

## REPATRIATION AND HOSPITALIZATION OF PRISONERS OF WAR

*Exchange of notes at Washington March 4 and 30, 1942*

*Entered into force March 30, 1942*

*Obsolete*

56 Stat. 1507; Executive Agreement Series 255

*The Minister of Switzerland, in Charge of German Interests, to the Secretary  
of State*

LEGATION OF SWITZERLAND  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF  
GERMAN INTERESTS

The Minister of Switzerland, in charge of German Interests, presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of State and has the honor to submit to him the following proposition received from the German Government:

“The United States as well as the German Government are signatories to the International Convention of July 27, 1929, regarding the treatment of prisoners of war<sup>1</sup> and of the Geneva Agreement of the same date for improvement of the fate of the sick and wounded of the armies in the field.<sup>2</sup>

Article 68 of the Convention regarding the treatment of prisoners of war provides for additional agreements between warring nations relating to impairment and sickness justifying the transport home or sheltering of prisoners of war in a neutral country. The Government of the German Reich proposes to the Government of the United States to enforce the Model Agreement attached to the Geneva Convention concerning direct repatriation and hospitalization in a neutral country of prisoners of war for reasons of health.<sup>3</sup> The German Government looks forward to the communication of the views of the American Government in this respect.

The German Armed Forces Information Service located at Hohenstaufenstrasse 47, Berlin W. 30, has received the necessary instructions to give infor-

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<sup>1</sup> TS 846, *ante*, vol. 2, p. 932.

<sup>2</sup> TS 847, *ante*, vol. 2, p. 965.

<sup>3</sup> TS 846, *ante*, vol. 2, p. 961.

mation in regard to members of the American Armed Forces taken prisoners by Germany and to give particulars regarding such prisoners of war to the Legation of Switzerland designated by the American Government as protecting power as well as to the Central Information Office for Prisoners of War at Geneva.”

WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 4, 1942

To the Honorable

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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*The Secretary of State to the Minister of Switzerland, in Charge of German Interests*

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Minister of Switzerland in charge of German interests and has the honor, with reference to his note of March 4, 1942 submitting proposals from the German Government, to communicate the following:

The Government of the United States accepts the proposal of the Government of the German Reich to enforce the Model Agreement attached to the Geneva Convention concerning direct repatriation and hospitalization in a neutral country of prisoners of war for reasons of health.

The Government of the United States has taken note of the statement of the German Government to the effect that the German Armed Forces Information Service located at Hohenstaufenstrasse 47, Berlin W. 30, has received the necessary instructions to give information in regard to members of the American Armed Forces taken prisoners of war by Germany and to give particulars regarding such prisoners of war to the Legation of Switzerland designated by the American Government as Protecting Power as well as to the Central Information Office for Prisoners of War at Geneva.

The Prisoners of War Information Bureau established by the Government of the United States in the office of the Provost Marshal General of the United States Army will furnish to the Legation of Switzerland, designated by the German Government as Protecting Power, as well as to the Central Information Office for Prisoners of War at Geneva, particulars regarding members of the German Armed Forces taken prisoners by the United States.

In accordance with the declared intention of the United States to apply to civilian enemy alien internees the provisions of the Geneva Prisoner of War Convention to the fullest extent possible, the Civilian Internee Information Bureau in the office of the Provost Marshal General of the United

States Army is already transmitting to the Legation of Switzerland and to the Central Information Office at Geneva particulars regarding German civilians interned or temporarily detained by the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington,*  
*March 30, 1942*