

Depart

RECORD GROUP

25

VOLUME

~~27~~ 3006

FILE

3464-AR-40

Affairs

Part

File No. 3464-AR-40

From 4-5-43

To 31-10-45

Subject:

MESSAGE FROM JAPANESE RED CROSS TO  
JAPANESE IN CANADA.

PAC

References to Related Files

File No.	Subject
3464-AK-40C	New Year Messages for Japanese Prisoners of War and Internees
PUBLIC ARCHIVES RECORDS CENTRE DEPOT DES ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES OTTAWA	
<del>363368</del>	
283368	

Ottawa, October 31, 1945.

File No. 3464-AR-40		
Sub.	Chron.	Filed

Dear Mr. Maag,

I should like to refer to your letter of September 27th enclosing two message forms addressed to Japanese in Canada, which the Canadian Red Cross were unable to deliver. I return the two messages herewith.

The Department of Labour reports that Mr. Hamasaki, one of the two addressees, is now working for the Broder Canning Company, Lethbridge, Alberta. No record can be found of the other addressee, Eizo Nishida.

Yours sincerely,

M. H. WERSHOF

for  
Acting Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

E. L. Maag, Esquire,  
Delegate in Canada of the  
International Committee of the Red Cross,  
1040 Sun Life Building, Montreal.



*File*  
Ottawa, October 29, 1945

Mr. M. Wershof,  
Special Section,  
Department of External Affairs,  
New Post Office Bldg.,  
O t t a w a.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS		
File No. 3464-AR-40		
Sub	Chron	Filed

Dear Mr. Wershof:

A month or so ago you sent me the enclosed Red Cross Messages which had been received from Mr. Maag with the request that we should try to locate the addressees.

It will be noted that Hamasaki is now working for the Broder Canning Company at Lethbridge, Alberta, but no record can be found of Nishida. The office at Vancouver advises that they have many persons with the surname Nishida, but none with the first name Eizo.

Yours very truly,

*H.T. Pammett*  
*fr* A. MacNamara.

30165

1945 OCT 30 AM 10 33

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

DOES ANYTHING

There have been  
between the two nations, the one with the  
office of the national security and the other with  
the office of the national security. The  
working for the better service of the people  
is what we want to see.

The working for the better service of the people  
is what we want to see. The working for the better  
service of the people is what we want to see.

There is a delay:

O. J. R. R. R.  
New York Office, New York  
Department of External Affairs  
Chief, Bureau  
New York, New York

October 30, 1945



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE  
DÉLEGATION AU CANADA

ERNEST L. MAAG  
DELEGATE

MONTREAL, October 16, 1945  
1040 SUN LIFE BUILDING

Department of External Affairs,  
O t t a w a .

Attention: Mr. M.H.Wershoff.

Dear Mr. Wershoff,

Re: Your File 3464-AR-40.

Confirming my verbal statement of October 12th in answer to your letter of October 8th, please be informed that I am still receiving inquiry forms and messages from Japan, through the Canadian Red Cross Society, which in turn is receiving them from the American Red Cross. I have just received one of these messages which bears Red Cross stamps from Tokio, our Delegation in Turkey, our Delegation in Cairo and the American Red Cross, and from there was sent on to the Canadian Red Cross headquarters in Toronto, who in turn forwarded them to my office.

I cannot, of course, prevent such miscarriages but if I do receive such messages, I usually send them on to Censorship for forwarding to the head office of the Department of Labour in Vancouver, as per an understanding which was reached between us last December.

Yours sincerely,

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

M/G

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS

File No. 3464-AR-40

Sub. / Chron. / Filed

Refer: Labour (Att. Mr. Pammett)

*Don*  
OCT 9 1945  
*lee*

Ottawa, October 8, 1945.

Please refer to  
our file 3464-AR-40.3464-AR-40  
6

Dear Sir:

I should like to refer to your letter of September 27th enclosing two message forms addressed to former Japanese residents of Canada, which the Canadian Red Cross were unable to deliver.

The Department of Labour has asked its Vancouver Office to try to locate the addressees of these messages.

I should like to quote the following remark by the Department of Labour:

"I might draw to your attention that an understanding was reached with Mr. Maag last December that these personal post messages would be sent directly through Censorship to our Head Office in Vancouver, which would forward them immediately to the addressees. It was our belief that this procedure was now in effect, and I would be obliged if you would ascertain from Mr. Maag why the messages are going to the Canadian Red Cross Society".

Yours sincerely,

*M H Worsfold**fr* Acting Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

E.L. Maag, Esq.,  
Delegate in Canada of the  
International Committee of the Red Cross,  
1040 Sun Life Building,  
MONTREAL, P.Q.

DEPUTY MINISTER  
OF LABOUR



CANADA

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464-AR-46
Sub.	Chron 12 Filed

Ottawa, October 2, 1945.

*7/11/45  
No*

Under-Secretary of State for  
External Affairs,  
Department of External Affairs,  
OTTAWA.

*File on*

Attention: Mr. M. Wershof, Special Section.

Dear Sir:

*not in  
records  
3/10/45*

I wish to acknowledge your letter of October 1 enclosing copies of two Red Cross Messages from Japan, for which the Canadian Red Cross Society has been unable to locate the addressees. These have been sent forward by registered mail to the Japanese Division Office in Vancouver with the request that they locate the addressees and then return the forms to us with this information.

I might draw to your attention that an understanding was reached with Mr. Maag last December that these personal post messages would be sent directly through Censorship to our Head Office in Vancouver, which would forward them immediately to the addressees. It was our belief that this procedure was now in effect, and I would be obliged if you would ascertain from Mr. Maag why the messages are going to the Canadian Red Cross Society, which in the past proved quite inefficient in locating the addressees and delivering these messages.

