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28 June 1951

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ENGLISH  
SPANISH  
GERMAN

23 JUN 1951

Ad Hoc Commission on  
Prisoners of War

## INFORMATION TRANSMITTED BY GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING PRISONERS OF WAR

1. In pursuance of resolution 427 (V) of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, on 23 February 1951, addressed a note to all Governments asking them to transmit:

- (a) The names of prisoners of war still held by them, the reasons for which they are still detained and the places in which they are detained;
- (b) The names of prisoners who have died while under their control as well as the date and cause of death and the manner and place of burial in each case.

2. Up to 28 June 1951, the Secretary-General had received replies from 40 Governments. The replies of the Governments are listed below according to the dates on which they were written:

- |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Colombia                     | 21. Iran                        |
| 2. Israel                       | 22. Luxembourg                  |
| 3. Nepal                        | 23. Chile                       |
| 4. Italy                        | 24. Norway                      |
| 5. Austria                      | 25. Thailand                    |
| 6. Canada                       | 26. Australia                   |
| 7. Ceylon                       | 27. United States of America    |
| 8. Panama                       | 28. Belgium                     |
| 9. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  | 29. Burma                       |
| 10. Sweden                      | 30. United Kingdom              |
| 11. Portugal                    | 31. Yugoslavia                  |
| 12. Finland                     | 32. Denmark                     |
| 13. Union of South Africa       | 33. China                       |
| 14. Liechtenstein               | 34. Switzerland                 |
| 15. Iraq                        | 35. Turkey                      |
| 16. Republic of the Philippines | 36. Guatemala                   |
| 17. Cuba                        | 37. Poland                      |
| 18. India                       | 38. Egypt                       |
| 19. New Zealand                 | 39. Federal Republic of Germany |
| 20. Pakistan                    | 40. Afghanistan                 |

/3. The texts

3. The texts of the replies are reproduced in the following pages. A number of the replies contain appendices or enclosures which list names of prisoners of war who are still under detention or who have died. Copies of these appendices and enclosures will be made available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission on Prisoners of War.

4. The following States declare that all prisoners of war have been repatriated or that there are no prisoners of war under their control at present:

Austria	Luxembourg
Belgium	New Zealand
Ceylon	Panama
China	Thailand
Finland	Turkey
India	Union of South Africa
Iraq	United States of
Italy	America

5. The following States have transmitted lists of prisoners of war who are still under detention, together with reasons for which they are detained and the places in which they are detained:

Burma	The Philippines
Canada	United Kingdom
Norway	Yugoslavia

After stating "there are no prisoners of war in Denmark", the representative of Denmark adds: "According to the opinion of the Ministry of Justice, German war criminals in Denmark cannot be considered as prisoners of war but as convicted criminals." The Government of Australia has promised to transmit lists of Japanese prisoners of war who are held on Manus Island in connexion with war crimes trials.

6. The following States have transmitted lists of prisoners of war who have died, together with dates and causes of death and manners and places of burial in most cases:

Australia	New Zealand
Belgium	Norway
Canada	The Philippines
Ceylon	United Kingdom
Luxembourg	United States of America

The Government of Yugoslavia states that the number of prisoners of war who died in captivity in Yugoslavia is estimated at 6,215, and that the Yugoslav authorities and Yugoslav Red Cross are endeavouring to compile information regarding individual cases.

7. The following States declare that the problem of prisoners of war does not exist in their countries, or that they have no information concerning prisoners of war:

Afghanistan	Iran
Chile	Liechtenstein
Colombia	Nepal
Cuba	Portugal
Guatemala	Sweden
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	

The Government of Switzerland states that, during the Second World War, it granted asylum to approximately 105,000 persons of foreign military forces and that they have been repatriated except those who, for political reasons, do not wish to return to their own countries. The Government of Egypt states that all prisoners of war captured during the Second World War were detained by the British military authorities and that the Government of Egypt, consequently, did not possess any information concerning prisoners of war. The Ministry of External Affairs of Ceylon states that, during the Second World War, "Ceylon was a colony and the prisoners were the responsibility of the United Kingdom Government". The Government of Pakistan states: "There were no prisoners of war in Pakistan on the day of its creation and the question of their dying while in detention does not arise". Since the State of Israel was established on 19 May 1948, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel says, resolution 427 (V) of the General Assembly "is not applicable to the Government of Israel".

8. The Permanent Representative of Poland reiterates the opinion that resolution 427 (V) of the General Assembly is contrary to Article 107 of the United Nations Charter.

9. The Government of Luxembourg submits a list of civilian and military personnel who were deported during the Second World War and have not yet been repatriated.

10. The Government of Austria states that there are Austrian prisoners of war detained in the Soviet Union, whose repatriation has been promised in bilateral negotiations.

11. The Government of Italy draws attention to the fact that no information from the Soviet Union regarding the fate of a large number of Italian prisoners of war has been received, and refers to a memorandum on this subject which the Government of Italy presented to the General Assembly on 6 December 1950

(A/C.3/554).

/12. The Government

12. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany informs the Secretary-General that it has compiled information concerning German prisoners of war and missing persons. This information consists of the following:

- a card index of prisoners of war and interned persons whose names are unknown;
- a card index of persons reported missing;
- evidence in support of the correctness of the foregoing particulars.

