

48/2/1647

Personal Statement Forms (A.No.1): Furnished by European Dutch
Syceases who arrived at Sydney from Netherlands East Indies.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF ARRIVAL</u>
Marcel <u>KUBBE</u>	7th April, 1946
Constance <u>KOS KOOHAALDER</u>	do.
Johanna Gerarda M. <u>VRIENS</u>	do.
Elizabeth A. <u>VAN DE LAAR</u>	do.
Maria Hendrika <u>WILMERS-Schouten</u>	do.
Jacobus Wilhelm <u>PLEVIER</u>	do.
Maria Frederika <u>van BURDEN</u>	do.
Eunice Lena <u>BLOM</u>	do.
Martinus Johannes <u>van NIEUSKUYK</u>	do.
Annie Nancy <u>van NIEUSKUYK</u>	do.
Christine Johanna <u>LE LOMBAIN</u>	do.
Karel Adolf <u>PADTBORG</u>	do.
Ivan Samuel <u>JANSE</u>	do.
Nela Anthonis Anna <u>MULLER</u>	do.
Jepikje <u>MULLER</u>	do.
Theodora <u>MUNS</u>	do.
Karel Willem <u>MUNS</u>	do.
Dirk <u>MULLER</u>	do.
Merie Selma Phyllis <u>BROERS</u>	do.
Marinus Maria <u>BROERS</u>	do.
Adrianus Johannes <u>KOMEN</u>	do.
Rudolphine Elbertine <u>CORONEL</u>	do.
Eugenie Susanna <u>WERKELBACH</u>	do.
Sylvain <u>STOLZ</u>	do.
Isidore Bernard <u>STOLZ</u>	do.
Rose <u>STOLZ-Hsmel</u>	do.
Johannes <u>AMAMA</u>	do.
Johannes <u>VEEREN</u>	do.
Minse <u>TJERDENMA</u>	do.
Gerardus Wilhelmus <u>DEGEN</u>	do.
Trijn Penins Johanna <u>LANGHOIT</u>	do.
Johan Pieter Camille <u>MEYERS</u>	do.
Lena Geertje <u>van DIJK-Verspay</u>	19th April, 1946.