Yours very truly,

*1392*  
*H. MacNamara*

*for* A. MacNamara.

24965

1945 OCT 3 PM 3:15

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

3464AR

MHW/JB

BF  
Oct 25/45  
m  
Henry

Ottawa, October 1, 1945.

W. L. J. S. RECORDS	
File No.	3464-AR-40
Sub.	Chron. 12 Filed

To: The Deputy-Minister,  
Department of Labour,  
Ottawa.

Attention: Mr. Pammett.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter of September 27th from Mr. Maag of the International Red Cross and the undelivered message forms referred to therein.

Would you please let me know whether you have any record of the persons mentioned in these forms, and return them to me?

for M. H. Wershof  
Acting Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE  
DÉLÉGATION AU CANADA

ERNEST L. MAAG  
DELEGATE

MONTREAL, September 27, 1945  
1040 SUN LIFE BUILDING

3464-AR

file  
on

3464-AR-46  
f 12

Department of External Affairs,  
O t t a w a .

Dear Sirs,

Attached please find two message forms addressed to former Japanese residents of Canada. These forms have been sent to us by the Canadian Red Cross, as they have been unable to make delivery. Before returning them to Geneva, however, I should appreciate hearing from you whether you have any record of the addressees.

Accept, Sirs, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration,

Yours sincerely,

*E. L. Maag*

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

/G  
Encls.

1040 SEP 28 1945

13834

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE  
DELEGATION AU CANADA

MONTREAL, September 27, 1945  
1060 211 LIFE BUILDING

ERNEST L. MAAG  
DELEGATE



Department of External Affairs,  
Ottawa.  
Dear Sirs,

Attached please find two message forms addressed to former Japanese residents of Canada. These forms have been sent to us by the Canadian Red Cross, as they have been unable to make delivery. Before returning them to Geneva, however, I should appreciate hearing from you whether you have any record of the addressees.

Accept, Sirs, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration,  
Yours sincerely,

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
Ottawa  
Ernest L. Maag, Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

1945 SEP 28 AM 10:21

Encls.  
1/5

13834



3464AR-6  
7 18/1 ✓  
Washington 6, D. C.  
July 29, 1944.

*file  
Bmm*  
No. 1854

Sir:

With reference to your despatch No. 1029 of July 14th concerning a message of greeting to the Japanese nationals in Canada from the Japanese Red Cross, I have the honour to enclose herewith a carbon copy of a letter addressed to Mr. G. L. Magann by Mr. E. Tomlin Bailey an officer of the Special War Problems Division of the State Department.

2. The enclosure is an acknowledgement of receipt of the information which you asked us to send to the United States Government. This information was sent in a personal letter to Mr. Bernard Gufler, assistant chief of the Special War Problems Division.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*J. K. Magann*

For Chargé d'Affaires.

The Secretary of State  
for External Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada.

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DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

1944 AUG 2 AM 9:44

93596

July 27, 1944

My dear Mr. Magann:

In Mr. Gufler's absence, I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 19, 1944, with reference to the action taken by the Commonwealth Civilians Committee in London on July 6, concerning the message received by the International Red Cross Committee for transmission to the Japanese in Canada.

I appreciate your making this information available to the Department of State.

Sincerely yours,

E. Tomlin Bailey

G. L. Magann, Esquire,  
Attaché,  
Canadian Embassy,  
1745 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

copy 5970-40	
File No	3464AR-40
Sub.	Chron. 1 Filed 1

OTTAWA, July 14th, 1944.

No. 1629

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to my despatch No. 301 of March 2nd, 1944, concerning a message of greeting to the Japanese nationals in Canada from the Japanese Red Cross.

On May 13th a further letter was received from the Delegate in Canada of the International Red Cross saying that he had been asked by his principals to approach the Canadian authorities again with the request that they reconsider their decision and allow the message to be transmitted. The text of the message from Geneva to Mr. Maag is as follows:

"722 AFTER CONSULTATION BRITISH LEGATION BERNE REQUEST YOU APPROACH CANADIAN AUTHORITIES CONCERNING QUESTION MENTIONED YOUR M/2947 STOP PLEASE SUGGEST THEY RECONSIDER DECISION NOT TO TRANSMIT MESSAGE STOP HAVING BEEN ENTRUSTED THIS COMMUNICATION ICRC WOULD BE FORCED INFORM SENDER IMPOSSIBLE CARRY OUT HIS REQUEST STOP IN VIEW PROMINENT CHARACTER SIGNATORIES THIS MESSAGE SUCH NEWS MIGHT ENTAIL REGRETTABLE CONSEQUENCES OUT OF PROPORTION TO IMPORTANCE QUESTION INTERCROIXROUGE C9405."

It was considered undesirable for the Canadian Government to take final action on this question without consulting the Governments of the United Kingdom and the other Dominions, and the matter was therefore submitted for discussion at a meeting of the Commonwealth Civilians Committee in London on July 6th. The Committee unanimously agreed to the following procedure:

- (a) Canada refrain from replying to the Delegate's letter of May 18th;
- (b) The Delegate be told for the confidential information of his Principals the reason for no answer being given;
- (c) In the future if requests for the transmission of messages which go beyond a mere form of greeting are received, they be ignored;
- (d) Uncontroversial messages such as Christmas greetings be received and distributed upon assurance of reciprocity;
- (e) The Canadian Government inform United States Government of these decisions;
- (f) These decisions be communicated to the Secretary of Subcommittee A for any action that may seem proper to the Chairman of that Committee.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

Alfred Rive

Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

for the

The Canadian Ambassador  
in the United States,  
Washington, D.C.

