

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NNDG# 760050

711.94114A/5-145 -- 5-3145

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

47834

DIVISION OF ~~WAR~~ CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

1) Treatment accorded POWs
2) Treatment of survivors of transport
3) Air field
4) Mundaas

ALH-1005

PLAIN

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
MAY 2 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Bern

Dated May 1, 1945

Rec'd 9:40 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

Unnumbered, First

Your 1638, April 30. Our 2196 April 14, refers to Department's 1023, March 10.

HARRISON

MJF

711.94114A/5-145

MAR 1 4 1946

RECORDS BRANCH

DCR - G.P.C Unit
Anal. AB
Rev. _____
Cat. _____
Dist. _____

711.94114a/5-145

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

EAS-1217

PLAIN

Bern

Dated May 1, 1945

Rec'd 9:48 p.m.

AW
DCR

Secretary of State,

by SWP to

Washington.

Was - Bryan

Brisce

Sweet

Bernays

2539, First

Benedict

AMERICAN INTERESTS FAR EAST

Navy - 2

Legation's 1815, March 27.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
MAY 2 - 1945
C in swp
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Date **MAY 3 1945**

Swiss note April 27 states Swiss Legation, Tokyo

received following information from Japanese POW information Bureau:

The Japanese vessel torpedoed October 24, 1944 had aboard 1775 American POWS from Philippines. Survivors of this shipwreck whose present place detention not yet communicated are USS PIGEON boatswain Martin Binder no number, Philip Brodsky 6978409, Glenn S. Oliver 20700250, C. W. Hughes 18033942, last named died November 9 at Taiwan following illness. Swiss Legation adds that Japanese POW Information Bureau gave assurance that it will transmit list of missing POWS.

LMS

HARRISON

DCR - GP-C Unit
Anal. *fnb*
Rev. *Do*
Dist.

OCT - 4 1945

711.94114A/5-145

711.94114A/5-11

711.94114A lists/6-2745

49422 NY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

FS-1405
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SECRET)

Bern

Dated May 2, 1945

Rec'd 3:13 p.m.

33

Secretary of State

Washington

2560, May 2, 4 p.m.

AMERICAN INTERESTS JAPAN.

Your 1222, March 26. *711.94114a/3-2645 CWP JA*

Swiss note April 30 states Swiss Legation Tokyo reports increasing difficulties in obtaining authorization visit camps because of bombardments in areas where camps located.

HARRISON

REP

SPECIAL PROBLEMS DIVISION
MAY 3 - 1945
Col. pinsup
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

711.94114A/5-245

MAR 1 5 1946

FILED

RECORDS SERVICE

DCR - GP-C Unit

Anal. *[Signature]*

Rev. *[Signature]*

Cat. *[Signature]*

MAY 2 1945

CENTRAL SERVICES

CONFIDENTIAL FILE

711.94114a/5-245

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

34

by SWP to

FROM: BERN

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

DATED: May 2, 1945

NUMBER: 2569

War - Bryan
Bressee
G-2
Bernay
Hany-2
Date MAY 4 1945

711.94114A/5-245

The Tokyo Swiss Legation reports that due to bombardments in regions where camps are situated increasing difficulties are encountered in obtaining permission to visit prisoner of war camps. (Department's 1222, March 26). A Swiss Foreign Office note dated April 30 transmits the foregoing information.

HARRISON

711.94114A/5-245

Paraphrased:SWP:BPetro:gll

PREPARING OFFICE WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

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

Collect

Department of State

CONFIDENTIAL

Charge Department:

Charge to DEPARTMENT

Washington

AMLEGATION,

BERN.

1707

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

36

MAY 4 - 1945

7pm

Japanese radio broadcasts report considerable damage to Omori and Shinagawa wards during April. It is a matter of concern to the Department that the Shinagawa prisoner of war hospital (REURDES 11336, April 4) and the Omori prisoner of war camp (REURDES 11335, April 4) were at the time of the Swiss representative's visit still located in a area subject to bombardment. Have the camps been moved since the time of the visit? If not, request Swiss Government to have Gorge protest strongly to the Japanese Government along the following lines:

The United States Government is reliably informed that the Tokyo prisoner of war hospital, Higashi Shinagawa, is situated close to a port near and on the road leading to bonded warehouses and that the Omori prisoner of war camp is flanked on either side by industrial installations not more than 500 to 1,000 meters distant. Article 9 of Geneva Convention provides that no prisoner may be used to give protection from bombardment to certain points or certain regions by his presence. The United States Government demands that the inmates of the Shinagawa hospital and of ~~and of~~

711.94114A/5-445

SENT 711.94114A/5-445 CS/MADU

LE: WMB. 5-4-45. Cleared with Mrs. Petro and Mr. Clatterburg of SWP, and Mr. Dickover of JH.

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

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

Collect

Charge Department:

Department of State 37

CONFIDENTIAL

Charge to DEPARTMENT

Washington

-2-

and of the Omori prisoner of war camp be moved to a zone of safety immediately and that a report of the transfer and the location of the new sites be made to the United States Government.

The United States Government declares that the failure of the Japanese Government to remove the hospital and the camp from a target area as well as any failure to remove other prisoner of war camps from danger zones will have the most serious consequences for the responsible Japanese authorities.

[Handwritten signature]
ACTING

TO	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
FROM	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
SUBJECT	
DATE	
TIME	

[Handwritten initials]
CR
MAY 4 1945 P.M.

[Handwritten initials]
C. Wagner
SPT:EPetro:ec
[Handwritten initials] B. P. Ho.

5/2-3/45

JA

LE

A-H

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

Distributed by SWP to

38

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

War Bryan
Baese

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

Yudelson

TO: AMEMBASSY, BERN

May 2

DATED: May 4, 1945

Date MAY 1 1945 *BP:ip*

NUMBER: 1707

C. in SWP:ip

Considerable damage has been done to Shinagawa and Omori wards during April according to Japanese radio broadcasts. The Department is concerned to learn that, according to your despatches No. 11335 and No. 11336, both dated April 4, when the Swiss representative visited the Omori prisoner of war camp and the Shinagawa prisoner of war hospital, they were still located in a bombardment area. If these camps have not been moved since the Swiss representative's visit, a strong protest along the following lines should be made to the Japanese Government by the Swiss Government through Gorge:

15-445

Reliable information has been received by the Government of the United States that the prisoner of war camp, Omori, is situated between industrial installations from 500 meters to 1000 meters away and that Higashi Shinagawa prisoner of war hospital at Tokyo is located near a port which is on the road to and close to bonded warehouses. Provision is made by the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention under Article 9 whereby protection from bombardment of certain regions or certain points may not be obtained by the use of the presence

50411.941140/5-445

-2-

presence of any prisoner of war. Therefore, the Government of the United States demands the immediate removal to a safety zone of the occupants of the Omori prisoner of war camp and the Shinagawa hospital. The United States Government also demands that the Japanese Government furnish a report regarding the transfer and the new locations.

Declaration is made by the Government of the United States that the Japanese authorities responsible for the Japanese Government's failure to remove from danger zones prisoner of war camps, including the above-mentioned camp and hospital, will meet with the most serious consequences.

GREW
(Acting)

Paraphrased:SWP:*gjs*Spence:gll

54874

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

1945 MAY 8 PM 1 26

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CO/R
RECORDS BRANCH

MAY 5 1945

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
Del. to Bern 4.11.45
File # 245
MAY 10 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Honorable
The Secretary of State

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have your letter dated April 23, 1945, SWP 711.94114A/3-1445, inclosing a proposed protest to the Japanese Government against the massacre of American prisoners of war on Palawan Island, in December 1944, and expressing your opinion as to the announcement made on March 3, 1945 by General MacArthur concerning this incident.

The protest which you propose is entirely satisfactory to the War Department. With respect to the desirability of further publicity on this matter, I agree that General MacArthur's statement was tantamount to an official release, and I consider that no further action in this connection is necessary for the time being.

Sincerely yours,

Henry L. Stimson
Secretary of War

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
MAY 18 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Anal. *Smith*
Rev. *Smith*
Cat. *m/m*
Dist.



MAR 22 1946

FILED

711.94114A/5-545

711.94114a/5-545

Mrs. Gollaud Lee Clark, Sr.
3649 - 34 Ave West
Seattle - 99 - 112

nothing further than
O. Barstow

My sons:

Major Golland Lee Clark, Jr.
U.S.M.C. was Adjutant to
Col. Howard with the 4th
Marines, and others were
at Cabanatuan for 3 years
only to be taken away in
October. We know not
where, perhaps to Japan.
They all had hoped for
liberation by General Mac
Arthur.

If we could only
send our loved ones the
necessary things they need.

One can not
realize the anxious days
we endure.

From the bottom of my
heart I plead for help for
those poor men.

May God bless you, in your
heavy task. Sincerely

May 30, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mrs. Clark:

I have received by reference from the White House your letter of May 5, 1945 addressed to the President urging that all possible aid be extended to our prisoners of war in Japanese custody. You state that your son, Major Golland Lee Clark, Jr., was held at Cabanatuan for three years and indicate that you have reason to believe that he was transferred from that camp in October 1944.

I have consulted the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, and have ascertained from that Bureau that it has no address for your son other than Cabanatuan.

I can appreciate the anxiety and distress which you have experienced in your son's captivity. I believe that you will find of particular interest the enclosed statement which surveys the measures taken by the Department of State in sending relief supplies to American nationals in Japanese custody. I assure you that the welfare of American nationals in the Far East is of deepest concern to this Government and that no possibility of rendering aid to them is being overlooked or neglected.

Sincerely yours,

Parmely W. Herrick
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Enclosure:

Statement concern-
ing the sending of
relief supplies.

Mrs. Golland Lee Clark, Sr.,
3649 Thirty-fourth Avenue West,
Seattle 99, Washington.

SWP:HDreppard:NET

5/25 - 5/26/45

Mrs. Golland Lee Clark, Sr.
MB
MAY 29 1945 P.M.

760050-91194/1140/5-5-45

75262

SWP ✓

FIDELITY UNION LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

2729

DALLAS, TEXAS

~~MAY 22, 1945~~

DGR

OFFICE OF
CARR P. COLLINS
PRESIDENT

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
W. L. CLAYTON

MAY 10 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

May 5, 1945

file

Mr. W. L. Clayton
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
MAY 11 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
*Let to Mr. Collins
B. Petro: 5/25/45*

Dear Mr. Clayton:

Thank you for your letter of May 2.

I am glad to know that the State Department is preparing a statement concerning the various steps that are taken by this Government in behalf of American nationals held in Japanese custody, and that when this statement is ready that a copy of it will be sent to the Bataan Relief Organization for publication.

I think this statement is long overdue because my own personal experience in recent weeks has clearly revealed the failure of the Government to properly inform the families of American nationals concerning prisoners of war conditions in Japan.

Yours sincerely,

Carr P. Collins

Carr P. Collins

CPC/dc

Anal.	<i>Prothea M. Laurion</i>
Rev.	<i>AB</i>
Cat.	<i>JD</i>
Dist.	

MAY 31 1945

711.94114A/5-545

OS/LE/711.94114a/5-545

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SPECIAL DIVISION

April 27, 1945,

JEO ✓ A-C

I am attaching the draft of a letter which you asked us to prepare. We suggest the information sheet for publication instead of the letter of April 13th in order that sections of the letter may be used again in answering other inquiries.

AW.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WAR PROBLEMS
SPECIAL DIVISION

4/11/45

A-C, Miss Babb:

This is a draft of a reply to Mr. Collins' letter to Mr. Clayton.

Lt. Wallace of the Casualty Notification and Processing Section, Welfare Division, Bureau of Naval Personnel, confirms that Lt. Bleecker Provoost Seaman, Jr. is officially listed as missing in action.

A. Wagner.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

5/10/45
Miss Wagner SWP.

For your information.

JEO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SPECIAL DIVISION

JEO ✓ A-C

You might perhaps like to send a letter enclosing the latest information sheet to Mr. Collins.

AW

In reply refer to
SWP

MAY 28, 1945

My dear Mr. Collins:

I enclose for your information a copy of the latest information sheet prepared by the Department of State concerning measures taken by the Department in behalf of American nationals in Japanese custody. A copy of the information sheet has also been sent to Mr. V. H. Spensley, President of the Bataan Relief Organization.

It has occurred to me that you are perhaps not aware of a monthly Red Cross publication entitled, "Prisoners of War Bulletin" It may be obtained by writing to the National Headquarters of the American Red Cross, Washington, D. C. requesting that your name be put on the Red Cross mailing list.

Sincerely yours,

DOF - SP-C Cont.	
Anal.	W.L.
Rev.	W.B.
Cat.	
Dist.	Enclosure:

William L. Clayton
Assistant Secretary

Information sheet.

Mr. Carr P. Collins,
President, Fidelity Union
Life Insurance Company,
Dallas, Texas.

MAY 28 1945 P.M.

BP.
SWP:BPetro:ec

A C

5/25/45

711.941140/5-515

91.0.
Nuss

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

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

Collect

Charge Department:

Department of State

PLAIN

Charge to

Department

Washington

AMLEGATION,

41

MAY 7 1945

BERN.

1739 SEVENTH

AMERICAN INTERESTS - JAPAN

The Department has received no reports of visits since 1943 by representatives either of the protecting Power or of the International Red Cross Committee to the following camps in Japan: Kobe City Camp, Hirohata Divisional Camp, Chikko Camp, Kanagawa-Yokohama Camp, Yokohama City Camp, and Hiraoka Camp.

No reports of visits later than those on the dates listed herewith have been received on the following camps: Fukuoka Camps Nos. 12 and 17, April 24-25, 1944, Hakodate Main and Sub Camps, April 28, 1944, Niigata, May 9, 1944, Osaka Sub Camp, No. 11, July 6, 1944, Kawasaki Nos. 2 and 5, July 10, 1944, and Kobe Military Hospital, October 4, 1944.

Judging from reports received, only Omori Camp and Shinagawa Hospital have been visited in 1945.

It is believed that in the Tokyo-Yokohama group, in the Kobe-Osaka group, in the Zentzuji group, in the Fukuoka group, and in the Hakodate group there are prisoner of war

camps

711.94114A/5-745

SEN
711.94114A/5-745

RECORDED
INDEXED
MAY 10 1945
B. J. [Signature]

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

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

Collect

Department of State

PLAIN

Charge Department:

Washington

42

Charge to

Department

-2-

camps that have never been officially reported by the Japanese authorities and which therefore have never been visited.

Request Swiss Government to have Gorge make strong representations for protecting Power and International Red Cross Committee representatives to be permitted to visit and to report at once upon all camps in Japan where American prisoners of war may be held. Department is seriously concerned that so many camps have not been visited for a year and also that apparently camps exist in Japan which have never once been visited.

