

151 WAR CLAIMS JAPANESE
MISCELLANEOUS

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LIST OF PAPERS

FILE NO. 151 War Claims, Miscellaneous

Serial No.	From	Date	To	Synopsis
1	Sec. of War	10/15/45	Sec. of State	Letter re: Repatriation of Japanese Nationals held in the U.S. and Canada.
2	Mr. Forrestal	10/6/45	Sec. Navy Dept	Letter re: numbers and whereabouts of Japanese nationals in Naval custody as well as camp conditions
3	Sec. of War	10/22/45	Sec. of State	Letter re: General subject of the repatriation of Japanese nationals held in U.S. and Canada.

151 War Claims
APR 1946
Misc

COL. McCARTHY	SWP
COMDR. RICHARDSON	.....
MR. R. E. COX	.....
LT. COL. PENNOYER	.....
LT. COMDR. WEILFUSS	.....
MR. H. W. MOSELEY	.....
MR. J. P. GARDINER	.....
LT. COMDR. ROCKEFELLER	.....
LT. COL. V. F. FIELD	.....
MAJOR W. E. GUNTHER	.....
1ST LT. E. SPITTALL	.....
ENS. F. WHITESIDE	.....
FILE	.....

The Honorable
The Secretary of State

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Reference is made to your letters dated 21 September and 3 October 1945, SWP 740.00115 PW/9-545 and SWP 740.00115 PW/9-2245, and to my interim reply of 15 October 1945, concerning the general subject of the repatriation of Japanese nationals held in the United States and Canada.

The War Department has now received General MacArthur's concurrence in the immediate return to Japan of the group of approximately 160 Japanese nationals now held at Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania, and the subsequent return of all Japanese nationals held by the United States and Canadian Governments, whom it is desired to repatriate, subject only to the availability of shipping space. General MacArthur further states that the local situation in Japan, so far as concerns receiving these repatriates, can be accommodated to any decision reached in Washington as to the actual timing of their return.

The operating responsibility in the War Department in this matter has been assigned to The Provost Marshal General, and it is accordingly suggested that the interested officials in your Department communicate directly with this officer in order to make the necessary arrangements for the actual movement of these individuals.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) ROBERT T. PATTERSON

Secretary of War

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COPY FOR SWNCC

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Serial 394813
Opl3-1/hbb (10-1-45)

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151 Warlains

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

6 OCT 1945

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Reference is made to my letter, Serial 431113 of 27 August 1945 in which I stated that the Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet, was being requested to issue appropriate instructions with respect to the routing of communications and to furnish information with respect to the numbers and whereabouts of Japanese nationals in Naval custody as well as information as to camp conditions.

The Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet, has advised that instructions have been issued to appropriate naval commands, with respect to the routing of communications, and that there are no Japanese civilian internees under his control, all having been classified as refugees. Prisoner of war camps under his control, together with the number of prisoners presently under detention, are listed below:

Saipan	840
Guam	657
Tinian	17
Majuro	34
Hawaii	237

The above figures do not include Koreans and Okinawans. Prisoners of war on Okinawa are not included inasmuch as the responsibility of the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet, on that island extends to administration only. Conditions as camps under Navy control are uniformly excellent.

I shall be pleased to furnish you with additional information when it is received.

Sincerely yours,

SWNCC	
COL. McARTHUR JAMES FORRESTAL	<i>[Signature]</i>
COMDR. RICHARDSON	<i>[Signature]</i>
MR. R. E. COX	<i>[Signature]</i>
LT. COL. PENNOYER	<i>[Signature]</i>
LT. COMDR. WEILFUEB	<i>[Signature]</i>
MR. H. W. MOSELEY	<i>[Signature]</i>
MR. J. P. BARDINER	<i>[Signature]</i>
LT. COMDR. ROCKEFELLER	<i>[Signature]</i>
LT. COL. V. F. FIELD	<i>[Signature]</i>
MAJOR W. E. GUNTHER	<i>[Signature]</i>
1ST LT. E. SPITTALL	<i>[Signature]</i>
ENS. F. WHITESIDE	<i>[Signature]</i>
FILE	<i>[Signature]</i>

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

✓ CC: SWNCC Secretariat

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Spec. Proj. Br., G-1
Maj Brown/72234/js

WDGAP 383.6 (21 Sep 45)

11 October 1945

The Honorable
The Secretary of State

15 OCT 1945

*War Claims
151*

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have your letters dated 21 September and 3 October 1945, SWP 740.00115 PW/9-545 and SWP 740.00115 PW/9-2245, concerning the general subject of the repatriation of Japanese nationals held in the United States and Canada.

