investigation were Australian forces, Dutch military and naval personnel, Dutch civil officials and local inhabitants. From the evidence obtained by the investigators, the graves of eleven persons believed to have been the members of the crew of the plane in which Mr. Crow served have been discovered. An informal report has been received from the Navy Department concerning the information contained in this despatch. I have been informed also that the Navy Department has sent official notification containing full details of this discovery to the next of kin of the personnel involved, and that it is having dental records flown to the authorities in the field in order to make positive identification in each case.

It would appear from the information received from all sources that there is no longer the possibility that any of the members of the crew of this plane are still alive.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

DCR - GPC Unit
F2H

The Honorable
George W. Gillie,
House of Representatives.

SPD:LSNPhillipp:ATS

JUL 23 1946

7/19/46

Routine

711.94114a / 6-2346

~~SPD~~

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/6-2346

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I refer to my letter of May 23, 1946, and to previous correspondence concerning the missing American naval personnel who were known to have crashed on territory in the Celebes. You will recall that I have enclosed in previous correspondence copies of several telegrams to and from the Department's representatives at Batavia, Java, and copies of the Department's letters to Mrs. Pohl, the sister of one of the missing airmen.

I now enclose for your information copies of airgram no. 9 dated June 10, 1946, and despatch no. 64 dated June 23, 1946, from the American Consulate General at Batavia.

It would appear from the evidence obtained by military, naval and civilian agencies engaged in the search for missing personnel of the American armed forces in this area that there is no longer reason to believe that the crews of the missing planes are still alive. However, representatives of the Department in this area will continue to make inquiries in an effort to obtain additional pertinent facts concerning the fate of any of the missing personnel. I shall inform you of the results of their efforts.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

Enclosures:

- 1. Airgram no. 9, June 10, 1946, from Batavia.
- 2. Despatch no. 64, June 23, 1946, from Batavia.

DCR - GPC Unit	
And
Rev.

Routine

JUL 23 1946
SPD
ATS

The Honorable
James Forrestal,
Secretary of the Navy.

7/19/46

711.94114A/6-2346

CS/V

711.94114A/6-2346

~~SPD~~

JUL 24 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/6-2346

Dear Dres:

I refer to my letter of May 24, 1946, and to our previous correspondence with regard to the whereabouts of Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.

The Department has now received another report from our representative at Batavia containing the results of an investigation made by American military authorities, assisted by Australian forces, Dutch military and naval personnel, Dutch civil officials and local inhabitants. The report states that Marshall Hicks was wounded in the fight with a Japanese patrol on June 6, 1945, was captured and taken to a native hospital at Paloe where he died on June 13, 1945. The report states that he was buried there by the Japanese Civil Administrator.

The Navy Department has informally reported the information contained in this report from Batavia and has informed the Department that an official notification in considerable detail has been sent to the next of kin of all personnel concerned.

I am also writing to Mrs. Hicks to inform her of the results of this investigation.

Sincerely yours,

FZH

Donald Russell

Mr. D. A. Smith,
Secretary to Senator Maybank,
United States Senate.

[Handwritten signature]

SPD:LSM:Phillipp:ATS

[Handwritten signature]

7/19/46

FW 711.94114A/6-2346

JUL 23 1946

7/23

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

DATE: July 19, 1946

SUBJECT: Missing personnel in the Celebes.

PARTICIPANTS: Commander Atkinson, Bureau of Naval Personnel,
and Mr. Phillipp, Special Projects Division.

COPIES TO:

GPO 1-1493

Commander Atkinson was informed of the contents of despatch no. 64 dated June 23, 1946, from Batavia concerning personnel believed to be members of the crew of a Navy bomber plane, piloted by Lieutenant Croze, U.S.N.R.

Commander Atkinson reported that each of the next of kin of personnel of this crew had been sent a long letter giving all details included in the despatch and including the beheading of the four prisoners. He stated that until the records had been checked a finding of "presumed death" would be made. When positive identification had been made the next of kin would be notified of this fact.