Wew
Acting *JA*

MAY 7 1945

Wew
SWP *Wagner*:NET

5/3/45

JA *FE*

first cards that were dated: They were written on May 6th and July 15th 1944. Since that time I have not received any further communication from him.

I have been informed by Mr. Franz Weisblatt, a United Press Correspondent, who was liberated from Bilied Prison, and who knew my husband there that Colonel Byrd was sent in October (1944) from Cabanatuan to Bilied Prison, and that in that same month was sent on to Japan, the ship safely reaching its destination.

I would appreciate very much any official information that you might have concerning Colonel Byrd.

Sincerely yours,

Lucille D. Byrd

(Mrs. Cornelius Gene Byrd)

May 15, 1945. POW

Information Bureau

have no further information

concerning Colonel Byrd

other than that he was

informed at Cabanatuan

Mrs. C. Z. Byrd
Route 1 Box 871
Monterey, California



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

May 18, 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mrs. Byrd:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 8, 1945, concerning your husband, Cornelius Zane Byrd, a prisoner of war of the Japanese held at Cabanatuan in the Philippine Islands.

I regret to inform you that the Prisoner of War Information Bureau informed this Department that no information has been received concerning Colonel Byrd other than that he was held at Cabanatuan.

You will be interested to know that the Japanese Government, in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention, forwards lists of names of prisoners of war who have been transferred from one camp to another to the International Red Cross Committee in Geneva, which in turn relays the information to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington. I must point out to you, however, that it is not unusual for months to elapse after a transfer before full information including camp address and internment number is reported to the Information Bureau. I assure you, nevertheless, that as soon as such information is received the next of kin are promptly notified.

Sincerely yours,

For the Acting Secretary of State:

Deborah M. Quinn
MB

Parmely W. Herrick
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Mrs. Cornelius Zane Byrd,
Route One, Box 871,
Monterey, California.

CR
MAY 17 1945 P.M.

BP
SWP:BPetro :ec

5/16/45

200-111-94114-140-145

JUN 18 1945

In reply refer to
SWP 711.62114A/5-845

SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 8, 1945, replying to our letter of April 23, 1945. In the last paragraph you suggest that the Department of State carefully check the activities of the Swiss Government in its capacity as protecting Power for United States interests in Japan and promptly bring to its attention any evidence of failure on its part to carry out its duties as protecting Power as diligently and vigorously as possible.

It is the Department's opinion that the Swiss Government is, in general, doing the best that it can under difficult conditions. The difficulties which the Swiss representatives in the Far East have had to face come from the intransigence and truculence of the Japanese authorities and from the fact that the Japanese Government does not consider itself legally obligated to observe the provisions of the Geneva Convention.

Placed in the unpleasant situation of not being able to hold the Japanese Government legally to observance of the provisions of the Geneva Convention, the Swiss Government has invoked the provisions of the Geneva Convention on humanitarian grounds, regardless of Japan's legal commitment or obligation to the Convention.

The Swiss authorities have faithfully presented the many strongly worded protests which this Government

has

Anal. *M. Laurier*
 Rev. *AK* The Honorable
 Cat. *sh* Henry L. Stimson,
 Dist. Secretary of War.

711.94114A/5-845

CS/LE

Confidential File

711.94114A/5-845

- 2 -

has found it necessary to address to the Japanese Government with regard to Japanese atrocities and maltreatment of American nationals, and strengthened this Government's protests with representations of its own concerning the serious character of the charges and the failure of the Japanese Government to live up to the commonly accepted humanitarian standards of civilized nations.

The Swiss Government has also been untiring in its efforts to secure authorization from the Japanese authorities for regular inspection of camps where American nationals are held. As you are aware, the Japanese Government has from the beginning of hostilities refused to grant the right of a protecting Power to represent American interests in Japanese-administered territories outside of Japan proper and China. The Swiss Government has not only acted as agent for the numerous protests of the United States Government concerning the matter, but has urged upon the Japanese Government the desirability and necessity for a reversal of its position. In view of the intransigent attitude of the Japanese authorities, this has not always been an easy undertaking for the Swiss representative. Wherever the Swiss Government has been authorized to visit camps its representatives have been energetic in carrying out their responsibility. They have faithfully, and it would seem honestly, reported on the conditions in the camps and have called upon the Japanese Government to effect improvements. Their representations have not always met with success but this has not been due to failure on their part to press for reforms.

Another instance of the Swiss Government's efforts is contained in a recent telegram from Bern. The Japanese Government requested the Swiss Government to assume protection of their interests in the United States. The Swiss Government informed the Japanese Government that it was prepared to take over Japanese interests in the United States subject to certain conditions which included granting greater facilities to Swiss representatives in Japan and Japanese occupied areas in fulfilling the functions of protecting Power in behalf of the United States and Great Britain.

However, if, at any time, there is reason to

believe

- 3 -

believe the Swiss Government fails satisfactorily to perform its duties as protecting Power for American prisoners of war and civilian internees in the Far East, I assure you that the Department will promptly bring the matter to the Swiss Government's attention.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Grew

Acting Secretary

[Large handwritten flourish or signature]

[Handwritten initials and signatures: J.A., J.H., and others]

JUN 12 1945 P.M.

JUN 14 1945 P.M.

JUN 15 1945 P.M.

SWP:BPetro:ec

[Handwritten signatures: mtr, CM, and Bnd]

[Handwritten signature: WEGOV]

6-7-45

by SWP to

Bryan
.....
was - Breece
.....
Sweet
.....
Gyudelson
.....
hany - 2
.....

Date **MAY 19 1945** *BP:pm*

62872

AIRGRAM

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
MAY 17 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM

Bern

Dated May 8, 1945

Rec'd : May 16, 6pm.

CONFIDENTIAL

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-694 May 8, 1945.

American Interests - Japan

Foreign Office note May 5, states Swiss Legation Tokyo informed by unofficial source that five American prisoners of war are detained at Sakai prison at Osaka.

Swiss Legation Tokyo requested Japanese authorities to communicate names of these pows and reason of their detention.

FROM HARRISON

Bern

*hold until Swiss Leg
can do some further
information - then protest
but look up Tap laws.*

GT/mak

DCR - GP-C Unit	
Anal.
Rev.	<i>AB</i>
Dist.	<i>FF</i>
.....

711.94114A/5-845

711.94114a/5-845
DS/MAJ

MAY 21 1945

File
3-22-46

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
War Problems
SPECIAL DIVISION

May 9, 1945

The following excerpts were taken from a statement made by Douglas W. Bogue, Sgt., USMC, dated January 23, 1945. (Source: War Department Records furnished by Lt. Dorsey).

Re: Prisoner of War Camp, Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippine Islands.

"At first the work, food, and living quarters were not too bad, but like everything else the food began to get worse, we worked longer hours and the Jap guards began to abuse the men. Towards the end the chow was unfit for human consumption, the Japs were severely abusing the men and work was from dawn till dark."

.....

"There were several escapes from camp, some were successful but others were caught, tortured and eventually shot. A standing order prevailed by the Jap C.O. that for every American who usccessfully escaped 10 others would be shot. No one escaped after the publishing of this order so it was never carried out."

.....

Re firing of air raid shelters: "The procedure of attack was simple; first throwing a lighted torch into the entrance and following it up with a bucket or two of gasoline which would explode setting everyone afire, in the shelter, then as the men would run screaming out of the shelter they would be mowed down by machine guns or rifles."

711.94114A/S-945

711.94114A/S-945

Anal.	DCR - GP-C Unit
Rev.	<i>Dorance M. Laurion</i>
Cnt.	<i>99</i>
Dist.	

SWP:HDreppard

MAY 23 1945

FILED

Confidential File

COPY NET

SECRET

COMP. Rm

CITY OF WASHINGTON)
 (ss.
 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)

We, William J. Balchus, Sergeant, 60th Coast Artillery, Serial Number 7021049, of Washington Valley Road, Martindale, New Jersey, Edwin A. Petry, Staff Sergeant, 7th Materiel Squadron, Serial Number 39226323, of 490 Santa Clara Avenue, Venice, California, Eugene Nielson, Corporal, Serial Number 19010856, of 274 East 1st South Street, Logan, Utah, and Aberto D. Pacheco, Sergeant, 200th Coast Artillery, Serial Number 20842523, of 215 South Ruby Street, Deming, New Mexico, hereby make, under oath the following statement concerning the facts of the massacre of American prisoners of war by the Japanese at Puerto Princesa, Palawan, P. I.

We were all four prisoners at the Japanese prisoner of war camp at that place and at the time of the massacre in December 1944 there were 150 prisoners in the camp. All were American soldiers, sailors or marines. We were used by the Japanese in building a military airfield.

On the morning of 14 December 1944 we were sent out early as usual to work on the airfield but all work details were called in about noon and returned to the compound. Two P-28's came over and there was an air-raid alert. Lunch was not quite through when there was another alert. We saw a B-24. We sat around for about an hour when we saw a Japanese plane overhead and another alarm was sounded. All that was seen was this Japanese plane. Some of the boys wanted to stay out of the shelters. A Japanese officer named Sato, whom we called "The Buzzard", ordered everyone to get into the shelters, and to show he meant it he hit C. C. Smith, a Navy man over the head.

The air-raid shelters had been built after the air-raids had started. The first American plane had come over in October 1944. There were three large shelters about 75' long, 4' deep and 3' wide, and several foxholes holding two or three men near them. The shelters were roofed over and had openings at each end. They were supposed to hold 50 men each.

Shortly after we were inside the Japanese attacked the shelters and foxholes. They fired into the openings and threw in gasoline which they set on fire with burning torches and paper. The men tried to escape by running out, some on fire, and tried to get through the barbed wire fence surrounding the area. The Japs shot the men down with rifles and machine guns and bayoneted and clubbed others. Quite a number of the men succeeded in escaping down to the beach over a fairly high cliff, after having gotten through the fence. We were among these. We hid among holes and caves along the shore. The Japs came down the beach to search for us and found and shot most of the boys. We, along with the few others who escaped,

succeeded

-2-

succeeded in keeping hidden, and eventually got away. We had to keep hidden until dark when we succeeded in swimming the bay which was four to five miles wide. We were then found and cared for by the Filipinos who brought us to a guerilla camp, from which we were evacuated by plane to Morotai. We did not swim the bay together but after each was picked up by the Filipinos, were all taken to Brooks Point, the guerrilla camp. Besides the three of us, others who escaped were Sergeant Bogue and Pfc. McDole, both of the Marine Corps, Fern Barta, USN, Ernest Koblos, Pfc., CAC, Rufus Smith, Cpl., USMC and Elmoe V. Deal, Cpl., 59th CA. All the others at the camp were either burned in the shelters or shot down and killed by the Japs so far as we know.

The Japanese commander was a captain, whom the Americans nicknamed "Weasel". We do not know his name. Second in command was a 1st Lt. named Sato, whom we called the "buzzard". He led the attack on the shelters. There was also a 2nd Lt. named Chino, whom we called "Robert Young". A master Sergeant named Ogawa was in charge of a landing barge that patrolled along the shore searching for Americans. There were three interpreters at the camp, also concerned in the massacre, Shubaki, a three star Pvt. named Tanaka and one other. Pfc. Haiaka was a cook in charge of the rice kitchen. Three star Pvt. Yamada was another Jap whose name we remember. He told us what was going to happen about two weeks before, but we didn't believe it.

The Japanese unit at the camp looked like recruits, having all new equipment with new style bayonets. Shubaki told us he had left Japan about a year before, The unit was called the Ogawa Tai and was a construction corps. It replaced a former unit under a Captain Kinoshita about the end of August 1944. Kinoshita's unit left at that time, taking with them 150 prisoners. The Ogawa Tai Unit had been in Manchuria and then went to Formosa. It had come to Manila about July 10, 1944, and then was sent to Palawan. Its strength was about 1500 men. There were also Navy men, marines and air corps personnel at Puerto Princesa in addition to this construction corps, about 3000 men in all. The construction corps had charge of us.

s/William J. Balchus Sgt.
William J. Balchus, Sgt. 7021049

s/Edwin A. Petry S/Sgt.
EDWIN A. PETRY, S/Sgt., 39226323

s/Eugene Nielsen
EUGENE NIELSEN, Cpl., 19010856

s/Albert D. Pacheco
ALBERTO D. PACHECO, Sgt., 20842523

Subscribed and sworn to this 17th day

of March, 1945.
s/Philip L. Smith
PHILLIP L. SMITH, 1st. Lt. J.A.G.D.

COPY RETCOMP ATSSECRET

STATEMENT OF SERGEANT WILLIAM J. BALCHUS, SERGEANT ALBERT D. PACHECO AND CORPORAL EUGENE NEILSON

CITY OF WASHINGTON)
: ss
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)

We, William J. Balchus, Sgt., CAC., Albert D. Pacheco, Sgt., CAC, and Eugene Neilson, Cpl., CAC, have heard read to us the joint statement made by Sgt. Douglas W. Bogue, USMC, and Pvt. Glen W. McDole, USMC, and with the exception of the incident related by Sgt. Bogue as to the use of American prisoners for bayonet practice by the Japs on Corregidor, all the incidents there referred to as well as the statements as to general camp conditions, lack of adequate food, medicine, medical care and general treatment of American prisoners by the Japs are true to our own knowledge.

s/WILLIAM J. BALCHUS
WILLIAM J. BALCHUS, Sgt., CAC

s/ALBERT D. PACHECO
ALBERT D. PACHECO, Sgt., CAC

s/EUGENE NIELSEN
EUGENE NEILSON, Cpl., CAC

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of March 1945.

s/PHILIP L. SMITH
PHILIP L. SMITH, 1st Lt., JAGD

C O P Y

HD

SECRET

STATEMENT OF SERGEANT DOUGLAS W. BOGUE AND PFC GLEN W. MCDOLE

CITY OF WASHINGTON)
) (SS:
 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)

We, Sergeant Douglas W. Bogue, USMC, and Pfc. Glen W. McDole, USMC, have both made and signed individual statements of even date as to our experiences at the time of the massacre at the Prisoner of War Camp at Puerto Princesa on Palawan Island. This statement as to certain other incidents and experiences while we were prisoners of war is jointly made.

At Puerto Princesa the camp was first commanded by a Captain Kishamoto, who left in March 1943. He was followed by a Captain Kinoshita, who left in September 1944. The next commander's name we do not know, but he was the commander up to the time of the massacre of 14 December 1944.

The other officers at the time of the massacre were a two-star and a one-star officer, i.e., the equivalent of a first and a second lieutenant. The second lieutenant we called "Robert Young", but we do not know the names of either of them. Other Japs at the camp at the time of massacre, whose names we know, are as follows.