The Federal Government asks the Secretary-General to suggest to the Ad Hoc Commission that it should inspect the German material at an early opportunity and that it should come to Germany for this purpose.

13. The Governments of Australia and the United States of America state that they will grant to the Ad Hoc Commission on Prisoners of War right of access to their territories. The Government of Iran says that it will co-operate in the search for prisoners of war who might find themselves in the territory of Iran.

1. COLOMBIA

(Translated from Spanish)

5 March 1951

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951 in which you drew this Department's attention to the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 14 December 1950 concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

I wish to thank you for the aforementioned communication, the contents of which have been duly studied by this Chancellery.

With reference to the information which you requested the Colombian Government to furnish before 30 April 1951 concerning paragraphs (a) and (b) of the above-mentioned resolution, I am happy to inform you that no one has been or is detained in this country as a prisoner of war. This Department is therefore unable to furnish you with data or information concerning this question.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Daniel Henao Henao

Under-Secretary,

in charge of the Diplomatic Department

/2. ISRAEL

2. ISRAEL

11 March 1951

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Israel presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of His Excellency's note SGA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has the honour to state in reply to the above-mentioned note that, since the State of Israel was established on 14 May 1948, the resolution adopted on 14 December 1950 by the General Assembly is not applicable to the Government of Israel.

3. NEPAL

27 March 1951

The Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of his note SOA 417/5/01 dated 23 February 1951, regarding the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950, concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

2. Regarding the request for information on points (a) and (b) referred to in the first paragraph of the note the Director-General has the honour to inform the Secretary-General that there is not a single prisoner of war under the custody of the Government of Nepal.

#### 4. ITALY

27 March 1951

The Observer of the Italian Government to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General and, with reference to the Note SOA 417/5/01, dated 23 February 1951, has the honour, upon instructions of the Italian Government, to communicate the following:

- (a) No prisoners of war, of any nationality, are detained in Italy at the present time;
- (b) Full information about those prisoners of war who died while under the responsibility of the Italian Government has been given to the Governments concerned during the military occupation period of the Italian territory;
- (c) The attention of the Secretary-General is drawn to the fact that the Italian Government is still waiting for information from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regarding the fate of a large number of Italian prisoners of war detained without any justifiable reason. In particular no information has been received by the Italian Government enabling it to establish whether they are still alive. In this connexion it is recalled that the Italian Government presented a memorandum on this subject to the General Assembly on 6 December 1950 (document A/C.3/554).



5. AUSTRIA

28 March 1951

Sir,

Referring to your letter (SOA 417/5/01) dated 23 February 1951, concerning the General Assembly's resolution (14 December 1950) on measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war and on instruction of my Government, I have the honour to inform you that there are no prisoners of the second world war in Austrian custody.

There still are Austrian prisoners of the last war detained in the USSR, but their repatriation has been promised in bilateral negotiations. On 9 March 1951, 120 of these war prisoners arrived in Austria and further repatriation groups are expected.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Dr. Franz Matsch  
Austrian Liaison Officer  
with the United Nations

6. CANADA

28 March 1951

The Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his Note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

It is noted that the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950, called upon all governments to publish and transmit to the Secretary-General before 30 April 1951:

- (a) The names of such prisoners still held by them, the reasons for which they are still detained and the places in which they are detained;
- (b) The names of prisoners who have died while under their control as well as the date and cause of death, and the manner and place of burial in each case.

Twenty copies\* of the following material are annexed in response to the relevant sections of the General Assembly resolution concerning the problem of prisoners of war:

- (i) Appendix "A" - Part I - Prisoners of War from the United Kingdom still detained in Canada.
- (ii) Appendix "A" - Part II - Prisoners of War and Enemy Merchant Seamen from the United Kingdom who escaped and have not been recaptured.
- (iii) Appendix "A" - Part III - Prisoners of War and Enemy Merchant Seamen from the United Kingdom who have been released in Canada.
- (iv) Appendix "A" - Part IV - Canadian Responsibility Enemy Merchant Seamen and Internees released in Canada.
- (v) Appendix "B" - Part I - Prisoners of War, Enemy Merchant Seamen and Civilian Internees from the United Kingdom who died while under Canadian Control.

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\* Copies of the appendices are available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission. Appendix "A": Part I contains three names, Part II ten names, Part III six names, and Part IV two names. Appendix "B": Part I contains 137 names, Part II three names, Part III five names, Part IV thirteen names, and Part V five names.

- (vi) Appendix "B" - Part II - Italian Enemy Merchant Seamen and Internees from the United Kingdom who died while under Canadian Control.
- (vii) Appendix "B" - Part III - Refugees from the United Kingdom who died while under Canadian Control.
- (viii) Appendix "B" - Part IV - Internees and Enemy Merchant Seamen (Canadian Responsibility) who died while under Canadian Control.
- (ix) Appendix "B" - Part V - Japanese Internees (Canadian Responsibility) who died while under Canadian Control.

## 7. CEYLON

28 March 1951

The Ministry of External Affairs presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with reference to the latter's Third Person Note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, has the honour to give the following information on the points referred to in the resolution of the General Assembly as quoted therein:

- (a) There are no prisoners of war held by the Ceylon Government.
- (b) The following details\* only are available of prisoners who died in Ceylon during World War II. At this time, Ceylon was a Colony and the prisoners were the responsibility of the United Kingdom Government.

