

No. 1472

E. L. 1472

DOCUMENT 10-F

PLAIN

Bern

Dated March 9, 1942

Rec'd 6:30 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

948, Ninth.

AMERICAN INTERESTS, JAPAN, TREATMENT AMERICANS.

Legation's 514, February 12 and 733, February 24,

Swiss Legation Tokyo telegraphs March 2: "Re-

ferring to information communicated my telegram February 17 (see Legation's 733) Japanese Government denies that American citizens are submitted to unfavorable treatment. I reproduce in substance following letter addressed to me by Minister Togo: "American citizens whom you are endeavoring to protect enjoy proper treatment as you have been able to judge from your visits. The Government is not in possession of complete details for all occupied territories but an official of Japanese Consulate General Hong Kong has taken over American Consulate General after fall of that colony and has done his best obtain as many facilities as possible for American officials. Accordance their desire all American personnel (consisting 13 persons) and 7 members American Embassy were put together January 9 in two buildings chosen by American Consul himself. They have expressed their thanks for treatment accorded. They are authorized go out twice weekly escorted by Japanese official. Their food sufficiently assured by Japanese Army and all in good health. Adequate protection likewise accorded other American citizens. In addition 26 members American Consulate General Manila benefit same treatment as consuls all other countries;

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they live in building belonging American citizen in Pasaynang Howrood in suburbs Manila. They have also thanked Japanese Consulate General for indulgent treatment given them and have told us that they suffer no privation. Treatment given other American citizens by Japanese military authorities no less indulgent in principle. Old people, mothers of young children, the sick and pregnant women are not detained by military authorities. [Apprehensions American Government based on information from unknown source and citing no exact facts are therefore without foundation. Japanese authorities will continue accord facilities to Swiss Minister for his visits to internment camps']

Swiss Minister adds that concerning last point Minister Togo's letter authorities still create nevertheless difficulties for visiting internment camps, in particular causing delays for visits of Swiss special representatives. Swiss Minister hopes eventually obtain all necessary facilities.

[HUDDLE]

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