EXMIDIT NO. 3529

(8)

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IPS Doc. No. 1552 Item 51.

Director Administrative Officials: YAMAZAKI, YASUDA, YAMAUCHI, SAITO, YOTSUMOTO.

Period to be held in file: Permanent - Decision authorized by: Chief of Bureau - Action authorized by: War Ministry.

Transmit to: Administrative Official. Secretary - Before-After Decision.

Receipt No. 1-2720-Originating Office (Section): Foreign Ministry. Subject: The Interview with War Prisoners and those interned

Minister Delegated: Parliamentary Vice-Minister: Councillor: Secretary:

Dreft hecorder: Vice-Minister Delegated: Senior Adjutant:
Adjutant in Charge:

Intendance Officer for the Secretariat: Chief of Competent Bureau and Section No. FU-KAN-HATSU No. 9-8/ TN: POW Administration.

Despatch no. 9-8/ Rec'd: Submitted: 29 June 1942 Joint-Bureau Chief:

Section Chief: War Affairs Section, Military Affairs Section, Defense Section.

Ministers' Secretariat Rec'd. - Terminated - Distribution After
Action.

(Decision): Bureau Chief: Section Chief.
Drafted reply to Vice Foreign Minister from War Vice-Minister.

War-Asia-Ordinary 522 (in pencil)

In reply to your inquiry about the above-mentioned subject you referred to in "Jo"-3-Ordinary - "G O" No. 1002, I ask you to duly understand that our policy is not to permit the representatives of International Red Cross Committee and of those countries protecting the interests of enemy countries to hold interviews with war prisoners and those interned by the Army without the presence of an observer.

The reasons for drafting this reply:

1. Article 10 of Detailed Regulations for Treatment of War Prisoners. "In case any interview with any war prisoner is permitted, considerable limitations should be made, to maintain strict order, as to the place and time for that interview and it should be done in the presence of an observer."

2. There is a great danger of this being misused for transmission of secret information.

Instruction for execution - Indication of Approval - Terms for Preservation Caption of the Document: Re the Interview with the POW and Persons detained by the Army.

Addressee: Vice-Foreign Minister Addressor: Vice Director. Date of sending out.

To be shown to post-facto: related

Chief of Bureau - The Chief of Sect, KO Junior Secretary - KO Senior.

Secretary BOMACHI (?) - The Staff of Sccretary.

Drafted: Date - Name of Sect: No. 3 Initial "YO"? Vice Director Initial "Tsuma".

The Director: UEMULA or KAMIMULA - Higher Secretary: YAMAZAKI - Secretary in Charge: YOTSUMOTO ?

Initial and no. of document sent - Higher Secretary - Secretary to General Sect. - Despatcher of the Document - Actual person in charge - Related Bureau or Sect - Bureau or Sect to be shown to post-facto - POW Intelligency Bureau.

from seeing POW's and/ or persons detained by the Army without the presence of an observer. The reason for the policy/ to the above effect/. 1. The detailed regulation for the Treatment of POW, Art. 10 says: "In the case of permitting interview with a PCW, a due restriction shall be set forth for controlling the place and time of such interview and it should be made in the presence of an observer. 2. The danger of such interview being used for the transmission of secret intelligence, JO Ordinary GO No. 1002 - June 23, 1942 - from: Foreign Vice-Minister To: War Vice-Minister. Re: American Government's Request for Affording Facilities for Interviews with Prisoners of War and Interned Personnel. Recently, the Swiss Minister in Tokyo who represents American interests in Japan, has given us the following notice and inquired of us about the Japanese view on the above problem. In America, representatives of the International Red Cross Committee have just been allowed interviews without witness, with the Japanese prisoners of war and interned personnel. Therefore, American Government wishes that the Japanese Government will afford the same facilities to the Swiss Minister in Tokyo representing the American interests in Japan and the representatives of the International Led Cross Committee in the Japanese occupied zone and as well as in Japan. Though we understand that the same facilities as in America have been afforded in Japan proper, we think it proper to allow the Red Cross Representatives the privilege, because in the occupied zone the protection of/ enemy/ interests is not allowed in principle. We must make a reply; so we should like to hear your opinion, Destination of this note: the Vice Minister of the War, Home and Overseas Affairs Departments, the Director of the POW Information Bureau: A. No. 2720. "Jo" 3, Ordinary GOH" No. 1002 - June 23, 1942. To: President of the Prisoners of War Intelligence Bureau -From: Vice Foreign Minister. (Seal). Subject: Proposal of the U.S. Government as to Giving Facilities for Interviews with Internees and Prisoners of War. We have received the communication from the Swiss Minister in Tokyo who represents the interests of the USA in this country, to the effect that the representatives of those countries that protect the interest of Japan in the USA, and those of the International Red Cross Society have been permitted to interview the Japanese prisoners of war and non-combatant internees without observers. He also informed us that the U.S. Government desires that the Japanese Government afford the same privilege to the Swiss Minister in Tokyo who protects the interest of America in Japan and to the representatives of the International hed Cross Society in Japan and the Japanese occupied territories. The Minister wants to know, at this time,

Re the above captioned matter as referred to by your letter

that our policy is for prohibiting the representatives of

of the governments protecting the interest of enemy powers

"JO, 3, Ordinary GO, No. 1002", we request you to understand

the International Red Cross Committee and the representatives

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the intention of Japan in this connection. Although regarding this matter, the same facilities as in America are believed now being given generally in Japan proper, the protection of the enemy interest is not, as a rule, recognized in the occupied territories and, therefore, it may be well to allow the privilege to the Red Cross representatives only. As we have to reply to the Swiss Minister, we shall be glad to know your opinion on this point.

Addressees of this communication are Vice Ministers of the Army, Home, and Overseas Departments as well as the President of the Prisoners of War Information Bureau.