There was Pfc. named Haiaka, a three-star private named Segurabi, and one named Ogawa, who had a rank equivalent to Master Sergeant. They were also concerned in the massacre. Ogawa was apparently assistant to the officer in charge of the massacre. He was in charge of the patrol on the beach looking for men among the rocks and was also in the landing barge cruising up and down the shore. There were three interpreters at the camp: Three-star private Tanaka, two-star private Kawakimi, and another Jap named Shubaki. Shubaki was a small man and carried brass knuckles which he used on the Americans. He would try to hit them in the mouth. This seemed to be his hobby. Kawakimi was an ex-fighter and also liked to bat the prisoners around. Tanaka had been raised by American missionaries in Japan and kept pretty much away from the Americans and did not bother us much, but he was the same as the rest during the massacre.

✓ When we were first at Puerto Princesa there was a different group of Japs running the camp under Captain Kishamoto and they left when he did. In December 1942 some of the men had been communicating with a Filipino whom the Japs caught and by torturing him made him identify the Americans concerned.

The

Confidential

- 2 -

The Japs also at the same time and as a result of this investigation discovered that some of the Americans had stolen corned beef, which they had done because the food was so bad. These men were Jack Taylor, Jimmy Barna, Robert Bacon, all Marines, and Yoder, Freeman and Laidlow, who were sailors. Laidlow had been assigned to the U.S.S. Canopus. As a punishment the Japs made these men stand with their arms around coconut trees in the compound. They were beaten first by one Jap with a small iron wire whip across the small of the back, and then by another Jap with a pole. While this was going on a Jap Master Sergeant sat in the road with a pistol in case the men tried to get away. They were not tied, but made to stand at the trees and reach their arms around it. After the beating at the tree, Tomioke, a Jap Sergeant Major, whom we nicknamed "The Bull", made the man stand at attention and hit them to see how long it would take him to knock them out. All the men were then placed in the brig with only one salty rice ball a day to eat until they were sent to Manila to be tried.

In June of 1943 about the 27th or 28th Sheldon T. White, a Marine, and a sailor named Wilson escaped from the airfield but were caught about four days later. After they were picked up, the Jap MP's locked them up in their dungeon. It was usual for the Japs to send men to Manila and there were no executions at Puerto Princesa that we know of. However, in this case these men were never put on a boat as we would have known about it from the truck drivers. The last we heard of them they were put on a truck and taken out to the airfield. They are supposed to have been shot and buried there. Some Filipinos in the neighborhood know where their graves are but we were never able to find them.

One time Bigelow, a Marine Sergeant, and Pfc Farmer had picked a papaya off a tree in the compound. Captain Kishamoto had ordered that no fruits or coconuts were to be picked in or around the compound by prisoners. Nishitoni, the Jap cook, saw them and took it upon himself to punish the men. The Jap took an iron bar and slamming it hard broke the left arm of each man and then beat the men about the buttocks with the iron bar. Later the men were sent back to Manila on account of disability. Sgt. Bogue saw the whole affair and Pfc McDole saw the Jap break the men's arms though he did not see them pick the papaya.

At another time a sailor named Bingham who had been attached to the U.S.S. Canopus told Nishitoni that the chow was no good. We saw Nishitoni throw a dipper full of boiling tea on Bingham's feet and, although he jumped, he got one foot badly burned, from about the ankle, which left a bad scar. He had third degree burns and received no medical attention from the Japs.

While we were at Cabanatuan in Camp No. 3 there were four soldiers from Fort Drum who were executed by the Japs on 30 May 1942. The Japs claimed the men were trying to escape but
the

- 3 -

the men said that they had got lost on a work detail. They were picked up by the Japs on the road heading toward camp. The Japs tied them at the gate with a pole under their knees for about two days and left them in the hot sun. If they fell over, they made them get up. At the end of this time they led them to graves and they were executed by a firing squad. We both saw the men tied up and also the execution.

On Corregidor the day after the surrender, Sgt. Bogue was sent out on a working party of 150 men carrying litters. When the detail got to Hooker Point the Japs separated the last ten men in the column from the rest and the others went on. Returning at the end of the day, Sgt. Bogue saw these men tied to trees; they had been used as targets for bayonets and swords.

We were quartered while at Corregidor in the 92nd Regiment Garage Area in a space about 1500 yards by 800, with about 7,000 Americans and 12,000 Filipinos. We had no shelter of any kind other than what we could improve ourselves. For the first two days we received no water because there were so many men we could not get to the one pump. We also received no food for a time other than what some of the men had with them. Later the Japs laid a small one-inch water line with one faucet, but we still had to wait in line hours for water. The Japs also issued, after a few days, some food which was from the American supplies they had captured.

The Japs supplied no medical aid or supplies and our doctors were forced to resort to whatever crude methods they could devise. The latrines were exposed and dysentery was breaking out and the men started to die off. The Japs never came into the area farther than the gate. We were here from 9 May until 24 May when we were taken to Manila. There was no real effort to bury the dead on Corregidor properly and they were buried in very shallow graves and in shell holes or cremated. The Japs would not let us get the men's dog tags in order to identify them and as a result the graves were unmarked.

There was a hospital in the Malinta Tunnel on Corregidor but the medical supplies there were untouched except for those our doctors used there. At the garage area the doctors had no supplies and the Japs supplied none. When we were moved to Manila the Japs would not let us take any of these medical supplies from the Malinta hospital with us, although the doctors hid what they could in the blankets of the sick and wounded. At Cabanatuan the only medical supplies the Japs gave us were small rations of bandage and gauze. They supplied no medicines at all. The doctors improvised medicines by boiling the leaves from certain trees and made charcoal which they used for dysentery. Most everybody had to take care of their own wounds or ulcers

themselves.

- 4 -

themselves. I, Sergeant Bogue, had several ulcers under my arm and the only care that it got was what I could give it myself by a compress consisting of a towel soaked in hot water.

Also at Puerto Princesa the medical supplies were very meager. The Japs did not seem to care. They issued some potassium permanganate and some kind of a Jap foot lotion for athlete's foot. If a man had a wound or ulcer the doctors could only soak it with the potassium permanganate as long as it lasted, but usually with only hot water. In January 1944 we received Red Cross supplies from Manila but the Japs opened them before our doctors got them. They took out all the drugs and medicines and kept them, merely saying that they were missing. But the inventory of what had been in the box showed what was missing. They left adhesive tape and gauze. However, the sulpha drugs were left in the boxes either because the Japanese doctor was ignorant about them or merely overlooked them. At one time a man named Stidham was hit in an American bombing raid at the air field by a rock and a large gash was cut in his head. His side was paralyzed and his eyes were crossed, and he had a bad concussion. All the medical aid supplied by the Japs for him was a handfull of cotton. Dr. Mango managed to bring the man around and devised instruments to work on his nerves and eyes. The man was out of his head. At the time of the massacre he was still helpless and was lying on a stretcher just inside one of the shelters. I saw a Jap stand over him and shoot him. One thing the Japs did give us was quinine, but this was obviously so we could keep working.

All hands worked on the airfield during bombing raids which began 19 October 1944. A few were hurt but Stidham was the only one injured seriously. There were a few foxholes in the vicinity which we would scatter to. The day Stidham was injured there was a large raid. The reason no more were injured was that on that occasion only 27 men were working at the field as the others were working on the beach on Jap defenses.

Cabanatuan Camp No. 3 was located about six kilometers west of Laur and about twenty kilometers from Cabanatuan. It was a former Philippine Army camp. The buildings were of bamboo and nips. We were there from 27 May 1942 to the end of July. About the greatest number of men there while we were there was about 10,000, all from Corregidor. About 90 men were quartered in the small huts and around 140 in the larger ones. The small huts were about 18 feet by 40 feet and the large ones 18 feet by about 55 feet or so long.

The

- 5 -

The food at Camp No. 3 was a small ration, one-half a mess-kit, of wet rice per meal, and some thin vegetable soup made of potato vines or onion. We received meat in the soup about twice.

We dug our own latrines, outside, but there were so many cases of dysentery that there were a lot of flies. The galleys were not screened in and the chow was covered with them until they made attempt to cover the food with rice sacks. There was only one shower which required a doctor's permission to use. There were other showers but Jap orders forbade their use. Most everybody had to bathe in the river.

The very sick were taken to a building across the road from the camp and usually never came back. How many died at the camp while we were there, we do not know. However, we would often find two or three dead in our groups nearly every day. The camp was divided into three groups of about 3,000 men each.

DOUGLAS W. BOGUE, Sgt. USMC

GLEN W. MCDOLE, Pfc, USMC

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of February 1945.

PHILIP L. SMITH, 1st Lt. JAGD

COPY: HD
COMP: NET

SECRET

CITY OF WASHINGTON)
(SS:
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)

My name is Fern Joseph Barta, RM 1/c, USN. My home address is 312 South 4th East Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

I have this day signed a statement of my experiences as a prisoner of war at Puerto Princesa, Palawan. In addition thereto I was told the following story by Glen A McDole, who escaped at the same time I did and returned to the United States with me.

After he got out of the camp on 14 December 1944, I think the following morning, he saw one of our men who had been shot being held up by the Japs with their bayonets. He was shot apparently in the leg and could not stand by himself. McDole was not near enough to recognize the man, but he did see the Japs pour gasoline on one foot and light it and on the other foot and on his hands. The man begged to be shot and not burned. Finally the man passed out and then the Japs poured gasoline all over him and burned him.

S/ Fern Joseph Barta

FERN JOSEPH BARTA, RM 1/c

Sworn to before me and subscribed
in my presence this 13th day of
February 1945.

S/ Philip L. Smith
Philip L. Smith,
1st Lt., J.A.G.D.

COPIED: SWP: MMc
COMPARED: MMc: JF

SECRET

CITY OF WASHINGTON)
(SS:
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)

My name is Fern Joseph Barta and I am a Radio man First Class, USN. My home address is 312 South 4th East Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

At the outbreak of the war I was at Corregidor and was on Corregidor at the time of the surrender. We were concentrated in the garage area for some time and then sent to Manila. I was in the Jap parade down Dewey Avenue when they marched us to Bilibid. After three or four days I was sent to Cabanatuan and was in Camp No. 3 about twenty kilometers from Cabanatuan. At this camp the Army personnel was separated from the Navy and Marines. At the end of July 1942 I was one of 350 prisoners of war sent from Cabanatuan to Puerto Princesa, Palawan, to work on a Jap airfield, arriving there on 1 August. I was at this camp until 14 December 1944.

About noon of 14 December the Japs called in all the men who were out working on the airfield. The Japs had spotted a convoy headed for Mindoro. At about 2 p.m. the Japs called an air raid, although I saw no planes either then or later. They said a lot of planes were coming. They compelled all of us to get into the air raid shelters they had had us dig previously. Shortly thereafter I heard a lot of fireworks going on outside and looked out. I saw several men running around on fire and being shot at by the Japs with machine guns. One of these I recognized as Robert L. Hubbard, a soldier. When we saw what was happening some crawled through a concealed "escape hatch" we had constructed unknown to the Japs. We had also enlarged a drain which lead out of the camp underground through which I escaped. The outer end of this led out at the top of a forty or fifty foot cliff, dropping to the beach. After I got outside the fence I looked back and saw Japs throwing gasoline from cans into the shelter and saw torches thrown in. About forty men got into the rocks along the shore and some started to swim the bay and were shot by the Japs who came down to the beach to hunt out and shoot us. When I first got to the beach I saw a man named Hamric shot in the arm. I put a tourniquet on for him and he kept going. I hid among the rocks until eight or nine o'clock and then swam across the bay.

There were 150 men in the camp at this time and so far as I know only nine men escaped. A tenth man, named Martin, a Marine, started the five-mile swim across the bay with me. I passed out on the way and later came to and got ashore. I do not know whether Martin got away or not as I never heard from him. He was a strong swimmer, however, and I think he must have

have

SECRET

- 2 -

have gotten ashore. I had some narrow escapes after I reached shore but was finally picked up by a P.B.Y. along with D.W. Bogue and G.W. McDale, both marines, who also returned to the United States with me. The names of others who escaped that I know of are Nielson, Balchus, Pacheco, Koblos, Petry, and Rufus Smith. I know of four officers who were killed: Lt. Mango, Medical Corps; Warrant Officer Glen C. Turner; Lt. Commander Knight, Dental Corps; USN; and Captain Fred T. Brunie, the Camp Commander, among the total of 140 who didn't escape.

The largest number of prisoners at Puerto Princesa at one time was 470. Those who became sick were sent back to Manila and in September 1944 there were 309 left. At that time 150 were sent away and nine sick men were sent to Manila. By December only 150 men were left of which 12 were sailors, 33 marines and the rest soldiers.

While at Puerto Princesa I actually witnessed no executions. Two men, White, a Marine Corps radioman, and a man named Wilson tried to escape and got caught. They were taken on a truck out of camp by the Japs and later the truck came back without the two men. I do not now recall the date, though it is in a report which those of us who escaped made in Honolulu.

While we were working on the airfield from October 19 to December there were constant air raids nearly every day and the field was bombed. On one occasion one man named Steadham (Stedim) was seriously injured when a rock hit him on the back of the head and gave him a concussion. The Japs were asked for medical treatment but all they provided was a handful of cotton so that all the real treatment he got was what our own medical men could give him. He had to have a watch over him continually until the 14th of December.

One time a man named Stanley was working with me at the airfield filling in bomb craters. The Jap guard said he wasn't working hard enough and Stanley said there wasn't much dirt, but mostly rocks. The guard then hit him over the head with a pick ax handle and cut a big gash. Fortunately, Stanley had on a sun hat which somewhat protected him.

One time I saw three men named Laidlow, Barna and Jack Taylor and three or four others whose names I do not remember, tied to cocanut trees and beaten, first with a small switch and then with a six foot pool about three inches thick. The chow had been bad and these men had taken some cans of corned beef from the Japs. A big Jap soldier whom we called "The Bull" and whose name was Tomiolo, beat the men to see how long it would take him to knock them out. I do not remember the exact date of this but it was

shortly

SECRET

- 3 -

shortly after we arrived at Puerto Princesa. Barna and another of the men had been buying food from Filipinos and they were taken to Manila so I do not know what happened to them.

A man named Hodges and five others escaped about the latter part of August. Hodges was killed later by Filipinos, for a reward I believe. He was shot in the back while at some kind of Filipino fiesta. The two Filipinos responsible were later killed. There were several other groups who escaped. When Price and Swift escaped, the same night two others tried to escape, Sloat and Hanson, but they were captured and sent to Manila. I do not know what happened to them. They were kept in the M.P. prison until they were sent to Manila. I know both Charles Watkins and Joe Little but do not recall just when they escaped, but the date is in my Honolulu report referred to above.