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
14 MAY 1946
RECEIVED

(J. Darcy)
A/g. Collector of Customs, N.S.W.,
7/5/1946. Jh

Personal Statement Forms (A.No.1): Furnished by European Dutch
Evseees who arrived at Sydney from Netherlands East Indies.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF ARRIVAL</u>
Ferdinand Smile <u>CHATELIER</u>	7th April, 1946
Cornelia <u>AARJES</u>	do.
Thera <u>ANDRE</u>	do.
Charles Edward <u>LE LOIRAIN</u>	do.
Hendrikus <u>DE VOS</u>	do.
Cornelia Eugenie <u>DE VOS</u>	do.
Francois Constant <u>NOPE</u>	do.
Bernard <u>QUILLANCE</u>	do.
Corry Nancy H. <u>SCHOUTEN</u>	do.
Mary Eleonor Alice <u>HANSEN</u>	do.
Mrs Sylvia <u>KRUYER</u>	do.
Elvire <u>BUSCHMAN</u> gel. <u>BATMAN</u>	do.
Johan <u>BUSCHMAN</u>	do.
Josephine Agnes <u>BROUWER</u>	do.
Marie Jose P.P.H. <u>BERG</u>	do.
Frans Jan <u>BERG</u>	do.
Amy Alice van <u>KREVELLEN</u> -Wilkinson	do.
Frederik Marinus <u>VAN KREVELLEN</u>	do.
Hetty de <u>BOGHEMIE</u> -Giraud	do.
Jacque Edward de <u>HOCHENLED</u>	do.
Theodoor Casper Willem <u>DE VRIES</u>	do.
Koelof Frederik Johan <u>HEINS</u>	do.
Charlotte A.E. <u>KOHN</u>	do.
Dorothea Alide J. <u>WYLAART</u> -Ruyter	do.
Jennetje <u>MASSE</u> -de Vries	do.
Johanna Barbara <u>KRUYT</u>	do.
Meria Louisa Cornelia <u>SCHOLEN</u> -Beekman	do.
Ludwig Frederik H. J. <u>SCHOLEN</u>	do.
Robert Alfred Peter <u>ZETLIN</u>	do.
Josette <u>COSTERS</u>	do.
Hans Louis <u>ZETLIN</u>	do.
Alida <u>DUETS</u>	do.
Abraham <u>DUETS</u>	do.
Mildred Constance de <u>BAAT</u> <u>DOHMAN</u>	do.
Walter Bertold Frederik de <u>BAAT</u> <u>DOHMAN</u>	do.
Antoinette Elisabeth <u>DAM</u>	do.
Jan Sieds <u>KOORNWINDER</u>	do.
Maartje <u>BEHINE</u>	do.
Sophia Wilhelmina de <u>GRAAF</u>	do.
Johann Heinrich <u>MONTI</u>	do.
Agnita A. E. <u>MONTI</u> -Schmied	do.
Johan Marie van <u>REYENWAAY</u> -Classen	do.
Alida <u>LE FEVRE</u> -Guys	do.
Andri Jarich <u>LE FEVRE</u>	do.
Folkert Jan <u>TEN GATE</u>	do.
Hendrika Wilhelmina <u>TEN GATE</u> -Leunissen	do.
Andriens Pauline de <u>JONGE</u> Johannes de <u>JONGE</u>	do.
Johanna <u>VISSER</u> -Vanthart	do.
Johannes <u>DE JONGE</u>	do.
Anna <u>NIEL</u> -Boutken	do.
Meria V. J. <u>KIEES</u> -Lambrechts	do.
Johan Andreas <u>SCHLOTING</u>	do.
Meris <u>LUITERS</u> -Sikking	do.
Anton <u>KIERS</u>	do.
Cornells <u>AARJES</u>	do.
Louise Agatha H. <u>AARJES</u>	do.
Karel Frans <u>VAN OUDER</u>	do.
Martina Albertina <u>WYNANDIS</u> -Swart	do.

...../Marcel KUSBE

C. Dorph, A/g. Boarding Officer.

Immigration Act 1901-1940: E. F. Moen - Dutch - ex s.s.

"Tjibadak" 15.2.46.

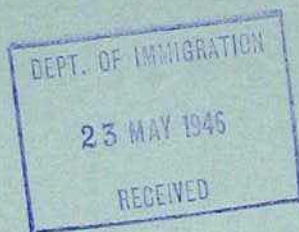
The Boarding Inspector.

Prior to the departure of the s.s. "Tjibadak" for Fremantle on 15.2.46, the Master reported that E. F. Moen, Dutch, referred to herein was signed off at this port.

2. Mr. Pennell of the Royal Packet Navigation Company, agents for the vessel, stated that all requirements would be furnished to this Department.

(Sgd.) C. Dorph.
4/3/46.

The Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.



Forwarded for the Secretary's information

E. F. Moen was originally an internee in and was evacuated per the s.s. "Tjibadak". He was signed on as a supernumerary for the voyage to Australia. Form A No. 1 was forwarded to the Commonwealth Investigation Branch on 20/2/46. Moen is under the care of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organization for Evacuees.

J. Darcy
(J. Darcy)
A/g. Collector of Customs, N.S.W.
21/5/46.

Riv

TELEPHONE:
B. 098.
TELEGRAPH:
SUBSIDED, CANBERRA.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

COMMONWEALTH INVESTIGATION BRANCH,

CANBERRA, A.C.T.: 17th May, 1946

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION

IN REPLY, PLEASE QUOTE No. C/11615/10

20 MAY 1946

RECEIVED

The Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

NON-DUTCH EVACUEES FROM JAVA

Referring to your file 45/2/1647 and this office memorandum of 15th May, 1946 I now attach detailed list of evacuees.