# TELEGRAM

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN  
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

CYPHER

LONDON.

July 7th, 1944.

NO. 1683

*original  
5970-4a*

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS		
File No. 3464-AR-46		
Sub. 7	Chron. 17	Filed

No. 1683. Your telegram No. 1119, June 10th.  
Japcross December 8th message. Commonwealth Civilians  
Committee Paper P. (44) 17 agreed to unanimously at  
Committee July 6th.

HIGH COMMISSIONER



OFFICE OF THE

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA,

CANADA HOUSE,

LONDON, S.W.1.

3rd June, 1944.

Dear Mr. Rive,

I refer to your letter of May 22nd in which you request that the decision of Sub Committee A regarding a certain message from the Japanese Red Cross be secured.

As we have no Japanese prisoners of war in Canada and as Sub Committee A takes no cognisance of civilian interests, I did not see how we could bring the question before Sub Committee A. I enclose, however, a draft of an agenda paper for submission to the Commonwealth Civilians Committee in which you will observe that it is proposed that the decisions be transmitted to Sub Committee A.

Should this paper meet with your approval, perhaps you would telegraph me; or you might suggest alterations; or you might even send a new paper in duplicate.

'I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Alfred Rive, Esq.,  
Department of External Affairs,  
O T T A W A.

If it is for the July meeting,  
paper sh<sup>d</sup> be here by June 15

1. 1. 1. 1.

OFFICE OF THE

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA, CANADA

LONDON, ENGLAND

2nd June, 1944.

Dear Mr. Rivo,

I refer to your letter of May 22nd in which you request that the decision of Sub Committee A regarding a certain message from the Japanese Red Cross be accepted.

As we have no Japanese prisoners of war in Canada and as Sub Committee A takes no cognizance of civilian internees, I did not see how we could bring the question before Sub Committee A. I enclose, however, a draft of an agenda paper for submission to the Commonwealth Civilian Committee in which you will observe that it is proposed that the decision be transmitted to Sub Committee A.

Should some paper meet with your approval, perhaps you would telegraph me; or you might suggest alterations; or you might even send a new paper in duplicate.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*Handwritten notes:*  
The above is a draft of a paper for submission to the Commonwealth Civilian Committee. It is proposed that the decision be transmitted to Sub Committee A.

*Handwritten signature:* J. G. [unclear]

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

25 JUN 9 1944

86076

Alfred Rivo, Esq.  
Department of External Affairs  
Ottawa, Canada

COMMONWEALTH CIVILIANS COMMITTEE.Requests by the Japanese for Transmission of Messages to their Nationals in Commonwealth countries.

(Paper submitted by the Canadian Government).

1. It appears to be the general practice in Commonwealth countries to permit the distribution to Japanese nationals of messages of greetings and comfort (for example Christmas messages) received from the Japanese Red Cross or Japanese Government. It has usually been stipulated that the Japanese promise reciprocity. Canada is satisfied with this arrangement and does not propose <sup>any</sup> to change so far as this sort of greeting is concerned.

2. About December 23rd, 1943, the I.R.C.C. Delegate in Canada forwarded for transmission the following message from the Japanese Red Cross:-

"We Japanese wish you all good health and self-confidence December 8th 1943. Members of House of Peers Hachiro Arita Tsurukichi Maruyama".

3. The Canadian Government regarded this message celebrating the anniversary of Pearl Harbour as a singularly impudent one. They never considered allowing its circulation but were in doubt whether to ignore the I.R.C.C. communication or to chide the Committee for agreeing to transmit so unneutral a message. Other Governments were consulted. New Zealand answered that the Delegate had distributed the message without reference to Government; had they been consulted they would have refused to allow its distribution. Australia replied that they had received the request and had agreed to circulation of the message subject to reciprocity; reciprocity had not been promised and circulation had not taken place; in view of Canada's decision, they would not now permit its circulation. United States had not received such a request.

4. On January 6th, an inter-governmental meeting was held at Curzon Street House and a memorandum (annex 1) was circulated. The meeting appears to have agreed that the message should not be passed to the Japanese in Canada. The meeting would not advise whether the request should be ignored but felt that if a reply was sent, it should not be in the nature of a censure <sup>upon</sup> the International Committee.

5. Accordingly Ottawa replied to the Delegate on January 13th as follows:-

"I regret that after full consideration, I find that I am unable to forward the message as requested because of its evident propaganda purpose, which contrasts with other messages accepted from Japan on previous occasions. In particular, I draw your attention to the reference to December 8th, the anniversary of the wanton attack by Japanese forces on territories of the United Nations in the Pacific".

*Dear file  
hazy on  
this. Will be  
checked.*

6. On May 18th the Delegate sent to External a copy of the following telegram from Geneva:-

"After consultation British Legation, Berne, request you approach Canadian authorities. Please suggest they reconsider decision not to transmit message. Having been entrusted this communication I.R.C.C. would be forced inform sender impossible carry out his request. In view prominent character signatories this message such news might entail regrettable consequences out of proportion to importance question".

7. Canada feels that Commonwealth Governments should agree upon the action to be taken in this and like cases. In the present instance, it is suggested that the principal desire of the International Committee is to be rid of the necessity of forwarding the Canadian reply to the Japanese Government. By referring the question to Canada, they have in fact rid themselves of this obligation.

8. The Committee are therefore asked to agree that (a) Canada refrain from replying to the Delegate's letter of May 18th; (b) The Delegate be told for the confidential information of his principals the reason for no action being <sup>and</sup> taken; (c) In the future if requests for the transmission of messages which go beyond a mere form of greeting are received, they be ignored; (d) Uncontroversial messages such as Christmas greetings be received and distributed upon assurance of reciprocity; (e) the Canadian Government inform United States Government of these decisions; (f) These decisions be communicated to the Secretary of Sub-Committee A for any action that may seem proper to the Chairman of that Committee.