/8. PANAMA

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\* The Ministry of External Affairs submitted a list of five prisoners of war who had died, together with the date of death and the place of burial in each case. Copies of the list will be available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission.

8. PANAMA

(Translated from Spanish)

29 March 1951

The Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951 concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

On the cessation of hostilities, the National Government brought to an end the detention of prisoners of war in accordance with international agreements and conventions, and there are therefore no such prisoners at the present time.

There is no record in the files of the departments concerned of the death during the second World War of any prisoner of war under the control of the National Government.

9. THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF THE JORDAN

1 April 1951

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to his Note No. SOA 417/5/01 dated 23 February 1951, has the honour to inform that the competent authorities declare that they have no prisoners' question pending from the **second** World War.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurance of his highest consideration.

10. SWEDEN

4 April 1951

Sir,

With reference to the note of the Secretary-General of 23 February 1951 (SOA 417/5/01) addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, I have the honour to state, herewith, that the Swedish Government has no information concerning the questions raised in the said note.

With assurances of my highest consideration, I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Sven Grafström  
Permanent Representative

11. PORTUGAL

6 April 1951

The Portuguese Embassy present their compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to his note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, have the honour to inform him that the Portuguese authorities do not possess any information on prisoners of war. Nevertheless, they sincerely wish that steps now being taken concerning this important matter will have a successful conclusion.



121 FINLAND

7 April 1951

The Minister of Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the note of the Secretary-General of 23 February 1951, No. SOA 417/5/01, requesting information pursuant to the resolution (A/1749) of the General Assembly on prisoners of war.

In reply to this inquiry the Minister of Foreign Affairs wishes to inform the Secretary-General that Finland has, according <sup>to</sup> the terms of the Armistice Agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on the one hand, and Finland on the other, of 19 September 1944, fulfilled all its obligations as regards the prisoners of war taken in the course of the war in 1941-44 by handing over to the Allied (Soviet) High Command all Soviet and Allied prisoners of war and by giving to the Allied Control Commission detailed lists of the prisoners deceased during the captivity and also of those who are buried in Finland.

In accordance with the same Armistice Agreement Finland has as well handed over to the Allied (Soviet) High Command all the German prisoners taken in the course of the war against Germany in 1944-45.

13. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

12 April 1951

The Deputy Permanent Representative of the Union of South Africa to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General, and with reference to his Note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, relating to the General Assembly's resolution of 14 February 1950, on the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war, has the honour to state that there are at present no prisoners of war under the control of the Union Government.

14. LIECHTENSTEIN

(Translated from French)

13 April 1951

In his note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February, the Secretary-General of the United Nations informed the Head of the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of 14 December 1950, in which Governments were asked to transmit to the Secretary-General before 30 April 1951 the names of prisoners of war still held by them and the names of prisoners who had died while under their control.

In pursuance of a request made to the Swiss Government by the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Swiss Observer to the United Nations has been instructed to inform the Secretary-General that there are and have been no prisoners of war in the territory of the Principality.

/15. IRAQ

15. IRAQ

14 April 1951

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with reference to his letter number SOA 417/5/01 dated 23 February 1951, has the honour to inform him that there are no prisoners of war held by the Iraqi Government and none have died during their captivity.

The Ministry avails itself of this opportunity to renew the expression of its highest consideration.

16. THE PHILIPPINES

14 April 1951

The Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines presents his compliments to His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with further reference to the latter's note (File No. SOA 417/5/01) dated 23 February 1951, has the honour to transmit herewith the list containing the names of Japanese prisoners who have been executed and those presently confined in the New Bilibid Prison, this Government, as of 19 March 1951.\*

/17. CUBA

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\* The list contains the names of 112 prisoners of war who are confined in prison, 17 prisoners who have been executed, and 13 prisoners awaiting transportation to Japan.

17. CUBA

(Translated from Spanish)

16 April 1951

The Ministry of State presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his note SCA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951 relating to the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 (document A/1749) concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

With reference to points (a) and (b) of the above-mentioned resolution, this Ministry wishes to state that no prisoners of war are being held or detained in Cuba.

The Ministry of State has the honour, etc.

## 18. INDIA

17 April 1951

The Minister for External Affairs of India presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and with reference to his note No. SOA 417/5/01 dated 23 February 1951, regarding measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war, has the honour to furnish the following information:

(a) All prisoners of war held in India during the World War II have already been repatriated. The Government of India have no prisoners of war of World War II under their control.

(b) All individual records of Italian prisoners of war were forwarded to the Ministry of Post War Assistance, Prisoners of War Bureau, Rome, Italy. No records of other prisoners of war are available. The Government of India are unable to furnish any information of prisoners who died while in India, of the date and cause of their death, nor of the manner and place of their burial.

The Minister takes the opportunity to renew the assurance of his highest consideration.

19. NEW ZEALAND

19 April 1951

The Minister of External Affairs presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Secretary-General's letter, reference SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February concerning the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

The Minister has the honour to convey the following information requested by the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of this resolution:

(a) There are no prisoners of war at present in detention in New Zealand. All the prisoners of war held in New Zealand, 802 in number, were returned to Japan in December 1945, with the exception of one who was returned in July 1946.