At Cabanatuan four men escaped and were executed. I did not see the executions, but I saw the firing squad march them off to their graves and heard the shots. The men had been kept in the hot sun with a stick tied under their knees and their hands tied behind them to a beam for 48 hours. They were given no food or water during this time. I did not see them beaten but if they fell or slumped a Jap would come along and kick them up straight again. I believe this is the case referred to by Corporal Swift who was with me at Cabanatuan and at Puerto Princesa until he escaped.

Again at Puerto Princesa one time two men picked a papaya off a tree just inside the compound fence. The Jap mess sergeant Nishitoni took an iron rod and broke an arm of each of them. I did not see this done but was told about it and did see the men after it happened.

My job was cutting firewood, which I began about the time they started concreting the airfield, and thereafter I did not see much of the Japs. I did my work and was not bothered much.

We received little if any medical attention from the Japs at Puerto Princesa. What we got was from our own men and the Red Cross supplies sent to us. But the Japs would go through these supplies and taken what they wanted. They took the drugs, especially morphine. Apparently they didn't know about sulphur drugs; at any rate they didn't take that. The Japs did treat us for Malaria and for one month they gave us a quinine pill every other day in order to keep us fit to work on the airfield. They also furnished mosquito nets.

The food was soup made from sweet potato leaves and 2/3 of a messkit of very poor rice. When the Japs had a carabao they took the meat and gave us the bones for making meat broth. However,

we

SECRET

- 4 -

we did get bananas and coconuts ourselves from the airfield and also took vegetables which the Japs left in a passageway.

FERN JOSEPH BARTA

AD
Subscribed and sworn to this
13th day of February 1945
before me.

PHILIP L. SMITH
1st Lt., J.A.G.D.

CONFIDENTIALINFORMATION AND RECORDS BRANCH
(Postal and Telegraph Censorship)

Language: ENGLISH

Co: W/T.

From: JAPAN

To: -----

Office of
FOR EASTERN AFFAIRS
JUN 21 1945
DIRECTOR
Department of StateSPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION

JUN 28 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MESSAGE INCOMPLETE

Date: 29.5.45.

THEM IN THE SMALL OF THE BACK FIRST WITH A SMALL IRON WHIP
AND THEN WITH A HEAVY POLE STOP THEY WERE FURTHER MAULED AND
BEATEN BY SERGEANT MAJOR TOMICKO UNTIL THEY BECAME UNCONSCIOUS
STOP THE SIX PRISONERS WERE LATER SENT TO MANILA FOR TRIAL
STOP NO RECORD OF THE

Date: 29.5.45.
Time: 21.16.

TRIAL WAS EVER COMMUNICATED OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FULL STOP QUINTO JAPANESE GUARDS COMMONLY EMPLOYED BRUTAL MEANS
TO EXACT THE GREATEST POSSIBLE WORK OF THE MEN STOP ON ONE
OCCASION A JAPANESE GUARD STRUCK A PRISONER OF WAR ON THE HEAD
WITH A PICKAXE HANDLE WHEN HE COULD NOT

Date: 29.5.45.
Time: 21.16.

MEET THE UNREASONABLE WORK DEMANDS MADE UPON HIM FULL STOP
SEXTO AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR FORCED TO WORK ON THE CONSTRU-
TION OF A MILITARY AIRFIELD FROM AUGUST 1942 TO 14 DECEMBER 1944
AND DURING BOMBING RAIDS ON THIS MILITARY OBJECTIVE WERE COM-
PELLED TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK FULL STOP SEPTIMO FROM THE AR'

Date: 29.5.45.
Time: 21.19.

AMERICAN RED CROSS MEDICAL SUPPLIES RECEIVED IN THE CAMP IN
JANUARY 1944 THE PRISONERS OF WAR RECEIVED ONLY ADHESIVE TAPE
GAUZE AND SULFADRUQS STOP ALL OTHER DRUGS AND MEDICINES WERE
PILFERED BY THE JAPANESE GUARDS AND OFFICERS. OCTAVO TWO
PRISONERS WHO ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE IN JUNE 1943 WERE AR'

Date: 29.5.45.

SEVERELY BEATEN THEN TAKEN AWAY AND NEVER SEEN AGAIN STOP THE
JAPANESE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE CAMP ISSUED IN ORDER THAT
FOR EVERY SUCCESSFUL ESCAPE BY A PRISONER OF WAR OTHERS WOULD
BE SHOT FULL STOP NONO DURING AN AIR RAID ON 29 NOVEMBER 1944
A PRISONER SUFFERED SEVRE CONCUSSION OF AR'
THE BRAIN AND BECAME PARALYZED STOP THE JAPANESE AUTHORITIES
PROVIDED ONLY A HANDFUL OF COTTON IN TREATMENT STOP AT THE
TIME OF THE AIR RAID ON 14 DECEMBER 1944 HIS FELLOW PRISONERS
CARRIED HIM ON A LITTEN AND AN AIR RAID SHELTER WHERE HE WITH
THE OTHER AMERICANS WERE MASSACRED AR' 14 1944 LITTER T AN AIR AR'

- 1 -

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL NOTICE.--The attached information was taken from private communications,
and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must
be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecu-
tion of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or
the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without ex-
press consent of the Director of Censorship.

BYRON PRICE.
Director.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 2.

Date: 29.5.45.

FULL STOP THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REPEATS THAT IT EXPECTS THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IMPOSE UPON THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MALTREATMENT OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR THE PUNISHMENT WHICH THEIR CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR MERITS AND DEMANDS THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO COMPEL ITS SUBJECTS TO FULFIL THE OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED BY IT TO ACCORD HUMANE TREATMENT TO PRISONERS OF WAR STOP THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT EXPECTS AN EARLY REPLY BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AS TO THE ACTION TAKEN BY IT TO PUNISH THE INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BRUTAL ACTS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND THE MEASURES IT HAS TAKEN TO PREVENT

EXAMINER'S NOTE: The attached W/T intercept was received by us in this incomplete form, but as it would appear from the call sign that it comes from Japan, we are submitting it to you for what it is worth.

Distribution:	INF.	FORD	I. R. B.
	R/G	M. I. 12.	KAD
	PID	D. R. W.	5.6.45.
		B. B. C.	

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL NOTICE.--The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Censorship.

BYRON PRICE.

Director.

CONFIDENTIALINFORMATION AND RECORDS BRANCH
(Postal and Telegraph Censorship)

Language: ENGLISH

Co: W/T.

From: JAPAN

To: -----

MESSAGE INCOMPLETE

Date: 29.5.45.

THEM IN THE SMALL OF THE BACK FIRST WITH A SMALL IRON WHIP AND THEN WITH A HEAVY POLE STOP THEY WERE FURTHER MAULED AND BEATEN BY SERGEANT MAJOR TOMICKO UNTIL THEY BECAME UNCONSCIOUS STOP THE SIX PRISONERS WERE LATER SENT TO MANILA FOR TRIAL STOP NO RECORD OF THE

Date: 29.5.45.

Time: 21.16.

TRIAL WAS EVER COMMUNICATED OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FULL STOP QUINTO JAPANESE GUARDS COMMONLY EMPLOYED BRUTAL MEANS TO EXACT THE GREATEST POSSIBLE WORK OF THE MEN STOP ON ONE OCCASION A JAPANESE GUARD STRUCK A PRISONER OF WAR ON THE HEAD WITH A PICKAXE HANDLE WHEN HE COULD NOT

Date: 29.5.45.

Time: 21.16.

MEET THE UNREASONABLE WORK DEMANDS MADE UPON HIM FULL STOP SIXTY AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR FORCED TO WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MILITARY AIRFIELD FROM AUGUST 1942 TO 14 DECEMBER 1944 AND DURING BOMBING RAIDS ON THIS MILITARY OBJECTIVE WERE COMPELLED TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK FULL STOP SEPTIMO FROM THE AR'

Date: 29.5.45.

Time: 21.19.

AMERICAN RED CROSS MEDICAL SUPPLIES RECEIVED IN THE CAMP IN JANUARY 1944 THE PRISONERS OF WAR RECEIVED ONLY ADHESIVE TAPE GAUZE AND SULFADRUGS STOP ALL OTHER DRUGS AND MEDICINES WERE PILFERED BY THE JAPANESE GUARDS AND OFFICERS. OCTAVO TWO PRISONERS WHO ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE IN JUNE 1943 WERE AR'

Date: 29.5.45.

SEVERELY BEATEN THEN TAKEN AWAY AND NEVER SEEN AGAIN STOP THE JAPANESE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE CAMP ISSUED IN ORDER THAT FOR EVERY SUCCESSFUL ESCAPE BY A PRISONER OF WAR OTHERS WOULD BE SHOT FULL STOP NONO DURING AN AIR RAID ON 29 NOVEMBER 1944 A PRISONER SUFFERED SEVERE CONCUSSION OF AR' THE BRAIN AND BECAME PARALYZED STOP THE JAPANESE AUTHORITIES PROVIDED ONLY A HANDFUL OF COTTON IN TREATMENT STOP AT THE TIME OF THE AIR RAID ON 14 DECEMBER 1944 HIS FELLOW PRISONERS CARRIED HIM ON A LITTEN AND AN AIR RAID SHELTER WHERE HE WITH THE OTHER AMERICANS WERE MASSACRED AR' 14 1944 LITTER T AN AIR AR'

- 1 -

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL NOTICE.--The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Censorship.

BYRON PRICE.

Director.

PAGE 2.

Date: 29.5.45.

FULL STOP THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REPEATS THAT IT EXPECTS THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IMPOSE UPON THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MALTREATMENT OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR THE PUNISHMENT WHICH THEIR CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR MERITS AND DEMANDS THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO COMPEL ITS SUBJECTS TO FULFIL THE OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED BY IT TO ACCORD HUMANE TREATMENT TO PRISONERS OF WAR STOP THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT EXPECTS AN EARLY REPLY BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AS TO THE ACTION TAKEN BY IT TO PUNISH THE INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BRUTAL ACTS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND THE MEASURES IT HAS TAKEN TO PREVENT

EXAMINER'S NOTE: The attached W/T intercept was received by us in this incomplete form, but as it would appear from the call sign that it comes from Japan, we are submitting it to you for what it is worth.

Distribution:	INF.	FORD	I. R. B.
	R/G	M. I. 12.	KAD
	PID	D. R. W.	5.6.45.
		B. B. C.	

Confidential File

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL NOTICE.--The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confided only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Censorship.

BYRON PRICE.
Director.

711.94114A/5-945-

75602

500
VD

520 Int. 2 Kahilom St.
Manila, Philippines
9 May 1945

REC
DIVIS
CENTRAL

JUN 10 1945

File
To VD
machine to Manila
with transmission slip
6-11-45
GD

Special War Problem Division JUN 4
State Department
Washington D.C.

Re: Repatriation

I am the wife of Cpl. Edmund C. Alexandrowicz (Ser.#6947996) 31st Infantry USAFFE, taken prisoner at Bataan, Philippines in 1942.

My husband was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. His home address is 705 Hess Avenue, Erie, Pa.

We were married in Manila on October 1, 1941. A daughter, Anastasia, was born on July 1st 1942.

I, Natalie R. Sturmer Alexandrowicz was born on July 16, 1923 in Olongapo, Zambales, Philippines. I am a graduate of Bordner High School in Manila, class of 1941. I was tutoring children of foreign families in English and Intermediate and High School subjects during the Japanese occupation 1942-1945.

I request your granting permission to enter the United States to me, and my daughter and my family to meet my husband when he comes back from Japan. I am depending on my family, as they are taking care of my baby as well as myself.

My father, Roman A. Sturmer was born in Novo Alexandria, Russia on August 23, 1896. He is a graduate of High School in Warsaw and the Naval Academy in Petrograd. He was commissioned Lieutenant in the Russian Navy in 1916. He and his wife came to the Philippines in January 1923 on the gunboat "Diomedea" with the Siberian Flotilla of Admiral George C. Starck.

All the members of the Siberian Flotilla were allowed to go to the United States. Governor General Leonard Wood sent the first 550 on the transport "Merritt" to San Francisco. The rest of the members who were not in Olongapo that time, as they were sent to work to the Southern Islands, were told that they would be sent to the United States on the next transport. But, this never occurred.

A few years later, two officers, Lt. B. A. Evert and Lt. V. S. Lampaskoff boarded a ship as stowaways and reached San Francisco, where they were admitted and allowed to stay on the grounds that they were members of the Siberian Flotilla of Admiral Starck.

My parents were not able to board the "Merritt" as they were expecting my arrival into this world.

My father was an instructor in foreign languages in local universities until 1928. Then, he was working for the RCA branch--the

711 94114A/E-945

CS/MAJ

711.94114a/5-945

JUN 14 1945

- 2 -

Radio Corp. of the Philippines as ass't sales manager and later, for I. Beck, Inc., the local distributors of Zenith radios. During the Japanese occupation, my father had his own factory manufacturing hand made boxes out of coconut tree bark for Swiss and Spanish cigar factories and a Chechoslovakian Shoe factory. Because of his knowledge of six foreign languages, at present he is working in the U.S. Army Foreign Section.

My mother, Xenia N. Sturmer, was born in Russia on Oct. 27, 1898. She has the job of taking care of all the members of the family.

My brother, Alexis Sturmer, aged 13, was born in Manila, and was a student before the war. During the Japanese occupation he was unable to attend school, and needs very badly a decent education, which he cannot get locally. I, as well as my parents are very anxious to educate him in the States.

As I intend to work when I get to the States, it would be very hard to live alone with my little daughter. My parents would help me in taking care of the baby. My father would also be able to work, thus, insuring the welfare of the whole family.

I am in the possession of the following documents:

1. My marriage certificate
2. The certificate of birth of my daughter, Anastasia
3. The certificate of my father's being an officer in Admiral Starck's Siberian Flotilla
4. His appointment as ass't sales manager of RCP
5. Certificate of naturalization, as my father is a naturalized Filipino citizen.

We are in the process of contacting our friends, who are American citizens residing in the States, who I am sure will be our sponsors in applying for visas.

I hope you will take all the above mentioned facts in consideration and grant the whole family the right to enter the United States.

Very truly yours,

Natalie Sturmer Alexandrowicz
(Mrs.) Natalie Sturmer Alexandrowicz



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

57059



9 May 1945

SWR

Special War Problems Division
Department of State
501 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
MAY 12
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
MAY 10 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*Final 1995
May 10 1945
AW
May 10 1945
DCR*

DCR

Gentlemen:

Attached are the names of 57 American members of the armed forces who have been returned to military control in the China Burma India theater but who have never been reported as prisoners of war by the Japanese.

Since this action on the part of the Japanese is a clear violation of the Geneva Convention, it is requested that a strong protest be forwarded to the Japanese demanding that they notify the United States the names of all prisoners taken by them.