*these to be listed*

*Copy to Law*  
*W. S. L. 23.5.44.*

OTTAWA, May 22nd, 1944.

Dear Mr. Scott,

With reference to my letter of February 3rd relating to the request made by the Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross to deliver to Japanese internees and prisoners of war the greeting from the Japanese Red Cross, which contained a reference to December 8th. I enclose copy of letter May 18th from the Delegate.

You will note that the Delegate transmits the text of a telegram which he has received from the International Committee of the Red Cross at Geneva, which refers to the consultation with the British Minister at Berne on this subject. I also enclose copy of relevant correspondence from our files.

I think it would be desirable for you to bring this question up at the next meeting of the Imperial Prisoners of War Committee. I feel that it is desirable that we should agree with the Governments of the United Kingdom and other Dominions on the policy to be adopted in handling such messages when they go beyond being a mere form of greetings.

Yours sincerely,

*(Sgd.) A. Rive*

Alfred Rive.

S. Morley Scott, Esq.,  
Canada House,  
London, S.W.1.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS		
File No. 3464-AR-46		
Sub. /	Chron. /	Filed /

OTTAWA, May 22nd, 1944.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of May 18th relating to myr previous despatch No. 3 of January 13th concerning a message from the International Committee of the Red Cross, asking for permission on behalf of the Japanese Red Cross to communicate a message to Japanese nationals in Canada.

Your request for reconsideration of the decision of the Canadian authorities not to forward the message in question because of its evident propaganda purpose is receiving consideration, and I shall let you know in due course of the decision taken.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*Alfred Rivie**for the* Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

E.L. Maag, Esq.,  
Delegate in Canada of the  
International Committee of the Red Cross,  
1040 Sun Life Building,  
Montreal, P.Q.



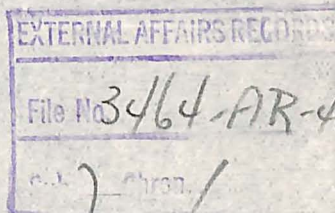
COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE  
DÉLEGATION AU CANADA

ERNEST L. MAAG  
DELEGATE

MONTREAL,  
1040 SUN LIFE BUILDING  
May 18, 1944

Department of External Affairs,  
O t t a w a , Ont.

Attention: Mr. N.A. Robertson, Under-Secy. of State  
for External Affairs.



Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your Despatch No. 3, of January 13, 1944, concerning a message from the International Committee of the Red Cross at Geneva, asking for permission on behalf of the Japanese Red Cross to communicate a cable message to the Japanese nationals in Canada. In this connection I have now received the following cable under date of May 17th, and should appreciate having your decision at an early date:

"722 AFTER CONSULTATION BRITISH LEGATION BERNE REQUEST YOU APPROACH CANADIAN AUTHORITIES CONCERNING QUESTION MENTIONED YOUR M/2947 STOP PLEASE SUGGEST THEY RECONSIDER DECISION NOT TO TRANSMIT MESSAGE STOP HAVING BEEN ENTRUSTED THIS COMMUNICATION ICRC WOULD BE FORCED INFORM SENDER IMPOSSIBLE CARRY OUT HIS REQUEST STOP IN VIEW PROMINENT CHARACTER SIGNATORIES THIS MESSAGE SUCH NEWS MIGHT ENTAIL REGRETTABLE CONSEQUENCES OUT OF PROPORTION TO IMPORTANCE QUESTION

INTERCROIXROUGE C9405."

In our M/2947 mentioned above, we transmitted to Geneva your decision not to forward the message in question.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*E. L. Maag/4*

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

File No.	3464 AR.40	
Sub.	Chron.	Filed

Ottawa, March 2nd, 1944.

AIR MAILNO. 301

Sir:

I have the honour to reply to your WA-301 of January the 17th, 1944 concerning the message from the Japanese Red Cross to the Japanese in Canada.

Our reply to the Delegate in Canada of the International Committee of the Red Cross was as follows:

"I regret that after full consideration I find that I am unable to forward the message as requested because of its evident propaganda purpose, which contrasts with other messages accepted from Japan on previous occasions. In particular, I draw your attention to the reference to December the eight, the anniversary of the wanton attack by Japanese forces on territories of the United Nations in the Pacific.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*Alfred A. Cline*  
for the  
Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

The Canadian Ambassador to the United States,

Canadian Embassy,

Washington, D.C.

*copy to  
Mr. Ireland  
done 7/2  
8-44*

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS		
File No.	3464 AR-40	
Sub.	Chron.	13 Filed 4

Ottawa, February 3, 1944

Air Mail

Dear Mr. Scott,

You may be interested to hear the outcome of the request made by the Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross to deliver to Japanese internees and prisoners of war the greeting from the Japanese Government, which included a reference to the 8th of December.

You will remember that a letter was written to the Delegate on the 13th January refusing to deliver the message because of its propagandist character.

From Australia we are now informed that the Government there offered to deliver the message subject to reciprocity, which was not offered. In view of our decision the Australian Government say they would not now deliver the message in any event.

From New Zealand we are informed that the Red Cross there delivered the message to the Japanese without consulting the Government. The latter say they would have refused to deliver the message but our High Commissioner points out that previously they had said they had no objection to the message.

From the United States we are informed that no such message was tendered. Apparently the Government would have been inclined to deliver it if it had been tendered, in the hope that a similar message would have been allowed to our prisoners.

You will remember that we informed the United Kingdom and the Governments of Australia and New Zealand of our refusal to deliver the Japanese message.