(b) The attached schedule\* contains the names of prisoners who died in New Zealand, with date and cause of death and place of cremation in each case. The ashes of all prisoners who died and were cremated in New Zealand were returned to Japan after the conclusion of hostilities.

/20. PAKISTAN

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\* The schedule contains the names of sixty-seven prisoners of war who have died.



20. PAKISTAN

23 April 1951

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Commonwealth Relations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with reference to his note No. SOA 417/5/01, dated 23 February 1951, has the honour to say that no prisoners of the Second World War are held in Pakistan. There were no prisoners of War in Pakistan on the day of its creation and the question of their dying while in detention does not arise.

21. IRAN

(Translated from French)

23 April 1951

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, transmitting the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

As regards points (a) and (b) of the above-mentioned resolution, no action is necessary since this problem has not arisen in the case of Iran.

As regards the search for any prisoners who might be in Iranian territory, the Imperial Government will be happy to co-operate to the utmost in this humanitarian task.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour, etc.

22. LUXEMBOURG

(Translated from French)

23 April 1951

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in reply to his note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, has the honour to furnish the following information:

ad. (a) -- Luxembourg no longer holds any prisoners of war.

ad. (b) -- the names of prisoners who have died in the territory of the Grand-Duchy are given in the annexed list <sup>1/</sup> together with a note of the circumstances of their death.

/(2) Luxembourg,

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<sup>1/</sup> The list contains the names of 12 prisoners of war who have died.

(2)

Luxembourg, 20 June 1951

To the Secretary-General

Sir,

In the course of the discussion which led up to the adoption by the General Assembly of the resolution concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war, the Luxembourg representative stated in the Third Committee on 8 December 1950 that the Luxembourg Government was still awaiting the return of a number of its nationals who had presumably become prisoners of war. I have the honour to forward herewith, for communication to the Ad Hoc Commission and to assist it in its investigations, three copies of a "List of Luxembourg civilians and military personnel deported during the 1940-1945 war and not yet repatriated". 1/

I have the honour to be, etc.

/23. CHILE

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1/ The list contains the names of 1,970 Luxembourg civilians and military personnel deported during the 1940-1945 war and not yet repatriated.

23. CHILE

Translated from Spanish

24 April 1951

To the Secretary-General

Sir,

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to reply to your note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951 concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

I beg to inform you that there are no prisoners of war in Chile and that my Government is therefore unable to furnish the information requested in connexion with the General Assembly resolution of 14 December 1950.

I have the honour to be, etc.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

Enrique Bustos  
Delegation of Chile  
to the United Nations

24. -NORWAY

(1)

26 April 1951

The Permanent Representative of Norway presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note (SOA 417/5/01) of 23 February 1951 by which attention was called to the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

Pursuant to the request for information contained in this note the Permanent Representative of Norway has been instructed by the Norwegian Government to advise the Secretary-General that, apart from persons serving prison sentences in Norway and those who have taken up ordinary residence in Norway, all prisoners of war have been repatriated. The last repatriation was effected on 20 June 1947.

With reference to point (b) of the General Assembly's resolution two lists\* are transmitted herewith containing the names and further particulars required in regard to German prisoners of war deceased in Norway. One list covers deaths occurring in the time between the German capitulation on 8 May 1945 and 15 December 1945, and the other list covers the subsequent period. The division into two lists is due to the fact that the prisoners of war were subject to allied control up to 15 December 1945.

The Norwegian authorities have unfortunately not been able to supply information concerning the manner of burial of these prisoners of war. This is explained by the fact that the prisoners to a certain extent administered their own affairs. They had their own cemeteries and their own clergymen. Only in exceptional cases did Norwegian clergymen officiate at these burials.

The lists do not comprise the names of German prisoners of war who have been executed in pursuance of sentences imposed by Norwegian courts of justice.

The required supplementary information will be forwarded as soon as it is received from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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\* These two lists contain the names of 913 prisoners of war who have died.

/(2) 18 May 1951

(2)

18 May 1951

The Permanent Representative of Norway presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note (SOA 417/5/01) of 23 February 1951 and to this Delegation's note of 26 April 1951 concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

One of these lists\* gives names and further particulars in regard to foreign war criminals in Norwegian prisons as of 21 March 1951. Those of the prisoners who are listed as pardoned ("benådet") will be deported from Norway as soon as they obtain permission to re-enter their respective home countries.

The other list\* contains the names of foreign war criminals who have been executed after the war pursuant to sentences rendered by Norwegian courts of justice. Under point 8, however, this list also includes the name of one war criminal who committed suicide after his death sentence had become final.

No war criminal has died while serving his term of imprisonment.

The Norwegian Ministry for Foreign Affairs has promised further supplementary information which will be forwarded as soon as it is received.

/25. THAILAND

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\* These lists contain the names of 14 prisoners of war who died in Norwegian custody and 45 who are still detained in Norway.