Sincerely yours,

B. M. Bryan

B. M. BRYAN
Brigadier General, USA
Assistant Provost Marshal General

Inclosure:
List

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
MAY 19 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

1945 MAY 10 PM 2 45

DC/R
RECORDS BRANCH

Anal. *Deborah M. Laurion*
Rev. *AB*
97

MAY 8 2 10 PM '45

OS/D

711.94114N/5-945
711.94114N/5-945

MILITARY PERSONNEL RETURNED TO MILITARY CONTROL IN CBI THEATER.

AGPC-E 383.6 (3 May 1945)
(123022)UNREPORTED AS PRISONERS OF WAR

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SERIAL NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE REPORTED MIA</u>
BAGBY, Robert R.	2Lt	0-739648	16-02-44
BASCHE, Arnold H.J.	S/Sgt	37263497	14-12-44
BROOKS, Richard M.	Sgt	31276801	14-12-44
BENEDICT, Cameron R.	2Lt	0-684602	14-12-44
BICKNELL, Robert Jr.	S/Sgt	33109667	05-03-44
BEARDSLEE, Carl M.	F/O	T-001643	11-03-44
BISHOP, Louis W.	1Lt	0-802239	10-05-44
COCHRAN, Julian C.	2Lt	0-683118	14-12-44
COTTEN, Walter E.	2Lt	0-661921	01-05-43
CROSTIC, Samuel A. Jr.	S/Sgt	20367261	31-03-43
DERRINGTON, Robert E.	1Lt	0-737550	14-12-44
DuBOSE, Allen D.	1Lt	0-663702	01-12-43
FOLEY, Michael F.	Pvt	32382310	18-10-44
FLETCHER, Harold B.	1Lt	0-804317	14-12-44
GILBERT, Douglas G.	LtCol	0-019202	23-11-43
GILMORE, Richard T.	1Lt	0-806830	18-01-45
GOAD, Harold W.	1Lt	0-659694	14-10-43
GREENE, Harlan B.	S/Sgt	32475333	14-12-44
HALL, Robert C.	F/O	T-121422	05-03-44
HASTINGS, Alvin L.	S/Sgt	35357272	01-12-43
HORNER, Kenneth	2Lt	0-435393	04-07-42 ✓
HUBBARD, John W.	T/Sgt	34279839	19-10-43
HUMPHREY, Donald M.	2Lt	0-729173	06-05-43
HARMON, George E.	2Lt	0-679464	27-11-43
HUNT, John H.	Capt	0-429047	22-12-43
KING, Clarence A.	2Lt	0-747093	14/10/43
KOROTKIN, Louis	2Lt	0-749567	03-02-44
HIGGINBOTHAM, Tedix E.	S/Sgt	18044472	31-03-43
LEVINE, Joseph	1Lt	0-811683	14-12-44
LUCAS, Benedict	S/Sgt	32559293	19-10-43
OGLESBY, Nicholas P.	S/Sgt	13118908	14-12-44
RADCLIFFE, Smith W.	PFC	20735198	04-06-42 ✓
NILAND, Edward F.	T/Sgt	32251492	20-05-44
MARSHALL, Kelkey P.	S/Sgt	14156113	27-11-43
McCLOSKEY, John H. Jr.	1Lt	0-796848	21-05-44
McGIVERN, James B.	2Lt	0-690465	14-12-44
MILLER, Donald V.	Capt	0-660175	14-02-44
FERRY, Charles W.	Sgt	14156141	27-11-43
THOMAS, William H.	Sgt	17175086	27-11-43
MOXLEY, Kenneth P.	2Lt	0-660885	01-05-43
SCHWALL, Fred K.	2Lt	0-684782	27-11-43
MAJORS, Ferrell T.	S/Sgt	39273801	14-12-44
PAUL, Chester E.	1Lt	0-807505	14-12-44

Continued (123022)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SERIAL NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE REPORTED MIA</u>
TRINKER, Edward F. Jr.	T/Sgt	12058538	14-12-44
WAGONER, Orbra A.	S/Sgt	35163717	18-10-43
WALSH, William J.	1Lt	0-863805	14-12-44
WEESNER, Hilton D.	2Lt	0-812179	12-11-44
WHITESCARVER, John T.	2Lt	0-749135	02-04-44
WELLS, Tynan H. Jr.	S/Sgt	34478136	05-04-44
WHITLEY, Charles W.	M/Sgt	14049026	04-12-44
WILLNER, Edward A.	2Lt	0-671824	27-11-43
PISTERZI, Enrico B.	T/Sgt	18069493	14-12-44
PUGH, Fred M. Jr.	Cpl	18098757	05-03-44

The following were not reported either as MIA or POW:

DAVIS, Billy T.	2Lt	0-751276
ETHERINGTON, Galpin M.	2Lt	0-863760
SPYDNER, Norman L.	S/Sgt	39828644
WERNER, Wesley	Maj	0-399595

Reported as prisoner of war:

			<u>DATE REPORTED POW</u>
LUTZ, Charles J.	Maj	0-394746	02-05-45
MORGAN, Christopher W.	2Lt	0-799613	28-06-44
WALKER, Stewart	2Lt	0-687461	17-03-44

I am sure we would all give our last + all to get what is left of those poor boys back home. If you want what you said why haven't you do something about it? You are our President + we are trusting you to carry us through. Are you afraid for ~~them to~~ come back or will you help them to come back?

Why is it that England and Australia can + do broadcast short wave messages to P.O.W's from their people + we do not? The boys themselves beg for such a communication.

If you are the kind of American we think you are + the kind of leader America needs you will put your back behind our boys + literally push them back home. How about it, Mr. President?

Respectfully

Mrs J. F. Perkins

73149

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE RECEIVED
 MAY 25 1945
 DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION
 DIVISION OF PHILIPPINE AFFAIRS
 MAY 23 1945
 DCR DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Id. to Bern
 5/10/45
 SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
 May 10, 1945
 MAY 4 - 1945
 5/21/45. Rewrite Id. to Bern.
 Sup: A.D. NET
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

This file is related to a letter from the Secretary of War to the Secretary of State dated March 14, 1945 (711.94114A/3-1445) concerning the massacre of Prisoners of War at Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippine Islands.

In that letter, the Department was informed that names of victims and particulars other than those given in the statements enclosed with the letter might be procured from the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Brigadier General Weir, Extension 79867). SWP thereupon contacted General Weir (War Crimes Office) concerning the additional documentary evidence that was available. General Weir offered to make their records on the matter available to SWP. These records were delivered to this Department by Lt. Cmdr. James J. Robinson (Navy) and Lt. Dorsey (War). Examination of the War and Navy Departments records revealed much information concerning the conditions which prevailed at the Puerto Princesa Camp prior to the massacre that were not contained in the enclosures to the Secretary of War's letter of March 14, 1945. As background for a protest to the Japanese Government concerning conditions at the camp prior to the massacre, SWP made copies of the sworn statements which were most pertinent.

In view of the fact that the attached file has been the basis of a separate protest regarding the Palawan Camp, it would perhaps be advisable to assign to this memorandum a separate file number rather than attach it to 711.94114A/3-1445.

711.94114A/5-1045

DCR - GPO Unit
 Anal. *Joseph M. Laurion*
 Rev. *[Signature]*
 Cat. *[Signature]*
 SWP: HDreppard

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
 MAY 16 1945
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 MAR 25 1946
 711.94114A/5-1045

MAY 12 1945

MAY 12 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mrs. Perkins:

The receipt is acknowledged by reference from the White House of your letter of May 10, 1945 addressed to the President concerning American prisoners of war in Japanese custody. You inquire as to the steps being taken with regard to the repatriation of these prisoners and the feasibility of ransoming them. You state that your son is held as a prisoner of war at Osaka, Japan.

I am enclosing for your information a recent statement issued by the Department concerning the treatment and repatriation of American nationals in Japanese custody which surveys in detail the problems concerning the repatriation of prisoners of war from the Far East. This information sheet will indicate to you the unceasing efforts made by this Government to effect the return to the United States of American military personnel who have fallen into Japanese hands. You will realize, however, this Government is powerless to bring about their return without the cooperation of the Japanese Government. In view of the fact that the Japanese Government has been unwilling to repatriate even seriously sick and seriously wounded prisoners of war, which its international commitments obligate it to do, it is improbable that it would agree to the repatriation of any prisoners of war by ransoming. It is likely therefore that all able-bodied American prisoners of war will not be freed from their imprisonment by the Japanese until they are liberated by the American armed forces. You may be sure, however, that your Government will continue in the future, as it has in the past, to exert every effort to obtain the release of American prisoners of war.

With regard to the sending of radio messages to American prisoners of war in Japanese custody, I am requesting the Office of Censorship to reply to this portion of your

inquiry

Frank
AP
Mrs. T.H. Perkins,
Falfurrias, Texas.

500
711.9714
5-1645

-2-

inquiry since that office controls for security reasons
the sending of short-wave radio messages to Japan.

Sincerely yours,

PhH

Parmely W. Herrick
Acting Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Enclosure:

Treatment and Repatriation.

A true copy of
the original
is.

CM
SWP:HDreppard:NET
3/27
Abiles

M
JA 6/29/45
900

CR
JUL 10 1945

JUL 6 1945

JUL 10 1945

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Director of the Office of Censorship and transmits herewith a copy of a letter dated May 10, 1945 addressed to the President by Mrs. T.H. Perkins, Falfurrias, Texas, inquiring among other things why the United States Government does not permit the sending of shortwave radio messages to American prisoners of war in Japanese custody when the British and Australian Governments permit the sending of such messages to their nationals.

It would be appreciated if the Office of Censorship would reply direct to Mrs. Perkins concerning her inquiry regarding the sending of radio messages to American prisoners of war in Japan. In this connection, reference is made to the Secretary's letter of June 11, 1945 to the Director of the Office of Censorship. The other inquiries made by Mrs. Perkins in her letter have been answered by this Department.

It would also be appreciated if a copy of the reply made to Mrs. Perkins by the Office of Censorship might be furnished to the Department of State in order that it may be in a position to answer similar inquiries received concerning the sending of radio messages to American prisoners of war and civilian internees in the Far East.

Enclosure:

To President Truman,
From Mrs. T.H. Perkins,
May 10, 1945.

the original

51 fmb
M.P. 113
CF
JUL 10 1945
SWP:HDreppard:NET
M.P. 113
Bauer

7/3/45

PL

JA

711.94114A/5-1045

CS/LE

711.94114A/5-1045

SVP

UNRESTRICTED

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

70161

CMH
ETS DCR

No. 11697

Via Airmail Pouch

AMERICAN LEGATION

Bern. May 11, 1945.

Subject: American Interests - Japan
Transmission Japanese orders
concerning despatch and labor
of prisoners of war.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

1945 MAY 24 PM 3 10

RECORDS BRANCH

711.94114a/149

BP
give ND
C. in SWP:igi
711.94114a/413

The American Minister at Bern has the honor to refer to the Legation's airmail despatches No. 7628 of March 22, and No. 7859 of April 15, 1944, which transmitted to the Department regulations issued by the Japanese Ministry of War regarding the despatch and performance of labor by prisoners of war in Japan.

The Legation now wishes to submit, for the Department's information and records, an English translation of Japanese order No. 58 of October 21, 1942, revised by ordinance No. 23 of May 20, 1943, and ordinance No. 23 of May 8, 1944, entitled "Regulations Pertaining to Despatch of Prisoners of War" and an English translation of Japanese order No. 22 of May 20, 1943, revised by ordinance No. 22 of May 8, 1944, entitled "Regulations Pertaining to Labor of Prisoners of War".

The enclosed translations of Japanese military orders were received under cover of notes dated May 9, 1945, from the Swiss Foreign Office.

Enclosures:

- No. 1 - Translation of "regulations pertaining to despatch of prisoners of war" - with original of despatch only;
- No. 2 - translation of "regulations pertaining to labor of prisoners of war" - with original of despatch only

Distributed
by SWP to

War (Byay)
Yudelson

May - 2
Date **JUN 6 1945** *BP:igi*

File No. 711.4
 GE/mak
 In duplicate to Department
 Rec. *all*
 Cat. *all*
 Dist.

711.94114A/5-1145 OS/LE

711.94114a/5-1145

Enclosure No. *1* to despatch No. *11697*
dated *May 11/45* from the American
Legation, **Bern.**

Regulations pertaining to despatch of prisoners of war.

Ordinance No 58 of the Ministry of War of October 21st, 1942.

Revised by ordinance No 23 of the Ministry of War of May 20th

1943 and ordinance No 23 of the Ministry of War of May 8th, 1944.

Art. 1. "Despatch of prisoners of war" mentioned in this ordinance means to despatch prisoners of war to the outside of internment camps for prisoners of war and keep them to reside there, in order to have them employed in labour; "despatched prisoners of war" means prisoners of war who are so despatched.

Art. 2. 1. Persons who desire to have prisoners of war despatched at places outside Army detachments (except the case of territories outside the Empire i.e. places other than Japan proper, Chosen and Taiwan), are requested to send in to the Minister of War an application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war according to the form hereto annexed and obtain the permit.

This applies also in case persons intend to change items mentioned in the application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war or items mentioned in the permit for despatch of prisoners of war already granted by the Minister of War.

A separate notification is to be made regarding the order of presentation of application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war referred to in the foregoing clause.

2. When the Minister of War grants a permit referred to in the foregoing article, he determines matters regarding number of personnel, dwelling, supervision, labour (place, kind, time, period of labour), supply (including wages and canteen) and medical treatment of prisoners of war to be despatched and communicate same to army commanders or garrison commandants who supervise prisoners of war camps (hereafter called superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps).

3. When superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps receive the communication referred to in the foregoing article, they are requested to determine necessary regulations based on the communication, and despatch prisoners of war.

./.

- 2 -

4. Persons, who intend to receive prisoners of war despatched at places outside army detachments and outside the Empire, are requested to send in an application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war according to a separate form to superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps and get the permit.

This applies in case they intend to change items mentioned in the application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war for which a permit was granted by superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps.

5. When superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camp grant a permit for the application referred to in the foregoing article, they are requested to determine necessary regulations and despatch prisoners of war.

6. When superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps despatch prisoners of war according to regulations referred to in the foregoing article, they are requested to make a report, as soon as possible, to the Minister of War regarding number of personnel, dwelling, supervision, labour (place, kind, time and period of labour), supply (including wages and canteen), and medical treatment of prisoners of war despatched.

Art. 3. Applications for permit for despatch of prisoners of war of public bodies or juridical persons shall be presented by their representatives.