Yours sincerely,

*for* *Alfred Rivie*

Under Secretary of State for  
External Affairs.

S.M. Scott, Esq.,  
Canada House,  
London, S.W.1.

*Seal*

## TELEGRAM

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN AUSTRALIA  
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

CYPHER

No. 29

*3564 AR-40*  
*Sub. 1 Chron 1/19*  
~~Mr. Feanell~~  
*Hills*  
~~Capd. O'Brien~~ CANBERRA, January 24th, 1944.  
~~Mr. Graham~~  
~~Mr. Bellin~~ *to see*  
*fish* *file* *mark*

*46792*  
No. 29. January 24th. Your telegram No. 10 of January 13th.

Message from Japanese Red Cross to Japanese in Canada. External Affairs Department here did in fact receive request on January 2nd to transmit same message as contained in your telegram No. 246 of December 29th.

They replied to Intercross delegate that they would transmit it subject to reciprocity which has not since been forthcoming. In view of decision taken by you they state that they would not transmit it now in any event.

HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Rec'd. 2:10 p.m.

28812

*Cent*

AVR/CC	
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464 AR. 40
Sub.	Chron. 13 Filed

Ottawa, January 13, 1944

NO. 3

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter of December 22nd, transmitting a message from the International Committee of the Red Cross at Geneva, asking for permission on behalf of the Japanese Red Cross to communicate a message to the Japanese nationals in Canada as follows:

"We Japanese wish you all good health and selfconfidence December eighth Nineteenhundredfortythree. Members of House of Peers Hachiro Arita Tsurukichi Maruyama."

I regret that after full consideration I find that I am unable to forward the message as requested because of its evident propaganda purpose, which contrasts with other messages accepted from Japan on previous occasions. In particular, I draw your attention to the reference to December the eighth, the anniversary of the wanton attack by Japanese forces on territories of the United Nations in the Pacific.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

*M. A. Robertson*  
Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

The Delegate in Canada of the  
International Committee of the Red Cross,  
1040 Sun Life Building,  
Montreal, Que.

*sent*

**TELETYPE**

3464-AR-46  
Sub 2 18 1/4

**From** THE CANADIAN ~~MINISTER~~ AMBASSADOR IN THE UNITED STATES  
**To** THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

JAN 17 1944  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

CYPHER

WASHINGTON, January 17th, 1944.

TELETYPE

WA-301

*46575*

*No references*

*File MAB  
(See Mar 2nd)*

WA-301. Your EX-4972 of December 29, 1943, message from JAPCROSS to Japanese in Canada.

Due note has been taken of the text of the message received by delegate of the I.R.C.C. in Canada, and of his request to be allowed to send this message to the Japanese in Canada.

Upon approaching the Special Division, they stated that they had not received any similar message in the United States, and they wondered how the message was brought to the attention of the competent Canadian authorities. From your telegram it appears that the I.R.C.C. delegate in Canada received the message as quoted in your telegram. Upon taking cognizance of the contents of the message, the Chief of the Special Division stated that he did not know what the United States authorities would have done under similar conditions, although he personally felt that he would be in favour of having such a message transmitted. The objectionable feature, of course, was the mention of December 8th. However, by allowing the message to be sent on, and if JAPCROSS is informed that it has been delivered, it would give the Canadian Red Cross the opportunity of sending a message on similar lines.

22014

TELETYPE

From THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR  
MINISTER IN THE UNITED STATES  
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

- 2 -

WASHINGTON,

It is hard from Washington to suggest any course of action to be taken if none has been taken so far, and it is wondered whether the argument to allow this message to be sent would make it possible for CANCROSS to send a similar message referring to December 8th also.

The Canadian Embassy would appreciate being informed of the final disposition of this matter.

CANADIAN AMBASSADOR

*Scott*T E L E G R A M

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA  
TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN NEW ZEALAND

CYPHERNO. 2

Ottawa, January 13, 1944.

RECORDS		
File No.	3464	AR-42
Sub.	7	Chron. 18
		Filed

Your telegram No. 2 of January 5th. Message from Japanese Red Cross to Japanese in Canada.

We are replying to Intercross Delegate that we are unable to forward the message because of its evident propaganda purpose, which contrasts with messages previously accepted. We draw his attention to the reference to December eighth, the anniversary of the wanton attack by Japanese forces on the United Nations in the Pacific.

*OFF*  
*ACAR*  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



*Cypher*  
TELEGRAM

EXTENSION RECORDS
File No. 3464 AR-40
18
AFFAIRS, CANADA

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, LONDON  
No. 90

CYPHER

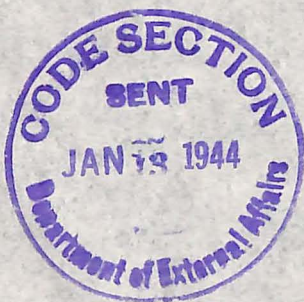
Ottawa, January 13, 1944.

Your telegram No. 72 of January 7th. Message from Japanese Red Cross to Japanese in Canada.

We are replying to Intercross Delegate that we are unable to forward the message because of its evident propaganda purpose, which contrasts with messages previously accepted. We draw his attention to the reference to December eighth, the anniversary of the wanton attack by Japanese forces on the United Nations in the Pacific.

*OK*  
*hcr*

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



*Sent*TELEGRAM

AFFAIRS RECORDS	
3464-AR-40	
7	on 18 Filed

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA  
TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN AUSTRALIA

CYPHERNO. 10 ✓

Ottawa, January 13, 1944.

Your telegram No. 335 of December 30th. Message  
from Japanese Red Cross to Japanese in Canada.