25. THAILAND

27 April 1951

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to the latter's Note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, requesting information concerning prisoners of war, has the honour to state that an investigation has been made in connexion with this matter with the following results:

- (a) There is no prisoner of war detained at present in Thailand.
- (b) Details regarding Allied prisoners of war held by Japanese troops in Thailand has been handed by Japanese commanders, after their surrender, to the Allied 207 Military Mission of South East Asia Command, headed by British Brigadier Wilson Brand. The said Mission was sent to Thailand soon after the cessation of hostilities and had been entrusted with this matter. All Allied prisoners of war were duly released and repatriated by the said Mission.

After the Japanese surrender, Japanese prisoners of war were also under the control of the said Mission and all of them had already been repatriated.



26. AUSTRALIA

(1)

30 April 1951

The Acting Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's Note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951 concerning the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 in respect of measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war. The Secretary-General states that he would appreciate receiving any information which the Australian Government might be in a position to furnish with respect to

(a) the names of World War II prisoners of war still in custody, the reasons for which they are still detained, and the places in which they are detained, and

(b) the names of prisoners of war who died while in custody, as well as the date and cause of death and the manner and place of burial in each case.

The Acting Permanent Representative wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia has no World War II prisoners in its custody in Australia as repatriation of prisoners of war on the mainland was completed by March 1946. However the Secretary-General is further informed that certain Japanese ex-servicemen held in connexion with war crimes trials remain under Australian control on Manus Island. Steps are being taken to establish the relationship of these cases to the terms of the General Assembly resolution of 14 December, and particulars will be transmitted to the Secretary-General when this has been determined.

With respect to Section (b) relating to the deaths of prisoners of war while in custody, the Secretary-General is informed that the required details are contained in the following appendices to this note:\*

Appendix A: Japanese in Australia

Appendix B: Japanese in South-West Pacific Area

Appendix C: Japanese in Cowra Camp Revolt

Appendix D: Italians in Australia

Appendix E: Germans in Australia

/These

\* Copies of the appendices will be available to members of the Ad Hoc Commission

These show that 388 Japanese, 97 Italian and 7 German prisoners of war died while under Australian control. Particulars relating to the deaths of these prisoners of war had previously been recorded in conformity with the Prisoners of War Convention and were forwarded to the protecting power representative and to the International Bureau of Relief and Information established by the Red Cross in Geneva.

In the event that the United Nations Commission on Prisoners of War provided for in the General Assembly resolution under reference should wish to obtain information concerning the Australian programme of repatriation of World War II prisoners of war or any other information concerning such prisoners of war while they were in Australian custody, the Australian Government will be ready to make available to it all pertinent records.

The Acting Permanent Representative further wishes to assure the Secretary-General that in addition to supplying all necessary information, the Government of Australia will grant to the United Nations Commission on Prisoners of War right of access to Australia and to areas under its jurisdiction, and will co-operate fully with the Commission in all aspects of its work in accordance with the resolution under reference.

(2)

10 May 1951

The Acting Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer further to the Secretary-General's Note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951 and to the Mission's note (File 162/2) of 30 April concerning the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950, on the subject of measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

The Secretary-General is informed that the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia is preparing lists of the Japanese who remain under Australian control on Manus Island. These lists will be transmitted to the Secretary-General shortly.

27. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

30 April 1951

The representative of the United States to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's note SOA 417/5/01, dated 23 February 1951, regarding the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950, concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war (document A/1749). The Secretary-General states that he would appreciate receiving any information which this Government might be in a position to furnish with respect to (a) names of World War II prisoners of war still in custody, reasons for which they are still detained and places in which they are detained, and (b) names of prisoners of war who died while in custody, as well as date and cause of death and manner and place of burial in each case.

The representative of the United States is pleased to inform the Secretary-General that the United States does not have ~~any~~ <sup>of</sup> World War II prisoners of war in its custody. The United States programme /repatriation of prisoners of war was completed by 30 June 1947. A list is enclosed giving names and other information regarding the nineteen individual prisoners of war who have been under sentence for post-capture crimes and were repatriated after that date.\*

With respect to section (b) relating to deaths of prisoners of war while in United States custody, the Secretary-General is informed that full details concerning serious illnesses, deaths and burials of World War II prisoners of war were promptly furnished the home countries of the prisoners of war at the time through the protecting powers and the International Committee of the Red Cross. However, since receipt of the Secretary-General's note under reference a list has been compiled, copies of which are enclosed, giving names of and information regarding prisoners of war who died while in custody in the United States.\*\* Owing to the pressure of work on the enemy Prisoner-of-War Information

/Bureau

\* Copies of the list will be available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission.

\*\* This list contains a total of 1,016 names (841 German, 162 Italian, and 13 Japanese). Copies will be available to the members of the Ad Hoc Commission.

Bureau resulting from United Nations operations in Korea, it has not thus far been possible to compile from the several million individual prisoner-of-war files a similar list of prisoners of war who died in various theatres of operation and were buried overseas. These files will be made available at any time to the United Nations Commission on Prisoners of War.

In connexion with both of the above points, it should be noted that the provisions of the Geneva Prisoner-of-War Convention of 27 July 1929 were, from the beginning of United States participation in the war, continuously given effect in respect of the United States. Pursuant to this Convention, during the war period and afterward, while the United States had prisoners of war in its custody, representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross had access to prisoner-of-war camps and to prisoners of war in United States custody. Representatives of protecting powers chosen by the home countries of prisoners of war also had access to the camps and the prisoners of war. Thus these representatives were enabled to verify the information furnished concerning their identity and the camps in which they were held and to observe the treatment which the prisoners of war received.