Art. 4. Persons who have been permitted to receive despatched prisoners of war (hereafter simply called employers of despatched prisoners of war) are requested to comply with instructions of commanders of internment camps for prisoners of war, who send out prisoners of war (hereafter simply called commanders of prisoners of war camps) in connection with the enforcement of items stated in the application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war, permitted by the Minister of War or superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps, and according to various regulations of this ordinance and regulations of art. 2 and supervising regulations de-

./.

- 3 -

terminated by superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps, according to regulations of art. 2 Nos 3 or 5.

Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall receive, at times, tours of inspection of, or be investigated and examined by, commanders of prisoners of war camps in connection with enforcement of the preceding clause.

Art. 5. Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall determine various regulations pertaining to enforcement of programmes permitted by superintendents in charge of internment camps for prisoners of war according to stipulations of this ordinance and are requested to obtain an approval of commanders of internment camps for prisoners of war. The same will apply in case they intend to change the regulations.

Art. 6. Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall arrange and maintain necessary accommodations for living and superintendence of despatched prisoners of war.

Accommodations mentioned in the preceding clause shall be proportionate to those of prisoners of war camps in general.

Art. 7. Employers of despatched prisoners of war are requested to provide necessary warders in order to superintend despatched prisoners of war and these warders shall be directed by officials sent from prisoners of war camps from where the despatched prisoners come (hereafter simply called prisoners of war camps).

The number of warders referred to in the foregoing clause shall be, in general, 1 for every 30 prisoners of war despatched.

Art. 8. Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall be in charge of labour guidance of despatched prisoners of war.

Regarding the labour guidance referred to in the foregoing clause, warders referred to in the foregoing article may be requested to take charge of it.

Art. 9. Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall be in

./.

- 4 -

charge of provisions, bedding, fuel for heating, daily necessities, travelling expenses (including travelling expenses for despatch and return of prisoners of war) and other supplies, whole or a part of it, for despatched prisoners of war ^{and} shall make supplies in proportion to those of prisoners of war camps in general. However, this does not apply to salaries of officers amongst despatched prisoners of war and of medical personnel of enemy forces and to clothing, which may be loaned, in case clothing worn by prisoners of war become impossible to use.

Art. 10. 1. Employers of despatched prisoners of war are requested to pay in fixed wages to commanders of prisoners of war camps every month by the time determined by commanders of prisoners of war camps.

2. Employers of despatched prisoners of war ^{are} requested to establish a canteen according to regulations determined by commanders of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 11. 1. Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall be in charge of medical treatment of despatched prisoners of war. However admission to hospitals and treatment there of those who are in need of admission to hospitals amongst despatched prisoners of war shall be dealt with according to stipulations determined by commanders of prisoners of war camps.

2. Employers of despatched prisoners of war may offer contribution of money or articles to commanders of prisoners of war camps for the encouragement of labour or for the alleviation of the hardships of the prisoners of war.

When commanders of prisoners of war camps confirm that there is no objection from the point of view of supervision, the offer referred to in the foregoing clause may be permitted and it may be supplied to prisoners of war according to necessity.

Art. 12. In case despatched prisoners of war die, formalities concerning reversion to prisoners of war camps shall be carried out, going up to date of death.

Art. 13. Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall keep a diary according to regulations determined by commanders of prisoners of war camps and note down necessary items concerning despatched prisoners of war.

./.

- 5 -

Art. 14. Employers of despatched prisoners of war shall report to commanders of prisoners of war camps conditions of despatched prisoners of war (result of labour, sanitary conditions and other important matters) on every 10th, 20th and at the end of each month according to regulations stipulated by commanders of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 15. When employers of despatched prisoners of war act against items stated in the application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war permitted by the Minister of War or by superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps according to various regulations of this ordinance and regulations of art. 2 Nos 1 and 4 and supervising regulations determined by superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps according to regulations of art. 2 Nos 3 or 5 the Minister of War (in case of territories outside the Empire superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps and this will be followed hereafter) may cancel permits of despatch of prisoners of war.

If the Minister of War deems it necessary, a permit for despatch of prisoners of war may be cancelled.

Employers of prisoners of war shall bear all expenses necessary for return of prisoners of war to the camp on account of the cancel of a permit mentioned in the first clause of the present article.

In the case of the above referred first clause, employers of despatched prisoners of war shall not be able to claim compensation for loss which may be incurred on account of cancel of permit.

Art. 16. Employers of despatched prisoners of war are not permitted to execute matters for despatched prisoners of war which are not stipulated in this ordinance. However, matters specially permitted by the Minister of War are exempted.

Art. 17. Erased

./.

- 6 -

Art. 18. Regulations of preceding articles will apply in case prisoners of war are despatched to army detachments outside the prisoners of war camps.

Additional rule

This ordinance is to be enforced from the day of promulgation.

- 7 -

Separate paper

(Any suitable paper)

Application for permit for despatch of prisoners of war

Date : Address :
 Occupation:
 Name (Seal)
 Date of birth.

To the Minister of War (Army commander or garrison commandant)

I hereby apply for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war according to regulations for despatch of prisoners of war as per the statement below.

Statement.

1. Number of personnel of prisoners of war to be despatched.
2. Place where despatched prisoners of war will be employed.
3. Kind of labour of despatched prisoners of war.
4. Equipment of places where despatched prisoners of war will be kept.
5. Warders for despatched prisoners of war.
6. Labour guidance of despatched prisoners of war.
7. Supply to despatched prisoners of war.
 1. Provisions.
 2. Bedding.
 3. Fuel for heating of rooms.
 4. Daily necessary articles.
 5. Travelling expenses.
 6. Others.
8. Wages of despatched prisoners of war.
9. Canteen for despatched prisoners of war.
10. Medical treatment for despatched prisoners of war.
11. Hours of labour to be engaged by despatched prisoners of war.
12. Period of employment of despatched prisoners of war.

Remarks.

1. Regarding equipment for internment of despatched prisoners of war, employers of despatched prisoners of war shall make use of establishments already existent or build them newly. Concrete plan is to be stated in the above referred application and after a permit is granted, it shall be completed as soon as possible.

./.

- 8 -

2. Wages of despatched prisoners of war shall be based on the amount determined in art. 13 of the regulations pertaining to supplies of prisoners of war (including the increased amount of wages according to first clause and second clause of the same article). However in case there is any item amongst supplies to despatched prisoners of war, which employers of despatched prisoners of war cannot take charge of, wages shall be fixed, adding respective sum to the standard amount, according to the undermentioned classification.

1. Provisions :	
Principal food (Rice, barley, bread etc.)	20 sen
Subsidiary food :	40 sen
2. Bedding	5 "
3. Fuel for heating rooms	5 "
4. Daily necessary articles	10 "

In case other supplies are given by employers wages may be decreased accordingly. However this does not apply to travelling expenses.

Additional rule.

This ordinance is enforced from the date of promulgation. Those who have been receiving despatch of prisoners of war according to previous regulations, are requested to send in to the Minister of War an application for a permit for despatch of prisoners of war according to regulations of art. 2 Nos 1 or 4 within 30 days (in case of territories outside the Empire, 60 days) from the date of enforcement of this ordinance.

Enclosure No. ² to despatch No. ¹¹⁶⁹⁷
dated ^{May 11/45} from the American
Legation, Bern.

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO LABOUR OF PRISONERS OF WAR

Ordinance No 22 of the Ministry of War of May 20th, 1943.
Revised by ordinance No 22 of the Ministry of War of May
8th, 1944.

Art. 1. Prisoners of war (officers of prisoners of war are excluded) may be ordered to engage in labour according to stipulations determined by this ordinance. However this does not apply when regulations pertaining to despatch of prisoners of war apply.

The labour referred to in the foregoing clause is to be determined according to conditions of health, ability and position in the home country of prisoners of war.

Officers of prisoners of war may be allowed to engage in labour on their own initiative. The regulations of the present ordinance apply to this case. However they shall not receive wages.

Art. 2. Commanders of prisoners of war camps may order prisoners of war to engage in labour in the compound of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 3. Army commanders or garrison commandant who are in charge of prisoners of war camps (hereafter called superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps) may order prisoners of war to engage in labour at army detachments outside prisoners of war camps. In this case it is necessary to get an approval of the Minister of War beforehand regarding number of prisoners of war who may be ordered to engage in labour, place, kind, time and period of labour. However in case of territories outside the Empire (territories other than Japan proper, Korea and Formosa), it is not necessary to get an approval of the Minister of War.

In case superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps order prisoners of war to engage in labour at army detachments outside prisoners of war camps and in territories outside the Empire, they are requested to make a report to the Minister of War as soon as possible regarding number of personnel of prisoners of war, who were ordered to engage in labour, place, kind, time and period of labour.

./.

- 2 -

Art. 4. In case prisoners of war are ordered to engage in labour according to regulations of the 2 foregoing articles, wages should be paid at the prisoners of war camps.

Art. 5. Persons who desire to get labour of prisoners of war at places outside army detachments (except the case of territories outside the Empire), are requested to send in to the Minister of War an application for a permit for labour of prisoners of war according to the form hereto annexed.

This applies also in case persons intend to change items mentioned in the application for a permit for labour of prisoners of war or items mentioned in the permit for labour of prisoners of war already granted by the Minister of War.

A separate notification shall be made regarding the order of presentation of applications for a permit for labour of prisoners of war referred to in the present article.

Art. 6. In case the Minister of War grants a permit for the application referred to in the foregoing article, he determines number of prisoners of war who engage in labour, place, kind, time, wages and period of labour and communicates same to superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 7. When superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps have received the communication referred to in the foregoing clause, necessary supervising regulations shall be determined in conformity with the communication and the prisoners of war shall be ordered to engage in labour.

Art. 8. Persons who desire to get labour of prisoners of war at places outside army detachments and in territories outside the Empire are requested to send in to the superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps an application for a permit for labour of prisoners of war, according to the form hereto annexed and obtain the permit.

This applies also in case persons intend to change items mentioned in the application for a permit for labour of prisoners of war or mentioned in the permit for labour of prisoners of war already

./.

- 3 -

granted by superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 9. In case superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps grant permits for the applications referred to in the foregoing article, they are requested to determine necessary supervising regulations and order prisoners of war to engage in labour.

Art. 10. When superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps order prisoners of war to engage in labour at places outside the army detachments according to regulations of the foregoing articles, they are requested to make a report to the Minister of War regarding number of prisoners of war, who were ordered to engage in labour, place, kind, time, wages and period of labour.

Art. 11. In the case of applications for a permit for labour of prisoners of war from public bodies and juridical persons, applications shall be presented from their representatives.

Art. 12. Persons who obtained a permit for labour of prisoners of war at places outside army detachments (hereafter called employers of prisoners of war) are requested to offer necessary warders for the purposes of supervising prisoners of war while they are engaged in labour according to regulations determined by commanders of prisoners of war camps and get instructions from commanders of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 13. Employers of prisoners of war are requested to hold themselves responsible for labour guidance of prisoners of war, receiving instructions from commanders of prisoners of war camps.

Labour guidance referred to in the foregoing clause may be undertaken by warders mentioned in the foregoing article.

Art. 14. Employers of prisoners of war are requested to pay in every month wages to commanders of prisoners of war camps by the date appointed by commanders of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 15. Employers of prisoners of war may offer contributions of money or articles to commanders of prisoners of war camps for the encouragement of labour or for the alleviation of the hardships of the prisoners of war.

./.

- 4 -

When commanders of prisoners of war camps confirm that there is no objection from the point of view of supervision, the offer referred to in the foregoing clause may be permitted and it may be supplied to prisoners of war according to their necessity.

Art. 16. Employers of prisoners of war are requested to make a report on conditions of labour of prisoners of war to commanders of prisoners of war camps at the end of each month, according to stipulations determined by commanders of prisoners of war camps.

Art. 17. The Minister of War (in case of territories outside the Empire, superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps) may cancel the permit for labour of prisoners of war in case employers of prisoners of war violate items mentioned in the application for a permit for labour of prisoners of war which was granted by the Minister of War or by superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps according to the articles of this ordinance or the supervising regulations determined by superintendents in charge of prisoners of war camps according to the regulations of articles 7 or 9.

If the Minister of War deems it necessary, a permit for labour of prisoners of war may be cancelled besides the cases of preceding clause.

In the case of the first paragraph of the present article employers of prisoners of war may request for compensation against loss caused on account of cancellation of the permit.

Art. 18. Employers of prisoners of war are not allowed to execute anything for prisoners of war which is not stipulated in this ordinance. However things which are specially permitted by the Minister of War are excluded.

Art. 19. Accountant officials of prisoners of war camps are requested to take custody of wages paid in by employers of prisoners of war, according to regulations of the art. 14. However a part of the wages shall be paid in to the national treasury as supplement of expenses for maintenance of prisoners of war. Amount of payment shall be determined separately.

Art. 20. Money which is taken custody of by accountant officials of prisoners of war camps according to provisions of the foregoing articles and wages referred to in the art. 4 shall be paid to per-

- 5 -

sons concerned according to regulations determined by commanders of prisoners of war camps.

Additional regulations

This ordinance is to be enforced from the date of promulgation.

Those who have been receiving labour of prisoners of war at places outside army detachments according to previous regulations are requested to send in to the Minister of War an application for a permit for labour of prisoners of war according to regulations of the articles 5 and 8 within 30 days (in case of territories outside the Empire, 60 days) from the date of enforcement of this ordinance.

- 6 -

Separate Paper

(Any suitable paper)

Application for a permit for labour of prisoners of war.

Address :

Occupation :

Name (Seal)

Date of birth.

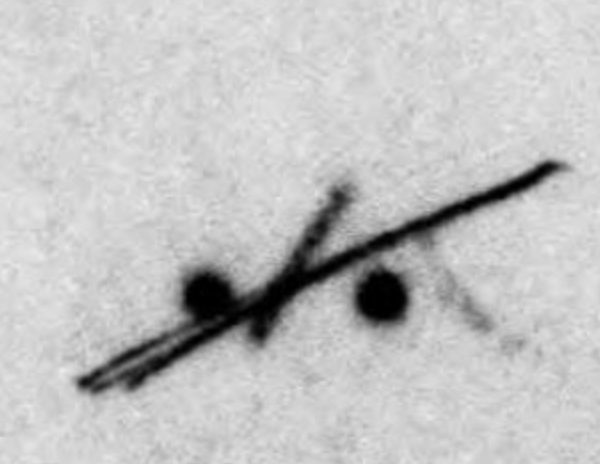
Minister of War (Army commander or Garrison commandant)

I hereby apply as per the statement below for a permit in order to obtain labour of prisoners of war according to regulations pertaining to labour of prisoners of war.

Statement

1. Number of personnel of prisoners of war.
2. Place where prisoners of war shall be employed.
3. Kind of labour of prisoners of war.
4. Equipment for internment of prisoners of war.
5. Labour guidance of prisoners of war.
6. Wages of prisoners of war.
7. Time of labour of prisoners of war.
8. Period of employment of prisoners of war.

