

1774  
2700-5

No. 6952

# United States of America



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**To whom these presents shall come, Greeting:**

**Certify That** the document hereunto annexed is a true  
copy from the files of this Department.

**In testimony whereof, I, GEORGE C. MARSHALL,**

*Secretary of State, have hereunto caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed and my name subscribed by the Authentication Officer of the said Department, at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, this first day of August, 1947.*

*George C. Marshall*  
Secretary of State.

By *M. P. Chauvin*  
Authentication Officer, Department of State.

~~SECRET~~  
SPD

AUG 20 1945

In reply refer to  
SWP

My dear Mr. Martin:

Mr. Peurifoy has referred to me your letter of July 23, 1945 together with its interesting enclosures in which you discussed the situation at Bedford Springs in a very frank and refreshing manner.

As you are perhaps aware, certain of the Japanese internees have now reached Bedford Springs and are installed in the hotel. Others will be there in the near future. Their installation in the hotel creates a different situation in that the Government of the United States is bound under the terms of Article 2 of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention which it has made applicable to such internees, to protect them from acts of "public curiosity". In the face of this limitation the Department of State in conducting the detention of numerous individuals since Pearl Harbor has granted access to its detention facilities only to persons entering on official business connected with the detention facility or as representatives of recognized international humanitarian organizations such as the Red Cross and the YMCA. A story of the type which you would like to obtain for your newspaper was, it is true, printed by a nationally-circulated weekly in 1942 concerning the detention facility at White Sulphur Springs. This story was, however, obtained through unauthorized channels and without the entry into the premises of any representative of the periodical concerned.

We fully appreciate in the Department your loyal desire to cooperate with us in this matter. If any

misinformation

Mr. Larry D. Martin,  
Publisher, The Observer,  
Post Office Box 306,  
Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

740.94115/7-2345

CS/MAJ  
9/1/45

misinformation or gossip regarding the detention facilities at Bedford Springs comes to you or members of your staff, the Department will be glad to receive any inquiry you may make on the subject with a view to setting the record straight so far as that may be possible. Inquiries may be addressed to me by mail or telegraph, or may be forwarded to me through the representative of the Department in charge of the facility. At the present time this representative is Mr. John O'Hanley.

Sincerely yours,

*Bob*  
Albert E. Clattenburg, Jr.  
Assistant Chief  
Special War Problems Division

*JEP*  
OPI

A-D *(Handwritten initials)* Mr. Dooman

SA/M

SWP:AEClattenburg:BB 8-11-45

A-H/F

*Absent*

*329*

AUG 18