All German, Japanese and Italian nationals who were convicted of war crimes by any United States tribunals remained in or were promptly returned to their home countries for incarceration, where they are allowed communication facilities and may be visited by their families. The names of and other pertinent information concerning these war criminals have been published, and will be made available on request to the United Nations Commission on Prisoners of War.

In the event that the United Nations Commission on Prisoners of War, provided for in the General Assembly Resolution under reference, should wish to obtain information concerning the United States programme of repatriation of World War II prisoners of war, or any other information concerning such prisoners of war while they were in United States custody, the United States Government will be happy to make available to it all pertinent records.

The representative of the United States further assures the Secretary-General that in addition to supplying all necessary information, the Government of the United States will grant to the United Nations Commission on Prisoners of War right of access to the United States and to areas under its jurisdiction and will co-operate fully with the Commission in all aspects of its work in accordance with the resolution under reference.

(translated from French)

28. BELGIUM

1 May 1951

To the Secretary-General,

Sir,

In a note dated 23 February 1951 you requested Member States to transmit information concerning any prisoners of war still held in their territory and any prisoners who had died while under their control.

I have the honour to communicate to you this information as transmitted to me by my Government. All the prisoners of war placed at the Belgian Government's disposal by the United States and United Kingdom armies were repatriated at the end of 1947 and early in 1948, so that no prisoners of war are detained in Belgium at the present time.

I also enclose two copies of a list of prisoners who have died.<sup>1/</sup>

This list contains all the information likely to be of interest to you. The burial sites were checked and certified by the Service d'identification et Sépulture des Victimes de la Guerre (Department for the identification and burial of prisoners of war) of the Ministry of the Interior, before the list was sent to you.

As regards the burial conditions, the Belgian Government saw to the scrupulous application of the Geneva Conventions of 1929 concerning the death of prisoners of war and, in particular, the provisions contained in Part V, Article 76 as will be apparent from the following details:

Principle

The detaining Power was compelled by respect for the human dignity of prisoners of war to observe a dignified and honourable procedure on the death of one of its prisoners.

/ Practice

<sup>1/</sup> This list contains the names of 454 prisoners of war who have died. Copies will be available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission.

### Practice

All arrangements were made and the resulting expenses defrayed to ensure that each deceased person was placed in a coffin and was given separate burial in accordance with a ceremony conforming to his particular religion.

The graves are periodically maintained and in all cases bear particulars of the deceased person's identity.

### Formalities

In the event of a death due to accident or illness, a number of formalities were complied with, consisting in the drawing up of special documents giving the surname, first names, registration number, place and date of birth, and civil status of the deceased, the father's first name, the mother's surname and first name, and the residence of the deceased.

The procedure followed in such cases was as follows:

- (1) The medical death certificate was drawn up by the doctor;
- (2) The official death certificate was signed by the commandant of the camp to which the deceased person belonged;
- (3) The enquiry held in the case of an accident was conducted in some cases by the Army Legal Department, and in others by the gendarmerie of the place in which the accident occurred. These enquiries were initiated at the instance of the camp commandants.
- (4) The notice of death was sent to the International Red Cross which undertook to inform the deceased's family;
- (5) An inventory of the personal effects and money left by the deceased was sent to the International Red Cross, and eventually to the Ministry of the Interior (Militia Administration Department and Department for the Identification and Burial of War Victims) at Brussels when the effects themselves were despatched;
- (6) The extract from the death register was drawn up by the municipal authorities of the place in which the death occurred;

/ (7) The

- (7) The burial permit was drawn up by the local Registrar;
- (8) The declaration stating the date and place of burial and the grave number was signed by the camp commandant;
- (9) Lastly, a "Report" described the procedure followed at the funeral ceremony.

This report, which was signed by the camp commandant, gave details of the following:

- (a) The religious ceremony celebrated in accordance with the religion selected by the deceased during his lifetime; the name and style of the officiating priest were given in most cases;
- (b) The names and functions of the members of the German delegation designated to attend the funeral (a trusted prisoner, the hut leader and an unlimited number of men);
- (c) The presence of a detachment of Belgian troops (twelve to sixteen men) under the command of a senior non-commissioned officer;
- (d) The military honours rendered at the funeral, where such were possible;
- (e) Flowers were offered by the German personnel and a wreath was also placed on the grave by the Belgian personnel.

I have the honour to be etc.

F. van Langenhove

Permanent Representative of Belgium



29. BURMA

4 May 1951

The Minister of Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with reference to his Note No. SOA 417/5/01 dated 23 February 1951 has the honour to state that all prisoners of war have been repatriated apart from the 30 Japanese War Criminals who have been convicted of War crimes and who are undergoing their respective terms of sentences in the Rangoon Central Jail. A list of the said War criminals is attached.\*

/30. UNITED KINGDOM

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\* Copies of the list will be available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission.