We are replying to Inter-cross Delegate that  
we are unable to <sup>forward</sup> the message because of its evident  
propaganda purpose, which contrasts with messages previously  
accepted. We <sup>draw</sup> his attention to the reference to December  
eighth, the anniversary of the wanton attack by Japanese forces  
on the United Nations in the Pacific.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*OK  
MAR*

# TELEGRAM

*Scott*

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN NEW ZEALAND  
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

**RECEIVED**  
JAN 5 1944  
**UT-1110-10**

File No. 3464 AR 4  
Sub. 7 Cl. 13 Filed 14

CYPHER

WELLINGTON, January 5th, 1944.

NO. 2

*File in MB*

*1/63/12*

No. 2. January 5th. My telegram No. 94 of December 30th and your telegram No. 69. Just informed by External Affairs Department that a similar message from Japanese House of Peers has only now been brought to their attention, it having been already distributed to Japanese internees and prisoners of war by local delegate of Intercross without consulting them. They now maintain that if they had been consulted they would have refused its distribution, although at the time I discussed your telegram under reference with the Department they stated that they had no objection to distribution of such messages.

HIGH COMMISSIONER

Rec'd 11:46 a.m.

27000

# TELEGRAM

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN AUSTRALIA

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS REC  
File No. 3464-AR-40  
8 Filed

DEC 30 1943

CYPHER

NO. 335

CANBERRA, December 30, 1943.

*hly  
NR*

*46/76*

No. 335. December 30th. Your telegram No. 246 of December 29th, message from Japcross to Japanese in Canada.

1. Hodgson advises no such request made here and if made would not have been entertained.

2. Intercross delegate here, on behalf of Japcross, asked leave to send year's end message to Japanese here from Japcross and was advised that if Japcross would convey similar message from Australian Red Cross to Australians in Japanese hands that they would agree to delivery of suggested message here. No reply as yet.

HIGH COMMISSIONER

Rec'd 12:57 p.m.

23827

# TELEGRAM

*ceat*

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN NEW ZEALAND  
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

EXTERNAL
Sub. <i>Chron.</i>
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS REC'D
File No. <i>3464-AR-40</i>
Sub. <i>8</i> Chron. <i>2</i> Filed

DEC 30 1943

CYPHER

WELLINGTON, December 30, 1943.

NO. 94.

RECEIVED  
MINISTER OF  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

*4667.*

*file  
MR*

*Ref. attached*

No. 94. December 30th. Your telegram No. 69 of December 29th. Last year New Zealand Government received through Intercross message from Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed to Japanese nationals in New Zealand and no objection was taken to delivery. No similar message from an official source has been received this year. However, message has been received from Japcross through Intercross addressed to Japanese internees. Local delegate of Intercross delivered it to the three Japanese internees and to prisoners of war.

New Zealand Government feel that omission of official message this year is probably accounted for by the fact that all Japanese nationals interned here who wished to be repatriated to their own country had already left New Zealand in November for Australia.

HIGH COMMISSIONER

Rec'd 8:12 a.m.

23386

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA

TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA

CYPHER

NO 246

OTTAWA,

December 28th, 1943.

Message from Japcross to Japanese in Canada.

Intercross Delegate has enquired whether following message from Japcross received by him through Intercross may be sent to Japanese in Canada. Begins. 'We Japanese wish you all good health and selfconfidence December eighth nineteenhundredfortythree. Members of House of Peers Hachiro Arita Tsurukichi Maruyama. Ends.'

We are considering whether simply to ignore this request altogether or to make strong representations to Intercross on the impropriety of their action in relaying the message.

Please report views of Australian Government and if they have received similar request, what action has been taken by them.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA

TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN NEW ZEALAND, WELLINGTON

CYPHER

NO. 69

OTTAWA, December 28th, 1943.

29 3464-AR-40  
29 8 2  
Filed

Message from Japcross to Japanese in Canada.

Intercross Delegate has enquired whether following message from Japcross received by him through Inter-cross may be sent to Japanese in Canada. Begins. We Japanese wish you all good health and self confidence December eighth nineteen hundred forty three. Members of House of Peers Hachiro Arita Tsurukichi Maruyama. Ends.

We are considering whether simply to ignore this request altogether or to make strong representations to Inter-cross on the impropriety of their action in relaying the message.

Please report views of New Zealand Government and if they have received similar request, what action has been taken by them.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA  
TO: THE CANADIAN MINISTER TO THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON  
CYPHER

NO. EX-4972

OTTAWA, December 28th, 1943.

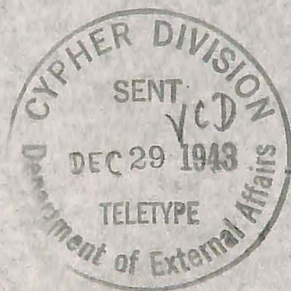
Message from Japcross to Japanese in Canada.

Intercross Delegate has enquired whether following message from Japcross received by him through Inter-cross may be sent to Japanese in Canada. Begins. We Japanese wish you all good health and selfconfidence December eighth nineteenhundredfortythree. Members of House of Peers Hachiro Arita Tsurukichi Maruyama. Ends.

We are considering whether simply to ignore this request altogether or to make strong representations to Intercross on the impropriety of their action in relaying the message.

Please report views of United States authorities and if they have received similar request, what action has been taken by them.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA

TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN

CYPHER

NO. 2359

OTTAWA, December 28th, 1943.

Message from Japcross to Japanese in Canada.