As you know, General MacArthur apparently has no objection to the return of Japanese nationals held in the United States, provided such movement can be accomplished without interfering with the orderly flow of replacement personnel in Japan. A radio has accordingly been dispatched to General MacArthur requesting his concurrence in the repatriation of the approximately 160 Japanese nationals now held at Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania, as soon as possible, and requesting the results of the study which he is conducting on the overall problem of coordinating the return of Japanese nationals from the United States with the repatriation of Japanese nationals and soldiers from formerly Japanese-occupied countries. The message from the Canadian Government concerning the repatriation of Japanese nationals in Canada has likewise been forwarded to General MacArthur with a request for his comments thereon.

As soon as a reply from General MacArthur is received on this matter, you may be sure that you will at once be informed thereof.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) ROBERT P. PATTERSON

Secretary of War

SWNCC	
COL. MCCARTHY	.....
COMDR. RICHARDSON	.....
MR. R. E. COX	.....
LT. COL. PENNOYER	.....
LT. COMDR. WEILFUSS	.....
MR. H. W. MOSELEY	.....
MR. J. P. GARDINER	.....
LT. COMDR. ROCKEFELLER	.....
LT. COL. V. F. FIELD	.....
MAJOR W. E. GUNTHER	.....
1ST LT. E. SPITTALL	.....
ENS. F. WHITESIDE	.....
FILE	.....

1191

①

COPY FOR SWNCC

TO 1 CG, ANF
2 G-1

1,2,3 APPROVAL
X SIGNATURE

File: SPWGO (6)

3 Chief of Staff
X Secretary of War

Officer: Major Farrand - 76015

SS.6 Subject: Japanese Nationals in Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania

5 OCT 1945

SUMMARY

1. By letter of 21 September 1945, the Acting Secretary of State referred to 160 Japanese nationals detained by the State Department at Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania. These Japanese were apprehended in Germany and brought to the United States for exchange and other purposes. Present arrangements for their accommodation will expire 5 November 1945. The Acting Secretary of State expressed the hope that the War Department would be able to arrange for the transfer of these individuals to Japan as soon as possible after 5 November 1945 and for their reception in Japan. The Acting Secretary of State stated that some members of the group may be war criminals.

2. The file was sent to The Provost Marshal General's Office for preparation of reply for the signature of the Secretary of War. A letter has been prepared stating that these Japanese nationals are but a few of many in continental United States whose return to Japan is contemplated at the earliest possible time consistent with shipping in the Pacific and the desires of the military authorities in Japan. The reply states that unquestionably a priority for the return of these individuals will have to be established and that the State Department request to move them as soon as possible will be given every consideration and that, in any event, a more particular reply will be made to the State Department in time for that Department to make arrangements for their continued detention if they cannot be moved by 5 November.

3. It is recommended that the inclosed reply be signed and dispatched.

COORDINATION

4. Assistant Secretary of War
(Lt. Col. Somers, Ext. 4064)

2 Incls

- 1. Proposed reply
- 2. Ltr fm Dept. of State w/incl

B. M. BRYAN
Brigadier General
Acting The Provost Marshal General

APPROVED FOR THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL, ANF:
- 6 OCT 1945

FORD E. PRATT
L.C. Major, GSC
Asst. to C/S



OCL - P 22 28

OCL 2 22 28

SMFARRAND:DS:76015
PWOD:VWGO:5Oct45

SWNCC

NOT USED

The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I reply to letter from the Acting Secretary of State, SWP 740.00118 PW/W-545, dated 21 September 1945, in which reference was made to approximately 160 Japanese nationals whom your Department is detaining at Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania. It was stated that these Japanese nationals were apprehended in Germany and were brought to this country for ultimate exchange and for other purposes. In view of the fact that arrangements for their accommodation will expire on 5 November 1945, the hope was expressed that the War Department can arrange for these Japanese to be transferred to Japan as soon as possible after 5 November and for their reception by United States Forces in Japan. It was pointed out that certain persons in this group may be war criminals.

This group is part of a much larger group who should be returned to Japan as soon as shipping in the Pacific and the desires of military authorities in Japan will permit. Discussions with the Department of Justice lead to the conclusion that the total number of repatriates may reach 15,000. It is contemplated that inquiries will be made of the military authorities in Japan in the immediate future for a concrete expression of how soon and how fast the United States Forces in Japan can absorb these persons from continental United States. The shipping facilities are being explored at the moment. It is apparent that a priority for their return must be established as the group is far too large to be transferred as a whole.

Specific request will be made of the military authorities in Japan regarding the 160 persons mentioned in your letter and, in view of the difficulties in further detaining them in the United States, there appears no reason why they could not be suggested as among the first to move. However, until more specific information is received, the date upon which transfers of this nature can begin cannot be foreseen.

NOT USED

SMFARRAND:EB:76015
PWOD1/PWMO:50ct45

NOT USED

It is believed that some word will be received at an early date which will permit a more specific reply to the inquiry as to whether the transfer of the group of 160 Japanese you mention can take place shortly after 8 November. The War Department will communicate with you further as soon as possible after receipt of pertinent information from Japan.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary of War

NOT USED