Remarks.

1. In case of territories outside the Empire, it is not necessary to make statement regarding equipment for internment of prisoners of war.
 2. Regarding equipment for internment of prisoners of war, employers of prisoners of war shall make use of establishments already existent or build them newly. A concrete plan shall be stated in the above referred application and after a permit is granted, it shall be completed as soon as possible.
 3. The wage of prisoners of war is, in general, 1 Yen per day. However, article 13 clauses 1 and 2 of the regulations pertaining to supplies to prisoners of war apply mutatis mutandis.
- 

hl
ms
Collect

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

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

Department of State

CONFIDENTIAL

Charge Department:

Washington

Charge to Department

AMLEGATION,

BERN.

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

MAY 11 1945
Jew

1781

Request Swiss Government to inform Gorge that International Red Cross Committee has approached this Government with regard to the possibility of International Red Cross Committee delegate visiting the camps on Saipan, Tinian, Guam and New Caledonia where Japanese nationals are detained. This Government is ready to act favorably thereon upon receipt of clarification requested of Japanese Government in Department's 1094, March 16.

711.94114A/E-1145

CS/LE

711.94114A/E-1145

711-94114a / 3-1645

Jew
Acting
(PWH)

CODE ROOM
RELEASE DESK

MAY 11 PM 7 38

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

Asst. *Lucy M. Laurion*
Rev. *ALB*
Col. *mm*
Dist.

SP. *WPK* *ORC*
SWP:AWagner:NET

5/9/45

SA *FE*
SP *BIS*

SENT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

59786

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ML-864
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SECRET)

Bern
Dated May 12, 1945
Rec'd 7:45 p.m.

DCR

Secretary of State,
Washington.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
MAY 14 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

gale
cm

2739, May 12, 7 p.m.

FAR EAST AMERICAN INTERESTS

Legations 859, February 7 and 2295, April 20.

Swiss Minister, Tokyo reports statement contained Legations 859, February 7 unchanged and commandants claim shelters adequate for prisoners. Adds shelters in towns very small, particularly railway stations and places where crowds form and delegates exposed danger travelling which extremely slow entailing long waits at stations. Adds shelters usually consist trenches sometimes covered wood or earth and are inadequate, particularly at principal POW camp, Tokyo.

HARRISON

JT

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
JUN 1 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DCR - GP-C Unit
Anal. *[Signature]*
Rev. *[Signature]*
Out. _____
Dist. _____

SEP 1 7 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

X

CONFIDENTIAL FILE

711.94114A/5-1245

711.94114a/5-1245

59726

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED:

Dist. by SWP to

FROM: AMLEGATION, BERN
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 12, 1945
NUMBER: 2739

711.94114 4/5-12
CONF

..... Bryan
..... War - Breese
..... Yudson
..... g-2
..... Navy - 2

MAY 16 1945 BP:am

The statement transmitted on February 7 in Legation's 859 (AMERICAN INTEREST - FAR EAST) is unchanged and commandants maintain that airraid shelters for prisoners of war are adequate according to a report from the Swiss Minister in Tokyo. The Swiss Minister adds that the shelters are usually trenches covered sometimes with earth or wood and are not adequate, in particular at the principal Tokyo prisoner of war camp. (Legation's 859 of February 7 and also Legation's 2295 of April 20). He also adds that airraid shelters in towns are extremely small especially at the railroad stations and in places where crowds gather. In travelling, which imposes long waits at railway stations, the Swiss delegates are exposed to danger.

HARRISON

Paraphrased:SWF:BPetro:GLL

5/16/45

F. W. 711.94114 / 5-12-45 Copy

Confidential File

61466

u
SAP

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
5/2/45 DIVISION
Letter to Forrestal
MAY 16 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

May 12, 1945

UNDER SECRETARY
MAY 14 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Refer to your:
SWP 711.94114A/4-2145

DOR

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The suggestion in the third paragraph of your letter of May 8 that a theater commander be required to refer to Washington for clearance any statement that he desires to make on atrocities is not feasible. We cannot burden our communications system with traffic of this kind and mail is too slow.

I think the only way to handle statements by theater commanders is the obvious one worked out by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, i.e., they can issue statements within the general policies determined here in Washington, except, of course, that they cannot issue a public statement on any case in which they intend to request a formal protest to the enemy government.

Sincerely yours,

James Forrestal
James Forrestal

711.94114A/5-1245 OS/EG

XR
740.00116 PW
740.00116 EW

Hon. Joseph C. Grew
Acting Secretary of State

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
MAY 23 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEC 11 1945

FILED

DEC 11 1945
Forrestal
Re: *Laurel*
DD

711.94114A/5-1245

V ~~SWP~~

In reply refer to
SWP 711.94114A/5-1245

May 25, 1945

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have your letter of May 12 in which you state that the policy approved by the Interdepartmental Board on Prisoners of War that a theater commander be required to refer to Washington for clearance any statements that he desires to make on atrocities is not feasible. The Navy Department was represented at the meeting of the Interdepartmental Board on Prisoners of War on December 14, 1944, at which that policy was adopted. The minutes were circulated and on February 5, 1945, in a letter to the Secretary of State, the Navy Department approved the policy subject only to the modification adopted by the State, War and Navy Coordinating Committee that, although the advice of the State Department would always be sought before publication, the final decision as to the official release of atrocities would rest with the Navy and War Departments.

If it is now your opinion that it is not practicable to have a theater commander refer atrocity accounts to Washington for clearance before publication, I suggest that you refer the matter to the Interdepartmental Board on Prisoners of War or to the State, War and Navy Coordinating Committee for reconsideration.

Sincerely yours,

DCR - GPO USE	
Anal.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rev.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Dist.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Date	

Acting Secretary

The Honorable

James V. Forrestal,

Secretary of the Navy.

SWP:AWagner:lmv

5/21/45

JA FE FI A-H

711.94114A/5-1245

711.94114A/5-1245

[Large handwritten mark]

[Handwritten initials and marks]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF
COORDINATION AND REVIEW

May 23, 1945

Gen. Holmes:

This seems well initialed, but I withhold mine for I feel that the last paragraph needs your fine pen. Would you approve?

"If it is now your opinion that it is not practicable to have a theatre commander refer atrocity accounts to Washington for clearance before publication, I suggest that the matter again be referred to the Inter-departmental Board etc."

OK [Signature] [Signature]

purse

SNF
INE

66278

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL POLICY
SNF
JUN 2 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

FROM

BERN

Dated May 12, 1945.

Rec'd May 19 3:30 a.m.

2/1

UNRESTRICTED

International Information
Secretary of State
Washington
Department of State

A-714, May 12, 1945.

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
MAY 22 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

American Interest: - Far East
Legation's 1208 February 23

71194114a/2-2348 sup INI

Foreign Office note May 5 states Japanese Foreign Office has promised Swiss Legation Tokyo to communicate names victims when investigation completed.

*Raid on Northern
Formosa which killed 10 POWs
and wounded 50 - mostly British.
GT/hs*

HARRISON

711.94114A/E-1245

DCB : OP-C Unit
Anal *Smith*
Rev *Barb*
Dist *3*
File

JUL 23 1945

OS/711.94114a/5-1245

x

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

May 26, 1945

Memorandum of Telephone Conversation

Miss Dreppard was informed by the Prisoner of War Information Bureau on May 26, 1944 that Corporal William H. Chittenden according to broadcast messages was held at Dispatch Camp No. 5, Kawasaki. Broadcasts on June 7, 1944 and January 1, 1945 had carried messages from Corporal Chittenden. These messages were sent on by War Department to a Mr. R.M. Chittenden, Department of Finance, Springfield, Illinois.

Corporal Chittenden was also reported on US cables 57 and 1128. US 57 reported him as POW Shanghai. US 1128 read "Tokyo Camp all transferred from Shanghai."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

AEC:

This man asks rather a pointed question. Have we previously taken a position in re. diplomatic status for the Beijing Embassy Guard?

We took it
Jays did not agree.
at FE insisted for other purposes
we dropped
See 142
conesp

63701

44770

ROBERT M. CHITTENDEN

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
314 ILLINOIS BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

The Secretary wishes an acknowledgment sent immediately if this communication cannot be answered in three days.
May 15, 1945

*We will make
as possible use, there
is no purpose of
allowing induction
of our nationals
who should be
protected*

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

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECORDS BRANCH

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
Letter to
Sen. Brooks
MAY 18 1945
Letter to
Mr. Chittenden
5-29-45
JHC
88

Dear Sir:

Recently the Chicago papers have carried a news story in which they state that the Japanese Ambassador to Germany, together with his military and naval attaches, and one hundred thirty members of his staff were captured by the American Army and were to be given certain special consideration because of their diplomatic status.

Three years ago I received from Senator Brooks a letter written by Mr. Sumner Wells in which he stated that the State Department was attempting to have diplomatic recognition granted by the Japanese Government to the members of the Legation Guard at the American Embassy at Peking, China. My son, Corporal William H. Chittenden, was a member of the Legation Guard and has been a prisoner of war in Japan since December 7, 1941. We have had no direct word from him in the past eighteen months, but know that prior to that time, he was given the same treatment as other prisoners of war. I know further that two, and possibly more, of his comrades in the Guard have died as a result of exposure and undernourishment while in Japanese custody.

In order that you will not consider me presuming in calling this matter to your attention, I would like to advise that I served for twenty-six months in World War I and was honorably discharged as a First Lieutenant, that my second son, Lieutenant Robert A. Chittenden, has just been released from a German prison camp, having been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal for his services with the Fifteenth Air Force in Italy; my third and last son, not yet eighteen years old, has enlisted and just completed his boot training in the Marine Corps at Parris Island, South Carolina.

I feel that I have a rather substantial stake in my Country and that I have a right to inquire whether or not your Department will press the question of the diplomatic immunity of these boys who were in the American Legation Guard at Peking now that your bargaining position has been strengthened by the capture of these Japanese diplomats.

all I am not familiar with all of the niceties of diplomatic usage or international law, but feel that the position of these Japanese diplomats

711.94114A/5-1545

711.94114A/5-1545
CS/D

JUN 7 1945

ROBERT M. CHITTENDEN
314 ILLINOIS BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

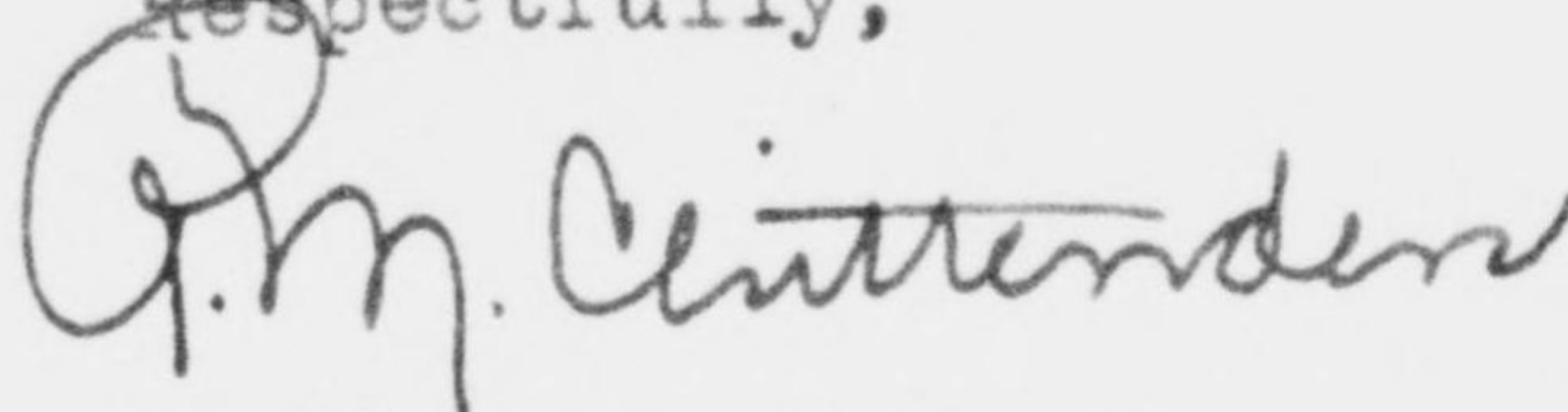
Hon. Edward R. Stettinius

- 2 -

May 15, 1945

is exactly analagous to the situation in which the boys at Peking found themselves and that you should take a strong position to see that they are given no more considerate treatment than they have seen fit to extend to these Marines.

Respectfully,



R. M. Chittenden

by SWP to

~~70563~~

~~SWP~~

War - Bureau
Sweet-Gudelson
navy-2
MAY 28 1945 B.P. rem

AIRMAIL

~~EJS~~

~~DOT~~

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
MAY 25 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
file
C. in view

FROM
Bern
Dated May 15, 1945
Rec'd May 24 5pm

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-722 May 15, 1945. SWP
711.941142 fests/4-1945

American Interests - Far East

Legation's airmail 11514 April 19

Foreign Office note May 14, transmits following telegram received May 11, from Swiss Legation Tokyo:

"JU/76 American died of wounds Taiwan camp owing to aerial bombardment V.S. KUHN, 6859386, 3/2 1945."

HARRISON

711.94114A/5-1545

GT/mak

Rev. Dorothea M. Laurica
Cat.
Dist.

FILED

JUN 7 - 1945

CS/MAJ

711.94114a/5-1545

X

CONFIDENTIAL

70917

WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
DISTRIBUTION
MAY 24 1945

~~FAKOL~~
~~SWP~~
~~EUR~~
17 May 1945
JA

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS
DIVISION
MAY 19 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE LIAISON OFFICER, STATE DEPARTMENT:

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Report

The inclosed "Extract of POW Camp Information," report No A-P 84, dated 15 May 1945, is submitted herewith for transmission to State Department, Special War Problems Division.