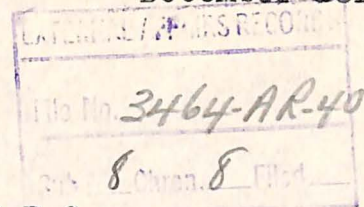
Intercross Delegate has enquired whether following message from Japcross received by him through Intercross may be sent to Japanese in Canada. Begins. We Japanese wish you all good health and selfconfidence December eighth nineteenhundredfortythree. Members of House of Peers Hachiro Arita Tsurukichi Maruyama. Ends.

We are considering whether simply to ignore this request altogether or to make strong representations to Intercross on the impropriety of their action in relaying the message. We would be interested to learn views of United Kingdom.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



MAB/LR  
December 23rd, 1943.



NOTE FOR MR RIVE.

Japanese messages through I.C.R.C.

1. We have already agreed to the transmission of the following messages:

(a) New Year's greetings from the Japanese Red Cross  
*3464-AR-40C* to Japanese internees.

(b) I.C.R.C. greetings to internees of all nationalities  
*842-AS-39* (including the Japanese ~~and~~ Angler).

2. I consider that the Japanese proposal to send the attached message is insolent. The impropriety of relaying through the I.R.C. propaganda to raise enemy morale seems apparent.

3. As "Pearl Harbor Day" has passed the occasion for the message may be considered to the past.

4. Mr. Scott suggests letting this message "die" and I agree. Possibly Mr. Maag will also. If he writes again however, perhaps we may convey a little of the above. Do you agree?

*MAB*

MAB

*Mr Rive/*

*I recommend giving the  
letter & filing it with this  
memo. MAB*



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE  
DÉLÉGATION AU CANADA

ERNEST L. MAAG  
DÉLÉGATE

*Ernest*  
MONTREAL, December 22, 1943  
1040 SUN LIFE BUILDING

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No. 3464-AR-40	
Sub. 8 Chron.	Filed

Department of External Affairs,  
O t t a w a .

Sirs,

I have the honour to transmit to you a message just received from my Principals in Geneva, asking for permission on behalf of the Japanese Red Cross to communicate a message to the Japanese nationals in Canada, as follows:

"WE JAPANESE WISH YOU ALL GOOD HEALTH AND SELFCONFIDENCE DECEMBER EIGHTH NINETEENHUNDREDFORTYTHREE. MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF PEERS HACHIRO ARITA TSURUKICHI MARUYAMA."

Will you please inform me if it is permissible to transmit this message. For your information I am also enclosing a copy of the telegram received.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours obedient servant,

*E. L. Maag*

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

M/G  
Encl.

25125

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE

DELEGATION IN CANADA

COPY OF INCOMING CABLEGRAM:

Cable received from: C.I.C.R., Geneva

Date received: Dec.21/43

MT35 NYRS GENEVE 40/39 20 1800

NLT MAAG MONTREAL

602 FOLLOWING OUR 592 JAPANESE REDCROSS COMMUNICATES US ALSO FOLLOWING MESSAGE QUOTE  
WE JAPANESE WISH YOU ALL GOOD HEALTH AND SELFCONFIDENCE DECEMBER EIGHTH NINETEENHUNDRED-  
FORTYTHREE MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF PEERS HACHIRO ARITA TSURUKICHI MARUYAMA UNQUOTE

INTERCROIXROUGE A9287

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464-AR-40
Sub.	7 Chron. 10 Filed

Ottawa, June 8, 1943

Our file No. 3464-AR-40

To: Department of National Defence (Army), (POW), Ottawa

Subject: Message to Japanese in Canada from Japanese Red Cross

I enclose a letter dated 2nd June addressed to P.1249 T. TANAKA, Spokesman of Camp 101 by the Delegate in Canada of the International Red Cross, embodying a message from the Japanese Red Cross sent through Geneva. May this be sent forward please. I enclose a copy for your file.

*J. M. Scott*  
Under Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS

File No. 3464 AR 40  
Sub. Chron. Filed

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Ottawa, June 8, 1943

NO. 72

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 2nd June, 1943, enclosing a letter to the Camp Spokesman at Camp 101 and also a letter to the British Columbia Security Commission enclosing twenty-four copies of the Red Cross message for transmission to the various Japanese concentration centres.

These have been sent forward.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*J. M. Scott*  
Under Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

The Delegate in Canada of the  
International Red Cross Committee,  
1040 Sun Life Building,  
Montreal, P.Q.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464 AR-40
Sub.	Chron 13 Filed

Ottawa, June 8, 1943

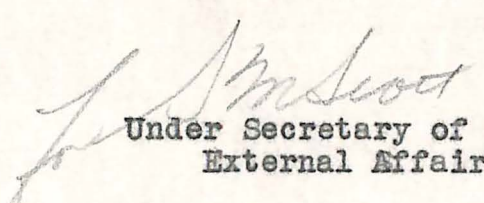
Our file No. 3464-AR-40

To: The Deputy Minister of Labour, Department of Labour, Ottawa

Subject: Message to Japanese in Canada from Japanese Red Cross

I enclose a letter dated 2nd June, 1943, addressed to the British Columbia Security Commission by the Delegate in Canada of the International Red Cross Committee which in turn encloses 24 copies of a message to the Japanese in Canada sent through the International Red Cross Committee of Geneva.

May these be sent forward to the addressee, please. I enclose copies of the letters for your file.

  
Under Secretary of State for  
External Affairs.





COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE  
DÉLÉGATION AU CANADA

ERNEST L. MAAG  
DELEGATE

MONTREAL, June 2, 1943  
1040 SUN LIFE BUILDING

4215  
Department of External Affairs,  
O t t a w a , Ont.

Attention: Mr. S. Morley Scott.

Dear Mr. Scott,

In answer to your Despatch No. 50 of May 11th, having reference to a message intended for Japanese in Canada, I am enclosing herewith a letter addressed to the Spokesman of Camp 101 as well as a letter addressed to the British Columbia Security Commission, with enclosures.