Referring to the Barkley case, Commander Atkinson said that adverse weather conditions had been reported in this area in Dutch New Guinea which were hampering the search teams there.

LSM
SPD:LSMPhillipp:ATS

SPD ✓

JUL 24 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/6-2346

My dear Governor Gates:

I refer to my letter of May 23, 1946, and to our previous correspondence concerning the whereabouts of K. J. Crow, AOM 3/c, missing in action in the Makasser Straits on June 4, 1945.

I have now received a despatch from the Department's representative at Batavia, Java, which encloses the report of an investigation conducted in this area by American military authorities. Assisting in the investigation were Australian forces, Dutch military and naval personnel, Dutch civil officials and local inhabitants. From the evidence obtained by the investigators, the graves of eleven persons believed to have been the members of the crew of the plane in which Mr. Crow served have been discovered. An informal report has been received from the Navy Department concerning the information contained in this despatch. I have been informed also that the Navy Department has sent official notification containing full details of this discovery to the next of kin of the personnel involved, and that it is having dental records flown to the authorities in the field in order to make positive identification in each case.

It would appear from the information received from all sources that there is no longer the possibility that any of the members of the crew of this plane are still alive.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

DCR - GPC WHT
 Anal. FLIT
 JUL 23 1946
 ✓
 SPD:LSNPhillipp:ATS

The Honorable
Ralph F. Gates,
Governor of Indiana,
Indianapolis.

Routine

7/19/46

FW 711.94 1140 / 6-2346

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

DATE: July 22, 1946

SUBJECT: Location of Singkang, Celebes.

PARTICIPANTS: OSS Map Services, EX 6100, ext. 2527, and
Mr. Phillipp, SPD.

COPIES TO:

o p o 1-1493

Mrs. Messerole (OSS) reported that Singkang refers both to a district and to a village. The village is about twenty-five to fifty miles north by east of Makassar.

Coordinates: Village 4° 49' south
 119° 41' east

District 4° 9' south
 120° 2' east

SPD:LSNPhillipp:ATS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

DATE: July 19, 1946

SUBJECT: Missing personnel in the Celebes.

PARTICIPANTS: Commander Atkinson, Bureau of Naval Personnel,
and Mr. Phillipp, Special Projects Division.

COPIES TO:

* * * 1-1493

Commander Atkinson was informed of the contents of despatch no. 64 dated June 23, 1946, from Batavia concerning personnel believed to be members of the crew of a Navy bomber plane, piloted by Lieutenant Croze, U.S.N.R.

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Referring to the Barkley case, Commander Atkinson said that adverse weather conditions had been reported in this area in Dutch New Guinea which were hampering the search teams there.

Tom
SPD:LSM:Phillipp:ATS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

DATE: July 8, 1946 and
July 9, 1946SUBJECT: **Missing American personnel in Celebes.**PARTICIPANTS: **Commander Atkinson, Navy Department, 7746,
and Mr. Phillipp, Special Projects Division.**

COPIES TO:

*7/6/46 [Signature]
Date
LSNP/ATS*

o p o 1-1493

Commander Atkinson reported that the bodies of eleven persons had been found in the vicinity of the crash of a United States Navy plane on the west coast of the Celebes, which occurred June 4, 1945. Six bodies were buried in the brush near the plane. From information obtained by the searching party, it was determined that the remainder of the crew had gone inland, had made contact with the underground but in some undetermined manner had been captured by the Japanese military police and evidently had been beheaded. The Navy is flying dental charts to Manila to assist in making positive identification. Navy is sending out this information to the next of kin.

Members of Crew

Lieutenant De Land J. Grose
Ensign W. H. Nicks
Ensign L. A. Wheeler
ACM/Sc K. J. Crow
S 1/c J. H. Garcia
ARM 2/c O. D. Huls

ACM 3/c G.W. Moorfield
AAM 1/c I.P. Igo
ARM 3/c E.A. Calhoun
Observer-not identified
(killed by AA fire)
Observer Donald M. Pell

Survivors

Bumpes
Hunt
Stephenson

SPD;LSNPhillipp;ATS

JUL 24 1946

In reply refer to
SPD 711.94114A/6-2346

My dear Mrs. Hicks:

I refer to my letter of May 31, 1946, and to previous correspondence concerning the whereabouts of your husband, Ensign Marshall H. Hicks, Jr., reported missing in action in the Celebes.