30. UNITED KINGDOM

(1)

7 May 1951

The Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom at the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to His Excellency's note No. SOA 417/5/01 dated 23 February 1951, concerning the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 on the subject of measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of prisoners of war.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are in a position at present to furnish the particulars of German prisoners of war who died while they were in British custody or are still held under the control of His Majesty's Government and the Permanent Representative accordingly has the honour to transmit herewith these details.\* It is hoped that it will be possible to supply information concerning prisoners of war of other nationalities soon.

The Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom reaffirms the intention of His Majesty's Government to extend their full co-operation to the United Nations Commission on Prisoners of War, provided for in the General Assembly's resolution, when it has been established.

/(2) 4 June 1951

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\* The Representative of the United Kingdom transmitted a list of 2,963 prisoners of war who died in British custody, a list of 53 German prisoners of war held in the British Zone of Germany, and a list of four ex-prisoners of war held under British control in Austria.

(2)

4 June 1951

The Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom at the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note No. 161 of 8 May transmitting the particulars of certain German prisoners of war who either died while they were in British custody or are still held under the control of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. The Permanent Representative is now in a position to transmit further information concerning prisoners of war, as requested in the Secretary-General's note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February.

The lists forwarded to the Secretary-General on 8 May, of German prisoners of war who died while they were in British custody refer only to those who died in the United Kingdom, Western Europe and the Central Mediterranean area. All records of German prisoners who were captured in the Middle East are held by a German organisation known as W.A.S.T., which is controlled by:

Haut Commissariat de la Republique Francaise en Allemagne,  
Service des personnes deplacees,  
Secretariat de Berlin

All records of Italian prisoners of war wherever captured are held by:

Ministero Della Difesa Esecito,  
Direzione Generale Leva Sottufficiale e Truppa,  
Ufficio Prigionieri di Guerra,  
Rome

... The Permanent Representative has the honour to transmit herewith lists\* of Japanese prisoners of war who are still held as war criminals in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaya and North Borneo, and lists of Japanese prisoners of war who have died in British custody. It is regretted that His Majesty's Government have been unable to furnish these lists before now. The delay has been due in part to the need to collect information from the governments of a number of overseas territories. Urgent enquiries are still being made as to whether there is any further information to be communicated to the Secretary-General under the terms of the General Assembly's resolution of 14 December 1950.

/31. YUGOSLAVIA

\* The Representative of the United Kingdom transmitted lists of 29 Japanese prisoners of war who died in British custody and 302 who are still under British custody.

31. YUGOSLAVIA

11 May 1951

Sir,

With reference to the letter SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, drawing the attention of the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia to the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950, concerning measures for the peaceful solution of the problem of war prisoners, I have the honour, on behalf of the Government of the F.P.R. of Yugoslavia, to give you the following information:

After the cessation of the hostilities in the Second World War, the authorities of the F.P.R. of Yugoslavia acting in conformity with the recognized standards of international conduct and with international agreements and conventions, proceeded with the repatriation of the prisoners of war with all the speed possible under the circumstances. The Government of the F.P.R. of Yugoslavia, in accordance with its decision to repatriate all prisoners of war from Yugoslavia by the end of 1948, completed the repatriation of all prisoners of war from Yugoslavia by 18 January 1949. It is therefore now in a position to state that there are no longer any prisoners of war in custody in Yugoslavia.

The authorities of the F.P.R. of Yugoslavia have retained only the prisoners who are under sentence as criminals or war criminals. At the present time there are 431 German and 27 Austrian prisoners of war serving sentences in Yugoslavia as criminals or criminals of war. Their names are given in the enclosed list which also contains their terms of sentence and the penitentiary where they are serving their sentence.\*

With regard to sub-para (b) of the above-mentioned resolution, requesting data on "the names of prisoners who have died while under their control as well as the date and cause of death, and the manner and place of burial in each case" the Yugoslav authorities regret that they are not at present in a position to furnish the full particulars required. In an official communique of the Minister of the Interior, issued on 8 February 1949, in connexion with the repatriation of the prisoners of war from Yugoslavia, the number of prisoners who died in /captivity

\* Copies of the list will be available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission.

captivity in Yugoslavia, is estimated at 6,215. Owing to the particular conditions under which the war for national liberation was waged in Yugoslavia, where there was fighting in all parts of the territory and where the various documents and archives were more than once destroyed, it has not been possible, in the course of the war and in its immediate aftermath, to keep complete and detailed records of all the cases of death that occurred among the prisoners of war. The Yugoslav authorities and Yugoslav Red Cross are, however, endeavouring to compile information regarding individual cases, and are prepared to give all such information available in reply to concrete requests. Such requests are constantly coming in through the Red Cross and are being given the fullest possible attention.

We should add that there is also a certain number of former prisoners of war who have established their residence in Yugoslavia where they have obtained employment in virtue of the normal contractual relationship. They, of course, enjoy the full legal status of foreigners working under contract in Yugoslavia.

With assurances of my high consideration, I am,

Respectfully yours

Djura Nincic  
Counselor of the Permanent Mission  
of the F.P.R. of Yugoslavia to  
the United Nations

32. DENMARK

15 May 1971

Sir,

Referring to your note of 23 February 1951 - SCA 417/5/01 - addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs concerning prisoners taken in the course of the Second World War, I have the honour to inform you that there are no prisoners of war in Denmark. According to the opinion of the Ministry of Justice German war-criminals in Denmark cannot be considered as prisoners of war but as convicted criminals.