I should be very glad if you would kindly send these letters on to the parties concerned if they meet with your approval.

Yours sincerely,

*Ernest L. Maag*  
E. L.

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE

M/D

Encls.

*file brown*

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464-AR-46
Sub.	4
Chron.	13
Filed	

June 2, 1943

T. TANAKA, P.1249,  
Spokesman, Camp 101,  
Base Army P.O.,  
O t t a w a .

Dear Mr. Tanaka,

I have received the following message from Geneva, with the request to transmit it to you:

"THE JAPANESE RED CROSS ASK US TO TRANSMIT TO THE JAPANESE INTERNEES AND RESIDENTS THEIR FULLEST ASSURANCE OF THE UTMOST PROVISIONS BEING MADE FOR THE DEPENDENTS BY THE NISEI FEDERATION OF JAPAN. SIGNED PROF TAKIZO MATSUMOTO PRESIDENT AND MRS MIKI SAWADA CHAIRMAN OF THE NISEI RELIEF COMMITTEE."

My interpretation of this message is that the Nisei Relief Committee in Japan wishes to assure the Japanese in Canada that the dependents of Japanese, i.e. the children of Japanese parents residing in Japan, but living in Canada at present, are being well looked after by them and there is no need for anxiety about their wellbeing.

I trust that this message will cheer you and those anxious about the welfare of their loved ones in the homeland.

Yours sincerely,

*Ernest L. Haag*  
D. J.

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE

M/D



June 3, 1943

British Columbia Security Commission,  
355 Burrard St.,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Attention: Mr. George Collins.

Dear Mr. Collins,

I have received a message from Geneva, to be distributed to all Japanese settlements, and I am enclosing twenty-four copies so that you may forward them to the various centers. If more copies are required, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

*Ernest h. Maag*  
D.

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE

M/D

Encls.

June 3, 1943

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Copy of cable received from Geneva:

"JAPANESE RED CROSS REQUESTS US TO CONVEY TO JAPANESE INTERNERS AND RESIDENTS OUR FULLEST ASSURANCE OF EVERY PROVISION BEING MADE FOR DEPENDENTS BY THE NISEI FEDERATION OF JAPAN. SIGNED PROF TAKIZO MATSUMOTO PRESIDENT AND MRS MIKI SAWADA CHAIRMAN OF THE NISEI RELIEF COMMITTEE."

INTERCHOIXROUGE 439.

Our interpretation of this message is that the Nisei Relief Committee in Japan wishes to assure you that everything possible is being done for dependents in Japan whose relatives reside in Canada. Some of the parents living here have children in Japan and Professor Takizo Matsumoto, President of the Nisei Relief Committee, and Mrs. Miki Sawada, Chairman of the Nisei Relief Committee, wish to assure you that these dependents will not have to suffer hardship due to the absence of their parents from their homeland.

I trust that this message will cheer those whom it concerns and will relieve them of some of their anxieties.

Yours sincerely,

*Ernest L. Waag*  
D.

Delegate in Canada of the  
INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE

M/D

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECO	
File No.	3464-AR-4
Sub.	6 Chron. 13 Filed

SMS/EN

Refer: Mr. Stone  
Done. LND  
May 12th

OTTAWA, May 11th, 1943.

No. 50

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your despatch of May 2nd enclosing a copy of Geneva cable 439. This is a message intended for Japanese in Canada.

I wish to inform you that there is no objection to the substance of this communication being given to Japanese. I believe, however, that the text should not be sent out. May I suggest that a letter be written stating that the Japanese Red Cross Society have sent a message through the International Red Cross Committee addressed to all Japanese in Canada. The purport of this message is that full provision is being made by the Nisei Federation of Japan for the welfare of the category of persons referred to in the telegram. I am obliged to confess that I do not know what is meant by the phrase "sons and daughters" but doubtless you will find some way of paraphrasing that part of the message. There is no objection to stating who ~~will~~ *has* signed the telegram.

As to the method of conveying the message, clearly the best way of reaching internees is to write a letter to the Camp Spokesman to be sent through the usual channels.

If you will send me copies of the message as paraphrased by you, I should be happy to send them to the B.C. Security Commission for distribution to the camps. On the whole, I think this would be a more rapid way than to send them through the ordinary postal channels where they may be delayed by censorship.

E.L. Maag, Esq.,  
Delegate in Canada of the International Red Cross Committee,  
Sun Life Building,  
Montreal, P.Q.


- 2 -

I should be inclined to advise leaving it to the editor of the New Canadian to print the message if he pleases. He is bound to get a copy at Kaslo.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

 Under Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

SMS/BCF  
May 4/43

INTERNAL AFFAIRS RECORDS	
File No.	3464-AR-4
Sub.	Chron. Filed

NOTE TO MR. STONE ✓

Mr. Maag has sent this cable from Geneva which the Japanese Red Cross wishes to reach all Japanese internees and residents in Canada. Best way would be to send a copy to the Director of Prisoners of War for internees and to tell Maag that he may send copies to B.C. Security Commission for Japanese Spokesmen in villages, for him to send to the villages. Through censorship would cause delays.

However, the first question is whether you think the telegram should reach the Japanese at all. Its meaning, I take it, is that the families in Japan of Japanese in Canada are being well looked after.

Mr. Maag should have his answer as quickly as may be, *col*

*it's opposite a r/f*

Mr. Scott  
I can see no objection <sup>see</sup> S.M.S.  
security grounds. The telegram however,  
should be liberally paraphrased,  
- which is easy in view of its  
contents. Would such a message  
from us get through? T.H.S.