The Department has now received another report from its representative at Batavia, Java, containing the results of an investigation made by American military authorities, assisted by Australian and Dutch military and naval personnel, Dutch civil officials and local inhabitants. The report states that your husband was wounded during a fight with a Japanese patrol on June 6, 1945, was captured and taken to a hospital at Paloe where he died on June 13, 1945. He was buried there by the Japanese Civil Administrator.

The Navy Department has communicated to the Department informally that an official notification containing the full details of the death of your husband has been sent to you.

Please accept the expression of my deepest sympathy in the loss of your husband.

Sincerely yours,

Donald Russell
Assistant Secretary

Mrs. Marshall H. Hicks, Jr.,
1209 Colleton Street,
Columbia, South Carolina.

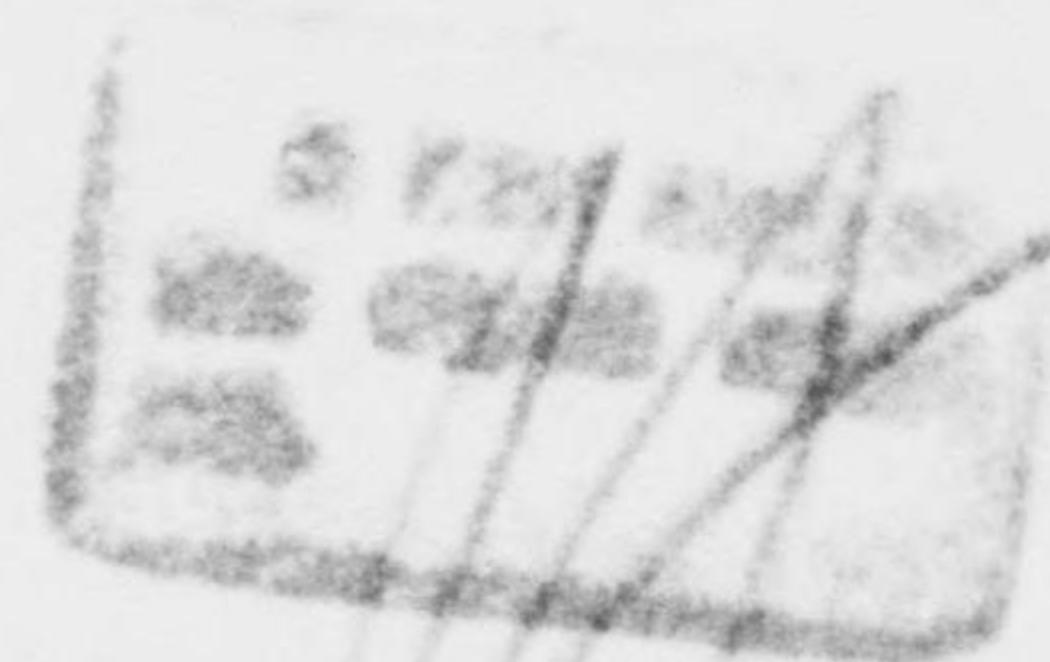
SPD:LSNPhillipp:ATS

7/19/46

7/23

FLH

File 711.94114a/6-2346



July 23 1946

P
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AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

No. 64

Batavia, Java, Netherlands Indies

June 23, 1946

Subject: LOSS OF AMERICAN NAVAL AIRMEN
IN THE CELEBES.

Rec'd LPS
7/18/46
LWP

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to my telegram No. 202, May 17, 3:00 p.m., concerning American Naval Airmen lost in the Celebes.

I now have the honor to transmit attached a copy of a report prepared by certain American army officers who made a thorough investigation in the area where the plane crashed. From this report, it appears that none of the men is alive.

