

SWEDISH
DIPLOMATIC MISSION
in Japan

I, Olof RIPA, Swedish Diplomatic Representative in Japan, declare and certify that the annexed documents are complete and true (photo) copies of:-

1. A report, dated Tokyo 30th October, 1945, submitted by the former Swedish Charge d Affaires in Japan to the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and accompanied by the following documents presented to the POW Evacuation Delegates of the former Swedish Legation in Japan and of the International Red Cross Committee Delegation in Japan by the following POWs:-
2. Condensed report regarding the Netherlands Hospital Ship "OP TEN NOORT", by Captain G. TUIZINGA,
3. Letter, dated 29 August, 1945, with Appendices I and II, from Surgeon Lt Cmdr A. W. MELLEMA,

copies of which original documents is part of the official records of the Swedish Diplomatic Mission in Tokyo.

Tokyo, 31st October, 1945.

(Signed: O. RIPA)

SFAL

NO 2075

E Section
re Netherlands hospital
ship "Op ten Noort"
Tel B 40 U 8.4.42.

Tokyo, October 30th, 1945
No. B 81
P 19 Encl.

To His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

With reference to above cited cable and to a number of subsequent cables concerning the Netherlands Military Hospital-ship "Op ten Noort" I have the honour to state that the Captain, his officers, the medical staff and the Indonesian crew had been interned in Japan since December 1942 without the Legation receiving any information to that effect. After the surrender of Japan a member of the Legation visited the camp at Miyoshi, Hiroshima-ken, where the officers and the medical personnel were interned and obtained from Captain Tuizinga a written report on the capture of the "Op ten Noort" and on the conditions in the internment camp. A copy of this report is annexed hereto and it should be mentioned that another copy has already been forwarded by the Legation to the Netherlands East Indies Government.

As informed by cable early in October, the "Op ten Noort" is reported as sunk. The Legation was informed hereof by a memorandum from the Imperial Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dated September 27th, and reading as follows:

"The Imperial Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honour to acknowledge receipt of a Note Verbale, dated September 10th, 1945, requesting information concerning the present whereabouts of the Netherlands Hospital Ship "Op ten Noort" and in reply wish to state the following:

1. Nothing has been heard from the s. s. "Op ten Noort" since she sailed from the Maizuru port on September 10th. We believe that she was sunk by a mine.
2. The ship in question being under detention, the Japanese Government agree to replace the ship by a similar vessel."

I should appreciate if Your Excellency could kindly cause the above information, as well as Captain Tuizinga's report, to be communicated to the Netherlands Government.

/s/ Erik von Sydow