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
MAY 25 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Edward H. Miller

EDWARD H. MILLER
Lt Colonel, GSC
Liaison Officer
with the State Department

Incl

file

file
MAY 25 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

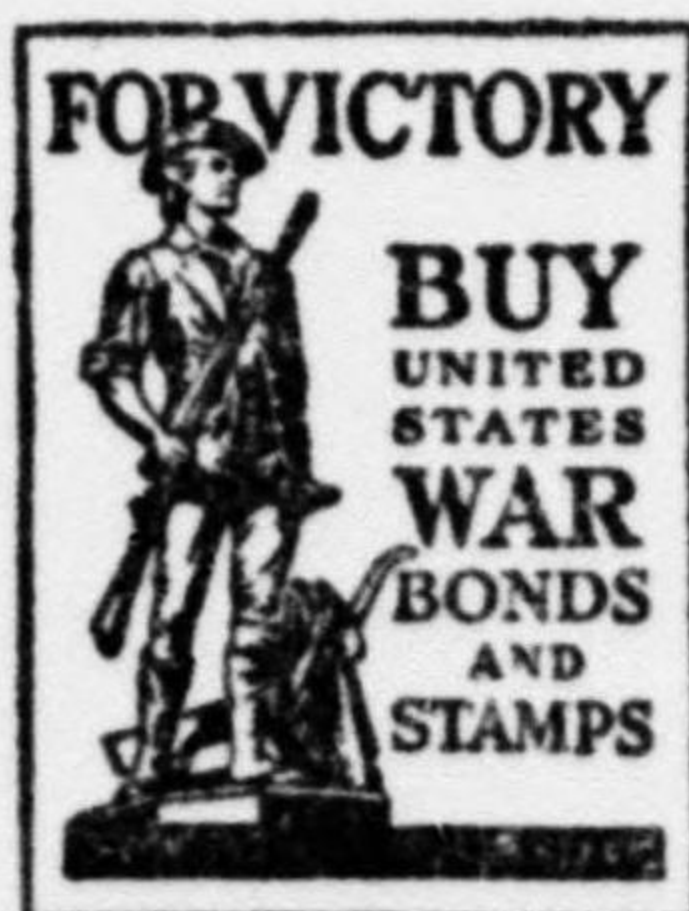
file
OS
5/25

DIR. OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
MAY 18 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAY 31 1945

711.94114A/5-1745

OS/LE 711.94114a/5-1745



CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

EXTRACTS OF
POW CAMP INFORMATIONReport No: A-P 84Date: 15 May 1945U. S. WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
Military Intelligence Service
Captured Personnel and Material Branch

Camp, Period & Source

CG US Army Forces,
India Burma Theatre,
New Delhi, India,
11 May 45 to the
War Department.FURTHER RECOVERED AIRMEN FROM JAPS IN BURMA*

Thirty-eight (38) more prisoners of war, rescued from the Japanese in Burma, were reported as having arrived at the 142nd General Hospital, Calcutta. All of these were Air Corps personnel. Only one had been actually reported to the PMG as being in a Japanese camp (unstated).

Except for slight malnutrition, all but one were reported as being in good physical condition.

*See Extract A-P 80 regarding previous group of 71 airmen. An Infantry Officer (officially reported a POW) and a Chemical Warfare sergeant were also rescued with that group. Total officially reported recovered from Burma in recent operations: One hundred and eleven (111).

DISTRIBUTION:

CPM (JEJ)	1
AGAS (China)	2
SWPA (MIS-X)	2
IB (MIS-X)	2
JICPOA (MIS-X)	1
WDLO (London)	2
M.I.9	1
BAS-AG (P/W)	1
G-2 Pol. St.	
Gp. II	1
AC/AS (INT)	1
G-1	1
PMG	1
State	1

CONFIDENTIAL

6329 S. May
Chicago 21, Ill.
May 17, 1945.

RECEIVED
State Dept.
Washington, D.C.

JUN 18 1945

~~sup~~
~~AD~~
BP
Dol

711.94114A/5-1745

Gentlemen:

MAY 21 AM 9 09

I refer to an article, "The Harvest of Hate" in the Progressive, July 19, 1943, p. 10, wherein it is mentioned that FDR had received a Japanese government communication advising of the trial and death sentence of 2 or 3 American flyers--possibly as retaliation for the Bismarck Sea massacre of March 2-4, 1943. It was stated, however, that the State Dept. would not inform the people of the last point mentioned in the previous sentence.

Kindly furnish me whatever official explanation is available as to the implication.

Yours truly,

Albert Hofman
Albert Hofman.

June 12, 1945.

The library confirmed
that the Battle of the
Bismarck Sea 1856
place on March 2-4, 1943
DAB
BP.

STATE
6/12/45
13 Petro:ec
File
MAY 21 1945
DIVISION OF
AND PUBLICATION

711.94114A/5-1745



U.S. State Dept.
Washington, D.C.

THE PROGRESSIVE, MONDAY, JULY 19, 1943.

THE HARVEST OF HATE

By Harry Paxton Howard.

EXTRACT

"ATROCITIES -- JAPANESE AND AMERICAN

For the past two months, the stories of Japanese atrocities have reached a new high--further inflaming, and intended to inflame, racial feeling in the United States. Most notable of these accounts is the reported execution of two (or three) of the American fliers who bombed Tokyo last year. These executions were not announced by President Roosevelt until the latter part of April--for the specific purpose of promoting the lagging sales of war bonds, in which it succeeded.

According to the President's statement, "it was not until Mar. 12, 1943, that the American Government received the communication given by the Japanese government stating that these Americans had in fact been tried and the death penalty had in fact been pronounced against them."

intentionally This communication from the Japanese government has been kept secret by our State Department. The Department made public, however, what purported to be the text of its reply to Tokyo, dated April 12, including the significant statement that "the government of the United States brands as false the charge that American aviators have intentionally attacked non-combatants anywhere." This was the reply. But what was the specific Japanese charge?

If we refer to the newspapers and news weeklies of the first half of March, we find that our planes accomplished the destruction of a Japanese convoy in the Bismark Sea on Mar. 2 and 3. This was a notable exploit, which received the publicity it deserved. But what followed afterwards? The information is from official communiques, issued from United Nations headquarters in Australia. The magazine Newsweek of March 15 gave a good summary:

" The

"The battle ended with a virtual massacre. On the morning of Mar. 4, the seas north of New Guinea were awash with Jap survivors on rafts and in barges and lifeboats. Squadrons of Allied planes ruthlessly strafed them as they drifted. When a general was told that some hundreds of Japs had been spotted in boats, he merely said: 'Send a formation of Beaufighters out to kill some more.' And MacArthur's communique summing up the action ended thus: 'There was scarcely a survivor so far as was known.'"

A few weeks later, newsreels were being shown here, showing the actual fact of the massacres -- the strafing of life-boats, life-rafts, etc., by American planes, with the sound-track commentator sounding out with pride and joy over the great event.

The success of the government's hate-propaganda was well shown by the response to these newsreels. Though there were many spectators who sat in shocked horror at the deliberate atrocities, there were many who actually applauded. And people who have been propagandized into applauding jubilantly such massacres are ready to commit murder themselves -- whenever it seems safe. They will not always wait for military orders.

THE HARVEST OF HATE

Was this Bismark Sea massacre simply the result of unthinking hatred? Or was there a more sinister motive involved? We do not yet know the answers. But we do know that racial hatred has been worked up to the extent that barbarous atrocities can be committed on helpless sailors of different race, and that American audiences will applaud with gleaming hatred and bloodthirst of the victims.

We do not know whether the Japanese government executed our airmen as a warning to us against further atrocities. We are not permitted to know. The State Department keeps such things secret. So does Elmer Davis -- who remarks enviously that "Dr. Goebmels does not have to go to the Reichstag for his appropriation."

But one thing is certain. We cannot remain a united nation if we are to fight a racial war abroad. If we are going to fight "Japs" because they are "yellow savages"; if

we

- 3 -

we are going to carry on propaganda of racial hatred while maintaining our "Jim Crow" army and our other discriminations at home, we are in for ever-increasing internal conflict.

Aroused white men will not always wait for military orders to attack "Japs and niggers!" And Negroes may say --as some have already said -- "If I'm going to die for democracy, I might as well do it right here. "

By Harry Paxton Howard.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

AW

DATE: *5/26/45*

TO :

SWP
JA

FROM :

RP

SUBJECT :



2152

It is believed that you may wish to handle this case.

Le The & McAllister
Boyer
Full
6/12/45

M. Gates

June 5, 1945. BP telephoned library to ask that a copy of Progressive, July 19, 1943 be sent to her so that she may have additional information in formulating a reply.

JUN 18 1945

In reply refer to
SWP

My dear Mr. Bofman:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 17, 1945, referring to an article "The Harvest of Hate" in the Progressive, July 19, 1943, in regard to the trial and execution of American aviators in Japan.

There can be no connection whatsoever between the communication from the Japanese Government concerning the trial and execution of American aviators in Japan, referred to in the Progressive, and The Battle of the Bismarck Sea, as the communication which the United States Government received in March 1943, was transmitted to the protecting Power in Tokyo on February 17, 1943. The Battle of the Bismarck Sea took place approximately two weeks later on March 2 - 4, 1943.

The Japanese Government's treatment of the American aviators, referred to in "The Harvest of Hate", is in violation of its solemn obligation by agreement with the Government of the United States to apply to Americans taken prisoners of war by Japan the provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention. Article 1 of that Convention provides for treatment as prisoners of war of members of armies and of persons captured in the course of military operations at sea or in the air. Article 60 provides that upon the opening of a judicial proceeding directed against a prisoner of war, the representative of the protecting Power shall be given notice thereof at least three weeks prior to the trial and of the name and charges against the prisoner who is to be tried. Article 61 provides that no prisoner may be obligated to admit himself guilty of the act of which he is accused. Article 62 provides that the accused shall have the assistance of qualified counsel

of

Mr. Albert Bofman,
6329 South May,
Chicago 21, Illinois.

Anal.
Rev.
Cat.
Date

W. J. Harrison

711.94114A/5-1745

CS/LE

711.94114A/5-1745

- 2 -

of his choice and that a representative of the protecting Power shall be permitted to attend the trial. Article 65 provides that sentence pronounced against the prisoners shall be communicated to the protecting Power immediately. Article 66 provides, in the event that the death penalty is pronounced, that the details as to the nature and circumstances of the offense shall be communicated to the protecting Power, for transmission to the Power in whose forces the prisoner served, and that the sentence shall not be executed before the expiration of a period of at least three months after such communication. The Japanese Government failed to comply with any of these provisions of the Convention in its treatment of the captured American aviators.

Sincerely yours,

Parmely W. Herrick
 Acting Assistant Chief
 Special War Problems Division

EP
 SWP:BPetro:ec

A true copy of
 the signed original
LE

ans
WMB 6/12/45

CR
 JUN 15 1945
 JUN 18 1945 P.M.

MD
JA
SPD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL DIVISION

REC:

In view of the tone of Brooks' letter it seems to me that we can hardly give him the brush off again (see letter of April 10/42). In other words, do we or do we not intend to press the Japanese to give the marine guard diplomatic status?



We cannot press for diplomatic status. We intend to press for all American ships on grounds that we maintain value if no exchanges
MAY 8 1945
Repatriation
Act

CARTER GLASS, VA., CHAIRMAN
 KENNETH MC KELLAR, TENN.
 CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
 ELMER THOMAS, OKLA.
 MILLARD E. TYDINGS, MD.
 RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA.
 PAT MCCARRAN, NEV.
 JOHN H. OVERTON, LA.
 JOHN H. BANKHEAD, ALA.
 JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY, WYO.
 HARRY S. TRUMAN, MO.
 THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R. I.
 FRANCIS MALONEY, CONN.
 DENNIS CHAVEZ, N. MEX.
 JAMES M. MEAD, N. Y.
 WALL DOXEY, MISS.
 BURNET R. MAYBANK, S. C.

EVERARD H. SMITH, CLERK
 JOHN W. R. SMITH, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

May 17, 1945
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary wishes an acknowledgment of this communication cannot be answered in three days.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION
 MAY 21 1945
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RECEIVED
 DIVISION OF FINANCES
 GENERAL SERVICES
 1945 MAY 11 11 21
 RECORDS BRANCH

Honorable Edward G. Stettinius,
 Secretary of State,
 Washington, D. C.
 Dear Secretary:

124,9318/291 (1942)

Attached you will find copy of a letter which I have just received from Mr. R. M. Chittenden, 314 Illinois Building, Springfield, Illinois.

You will note that Mr. Chittenden calls attention to the imprisonment of his son, Corporal William H. Chittenden, who was a member of the legation guard at the American Embassy in Japan on December 7, 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Instead of being entitled to diplomatic immunity as protectors of the American Embassy and its occupants, Corporal Chittenden and other members of the legation guard were made prisoners and have been in Japanese custody ever since.

Two of his guard comrades are said to have died as a result of exposure and undernourishment. No direct information has been received by his parents concerning Corporal Chittenden's condition for the past 18 months. It is presumed that he is still a Japanese prisoner of war.

Recent reports indicate that the Japanese Ambassador to Germany together with 130 members of his staff have been captured by the American army and are being extended the customary tender solicitude that is accorded to diplomatic representatives of foreign countries.

I am interested particularly in the case of Corporal Chittenden because I endeavored through Mr. Sumner Welles to have recognition extended to the legation guard but it was not done. I now think it is time for the Department of State to utilize its opportunity to require the Japanese Government to protect our citizens who are entitled to diplomatic immunity.

Yours very truly
C. Wayland Brooks

C. Wayland Brooks.

JUN 8 - 1945

Dorothea M. Laurion

CWB:mk
Enclosure

711.94114A/5-1745

CS/D

711.941140/5-1745

64302

A-ATZ

SWP

AEC

JUN 4 1945

200

DIVISION OF FOREIGN SERVICE ADMINISTRATION
 JUN 6 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

May 15, 1945

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

Dear Sir:

Recently the Chicago papers have carried a news story in which they state that the Japanese Ambassador to Germany, together with his military and naval attaches, and one hundred thirty members of his staff were captured by the American Army and were to be given certain special consideration because of their diplomatic status.

Three years ago I received from Senator Brooks a letter written by Mr. Sumner Wells in which he stated that the State Department was attempting to have diplomatic recognition granted by the Japanese Government to the members of the Legation Guard at the American Embassy at Peking, China. My son, Corporal William H. Chittenden, was a member of the Legation Guard and has been a prisoner of war in Japan since December 7, 1941. We have had no direct word from him in the past eighteen months, but know that prior to that time, he was given the same treatment as other prisoners of war. I know further that two, and possibly more, of his comrades in the Guard have died as a result of exposure and undernourishment while in Japanese custody.

In order that you will not consider me presuming in calling this matter to your attention, I would like to advise that I served for twenty-six months in World War I and was honorably discharged as a First Lieutenant, that my second son, Lieutenant Robert A. Chittenden, has just been released from a German prison camp, having been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal for his services with the Fifteenth Air Force in Italy; my third and last son, not yet eighteen years old, has enlisted and just completed his boot training in the Marine Corps at Parris Island, South Carolina.

I feel that I have a rather substantial stake in my Country and that I have a right to inquire whether or not your Department will press the question of the diplomatic immunity of these boys who were in the American Legation Guard at Peking now that your bargaining position has been strengthened by the capture of these Japanese diplomates.

I am not familiar with all of the niceties of diplomatic usage or international law, but feel that the position of these Japanese diplomates