Captain D. J. McCallum, U.S. Navy, now serving at Batavia, recently visited the Celebes for the purpose of investigating further into the matter. Captain McCallum agrees with me to the effect that there is hardly a possibility that any of the men are living.

Australian forces, Dutch army and naval forces, Dutch civil service and United States army and naval officials all have investigated as thoroughly as possible but with no encouraging results.

I am convinced beyond doubt that they are not in the hands of the natives. If so, the natives would have communicated with me at once.

Respectfully yours,

Walter A. Foote,
American Consul General.

File no. 832.
Walter A. Foote/waf

Enclosure: Copy of report by Lieut. Newlands, A.U.S.

Makassar, Celebes
11 March 1946

SUBJECT: Murder of American Airmen at SINGKANG, CELEBES.

TO:

1. The following is a summary of information concerning the murder of five Americans in SINGKANG:

2. Source:

- (a) Conversations with Australian War Graves Group, Central Pacific, c/o G.P.O., Makassar, Celebes.
- (b) Letter from and conversations with DJAUHARSJAH JENIE, local doctor at Singkang. (2 March 1946).
- (c) Conversation with Mr. RAMBEN, Civilian Veterinary, Singkang. (2 March 1946).
- (d) Interrogation of MAKAM ISA, former Heiho, who served prison term when Americans were there. Interpreted by Dr. JENIE. (2 March 1946).
- (e) Interrogation of following Japanese at Japanese Concentration area. (4 and 5 March 1946):

Sub. Lt. Yoshio ARAKI, OC of Japanese Naval Patrol, first contacting Americans near Donggala.

Chief of Civil Police, BONE District,
Kameyoshi TERAMOTO.

W.O. Toshio SHOJI, Guard at Military Prison,
Singkang.

Maj. Osamu ADACHI, Sr. Intell. Officer, HQ,
2nd Army, Singkang.

Cpl. Mitsugo YAMAMOTO, Kempei Tai, Singkang
Branch.

Sgt. Maj. Mamoru UEMURA, Guard at Military
Prison, Singkang.

Sgt. Kazuo KOBAYASHI, Kempei Tai, Singkang
Branch.

Intendance Capt. Yoshio YAZAWA, HQ, 2nd Army
Kempei Tai, Singkang.

Lt. Mamoru SATO, Intelligence Branch, HQ, 2nd
Army.

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Lt. Tokimori MIURA, Propaganda Branch, HQ,
2nd Army.

Surg. Capt. Yoshiatsu YAMADA, HQ, 2nd Army,
Kempei Tai.

Sgt. Maj. Tatsuichi MURAKAMI, HQ, 2nd Army
Kempei Tai.

W.O. Rikio YUGAWA, HQ. 2nd Army Kempei Tai.

Cpl. Masami NAKAHIRA, Kempei Tai, Singkang
Branch.

(f) Signed statements of the following taken at
MANDAI Prison Camp, MAKASSAR. (7 and 8 March
1946).

Col. Michinori NAKAMURA, C.O., 2nd Army
Kempei.

Lt. Col. Shigeru ISHIRO, Intelligence Staff
Officer, HQ. 2nd Army.

Capt. Kazue SHIOZAWA, Java POW Administration
with Temporary Camp at WATTANPONE, Celebes.

Sgt. Tokujiro KATO, Interpreter, HQ, 2nd Army
Kempei.

W.O. Harukichi MATSUMOTO, HQ, 2nd Army Kempei.

Sgt. Shiro SATO, HQ, 2nd Army Kempei.

Sgt. Toshio IWAMOTO, HQ, 2nd Army Kempei.

3. We were first informed of this case by the Australian War Graves people in Makassar. They told us that the bodies of five men had been exhumed at Singkang. They believed at least four of them to be Americans. They also handed us a letter from Dr. JENIE, who had first discovered the matter through inmates of his Leper Colony.

4. In Singkang we met Dr. JENIE, who showed us the grave and told us all he knew of the case. (His letter and sketch are attached). No dates or names were known to him but he had been told the location of the grave and guided the Australians to the spot and helped them exhume the bodies. He states that four of the bodies were partially clothed in which could be identified as American. The fifth was clothed in only a sarong. All had been beheaded. The bodies were reburied and the grave marked for removal at a later date.