I beg to add that a few prisoners of war of the Allies were lent to the Danish authorities during the years since the capitulation in order to be examined as witnesses, but that these have long ago been returned and none has died during their stay in Denmark.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

William Borberg  
Representative of Denmark to the  
United Nations

The Honorable Trygve Lie,  
Secretary-General of the United Nations

33. CHINA

16 May 1951

The Permanent Representative of the Chinese Delegation presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Secretary-General's note of 23 February 1951 (SOA 417/5/01) addressed to the Chinese Ministry for Foreign Affairs asking for information on points (a) and (b) referred to in the resolution of the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 concerning "Measures for the Peaceful Solution of the Problem of Prisoners of War".

Under instruction of the Chinese Government, the Permanent Representative of the Chinese Delegation has the honour to inform the Secretary-General that regarding point (a) of the said resolution, there is no need for any information on the part of the Chinese Government, as all Japanese prisoners, the only prisoners of war in China, were repatriated within a short period after the war, before the end of 1947. The total number of Japanese repatriated, according to the statistical figures of the Chinese Ministry of Defence, is 3,159,967. A copy of the list\* giving the figures of repatriations from various ports of China is herewith attached.

On point (b), the Chinese Government is unable to furnish any information at present owing to the fact that the relevant records are incomplete on account of the occupation of the Chinese mainland by the Communists.

/34. SWITZERLAND

\* Copies of the list will be available for the members of the Ad Hoc Commission.

34. SWITZERLAND

21 May 1951

(Translated from French)

In his note SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, the Secretary-General of the United Nations informed the head of the Federal Political Department of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1950 in which Governments were asked to transmit to the Secretary-General before 30 April 1951 the names of prisoners of war still held by them and the names of prisoners who had died while under their control.

On instructions from his Government, the Swiss Observer to the United Nations has the honour to inform the Secretary-General that, having remained neutral in the recent World War, Switzerland neither captured nor held any prisoners of war, so that the two questions raised by the General Assembly resolution do not concern it.

It should, however, be noted that as a result of its neutrality Switzerland was led to grant asylum during the World War to nearly 105,000 foreign military personnel. These consisted of the following:

- internees, in accordance with Article 11 of The Hague Convention of 18 October 1907, respecting the rights and duties of neutral Powers and persons in case of war on land;
- escaped prisoners of war, in accordance with Article 13 of the above-mentioned Convention;
- deserters;
- military refugees;
- military personnel admitted to hospitals on the basis of agreements concluded between the Swiss authorities and the Governments concerned (France, Belgium and Finland).

All these persons have been repatriated, with the exception of those who at the time of repatriation refused to return home for political reasons. All those who remained in Switzerland have acquired the status of civil refugees.

During the internment of this military personnel, except in the case of deserters, the diplomatic missions accredited to Berne had the opportunity to visit the camps and were informed of the arrival in Switzerland of nationals of their country. The diplomatic missions accredited in Switzerland, together with the International Committee of the Red Cross, were informed of all deaths which occurred on arrival or landing in Switzerland, or during the period of internment.



35. TURKEY

(Translated from French)

23 May 1951

The Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General and in reply to his note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951 concerning the question of prisoners of war, has the honour to inform him that no prisoners of war are held in Turkey at the present time and that no prisoner died during the period of captivity.

36. GUATEMALA

(Translated from Spanish)

24 May 1951

To the Secretary-General

Sir,

In reply to your note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, I have the honour to inform you that as Guatemala did not take part in the military operations of the Second World War, it holds no prisoners of war and therefore has no information to communicate on this matter.

I have the honour to be etc.

Ricardo Castañeda Paganini

Permanent Representative of Guatemala

37. POLAND

26 May 1951

In connexion with the Note of the Secretariat No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, I was instructed to transmit to you the following:

"The Polish Delegation to the Session of the General Assembly wishing to uphold the Charter of the United Nations, protested against taking under consideration by the United Nations of the question of prisoners of war. In accordance with its position, the Polish Delegation voted against acceptance by the General Assembly of the Resolution dealing with the substance of this matter because in conformity with Art. 107 of the United Nations Charter, the United Nations has no right to consider this question. In the opinion of the Government of the Republic of Poland, the reference in the Resolution to Art. 14 of the Charter was unjustified and served only the promoters of the Resolution to achieve political and propaganda aims directed against peaceful international cooperation, under the cover of humanitarian motives.

In connection with the above, the Government of the Republic of Poland cannot comply with the request of the Secretariat as contrary with the Charter of the United Nations."

I avail myself of the opportunity to convey to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

Juliusz Katz-Suchy  
Permanent Representative  
of Poland  
to the United Nations

The Secretariat  
Of the United Nations  
United Nations Headquarters  
New York, New York

38. EGYPT

(Translated from French)

4 June 1951

The Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General and, in reply to his note No. SOA 417/5/01 of 23 February 1951, has the honour to inform him of the following:

1. all the prisoners of war captured during the Second World War were held by the British Military Authorities, and the Royal Egyptian Government therefore had no information concerning them and played no part in their repatriation after the cessation of hostilities;
2. all the Jewish prisoners of war captured during the Palestinian campaign have been handed over to the Jewish authorities, and none of these prisoners died in Egypt.