We also spoke to Mr. RAMBEN, who told us that he had seen four prisoners brought to Singkang by truck. Although he was not definite as to dates, he states that this was in June and that he saw them again at the Kempei Tai in July. He also states that propaganda photographs had been taken of two of the POW and distributed to some members of the local population. He had been given one, but said that all of them had been collected by the Civil Police for the Kempei just before the end of the war.

Dr. JENIE

-3-

Dr. JENIE interpreted for us in an interview with MAKAM ISA, a former member of the Heiho, who was held in the Military Prison pending court martial proceedings for the murder of a Kempei. He told us that the Americans had been held in the same jail (Military Prison) for a considerable period. He was able to give descriptions and certain other details that are mentioned in his statement, a copy of which is attached.

5. We then went to the Japanese Concentration areas in MALIMPOENG and BENTENG and to the Prison camp for Japanese Suspects in MANDAI, where we contacted the Japanese Army and Navy personnel listed above.

6. The following is a narrative, so far as facts could be reasonably established. Copies of the more important statements are attached.

A. US. PBV 5 was forced down on a beach about 20 Km south of Donggala near the village of Tanameja. Lt. Yoshio ARAKI of the Japanese Navy was sent out from Donggala with a patrol of 12 to investigate. They contacted the Americans on the morning of 5 June. A fight ensued in which 4 Americans were killed, 2 wounded, and 4 taken prisoner on 6 June. ARAKI reports that one of the crew who had been wounded while in flight was sheltered by a parachute tent, but was dead when they reached him. Two wounded men were Ens. WHEELER and Ens. HICKS. WHEELER died of wounds about an hour after the fighting, and HICKS, who was taken to a native hospital in PALOE, died on 13 June 1945 and was buried there by the Japanese Civil Administrator, SUDO. (Sent to MOROTAI?).

The four prisoners, Lt. CROZE and N.C.O.s 'CALHOUN', GARCIA, and CROW were handed over to the Kempei who took them to Singkang. They were reported in good health at this time.

The six men who died at the beach were buried in the brush about 100 meters north of the plane. At that time the plane was still intact but was later bombed by Allied aircraft. The wreckage is still believed to be visible.

The four prisoners were brought to Singkang in June, where they were put with another POW who is reported to be an American. He had been there since about the middle of May. The four were interrogated by various people, though most of it was done on the order of HQ 2nd Army by Sgt. KATO. A copy of his statement is attached.

7. What happened thereafter is very vague but the majority of the men put the date of their departure at the end of July or the early part of August. All seemed to think that they had been sent to the Temporary POW Camp in WATTANPONE, BONE District. However, Capt. SHIOZAWA, who was running the Temporary POW Camp at that time was also questioned and denies that they were ever brought to him or that he had received any information indicating that they were to be sent to him.

8. Present available information indicates that all five POW were removed from the Kempei Jail one night and

the

-4-

the escort was a Sgt. Maj. Kunic MATSUMOTO who died of malaria soon after the surrender.

9. During their stay in SINGKANG the POW were kept in the Kempei Jail except for a period in mid-July when they were kept in the Military Prison while the Kempei Jail was being rebuilt.

L. T. NEWLAND, 2nd Lt., AUS

RYO ARAI, 2nd Lt., AUS
Interpreter

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

(Signed) RYO ARAI
2nd Lt., AUS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

DATE: July 22, 1946

SUBJECT: Location of Singkang, Celebes.

PARTICIPANTS: OSS Map Services, EX 6100, ext. 2527, and
Mr. Phillipp, SFD.

COPIES TO:

* * * 1-1493

Mrs. Messerole (OSS) reported that Singkang refers both to a district and to a village. The village is about twenty-five to fifty miles north by east of Makassar.

Coordinates: Village 4° 49' south
 119° 41' east

District 4° 9' south
 120° 2' east

SFD:LSNPhillipp:ATS