Brisbane office have made the following comments :-

"The Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation of Evacuees is now located at New Farm, Brisbane, and evacuees are quartered at that Hostel also at Whytecliffe, Clayfield, and a number are living privately.

Regarding the evacuees to the Southern States, there is no information here concerning their employment or any assistance they may have received from the branches of N.I.W.O.E. in the States concerned, or from any other organisations.

Major Grivas, in charge of N.I.W.O.E. in Queensland, is not permitted to make advances of cash (except small amounts) to non-Dutch aliens without authority from his Head Office in Melbourne. Regarding return transportation of these evacuees to the N.E.I., Major Grivas states they would be given every assistance when transport was available.

The evacuees, Mrs. JUDAH, Mr. TRAGER, Mrs. Van der DRIFT and Mrs. SPANER claim to own property of considerable value in the N.E.I. and also have large sums of Dutch money in Dutch Banks and in their possession, but owing to the unsettled Military and Political conditions existing in the N.E.I. they are unable to realize on this property and money, and the Dutch Authorities will not commit themselves on the matter.

Leslie H. ...

ACTING DIRECTOR

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"PASSPORTS," MELBOURNE.
TELEPHONE: U. 2631,
2364.

10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. MONDAY TO FRIDAY,
10 A.M. - NOON, SATURDAY.

Mr. Nicholas

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
NO.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

IMMIGRATION AND PASSPORTS OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF ^{Immigration} THE INTERIOR,
108 QUEEN STREET,
MELBOURNE, C.I.

WT/OA

9th May, 1946.

The Migration Officer,
Dept. of Immigration,
MELBOURNE.

DUTCH EVACUEES FROM N.E.I.

In October, 1945, while Security Service was still responsible for the administration of the National Security (Aliens Control) Regulations, instructions were issued that six months' exemption from all the provisions of the Aliens Control Regulations should be given by Alien Control Officers to Dutch nationals arriving in Australia from the N.E.I. under the Dutch Government's scheme of providing them with a recuperative holiday in Australia.

The first evacuees reached Melbourne late in October, 1945, and were given six months' exemption which has now expired.

Most of the evacuees, whose period of exemption has expired, are waiting shipping accommodation, and, I am informed by the Dutch Consular Authorities, will be repatriated by the end of May or the first week in June. Should these people be made to comply with the Aliens Control Regulations and made to register as ordinary aliens residing in Australia?

Among the evacuees there are a few coloured persons who were in the N.E.I. Civil Service or Army. Is any discrimination to be shown should such people apply for further concessions?

An early reply would be appreciated.

William Howard

Aliens Control Officer.

The Secretary,
Dept. of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Referred for consideration and advice.

J.R. Penhallurick
(J.R. Penhallurick)
Migration Officer
9.5.1946

*Robert with
on 11/5/46
file*

457/2/1647

*(over advised
w/ J. Penhallurick
file here with)*

WW/GE.

COMMONWEALTH AUSTRALIA

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS,
AND QUOTE

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICE.

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION

FREMANTLE

C.A.E. 45/11308

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION

45 2 167

TELEPHONE L 1141
(16 LINES)
P.O. BOX 76

MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED

Dutch

With reference to the abovementioned subject, the Secretary is advised that the following evacuees have been transferred to the Eastern States, as under :-

To Melbourne -

- J.C.W.Ot
- Mrs. J.M.G. van Betuu Ot
- Miss A. J. A. Ot
- M. de Gelder
- A. F. A. Jongelie
- K. T. A. Jongelie
- A. C. Voets-Knops
- M. M. A. Voets
- P. Pijpers
- G. M. Esselmeen-Kloosten
- A. Kloosten
- J. Esselman-Kloosten

M

R. O'Keefe
COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS W.A.

The Secretary,
Dept. of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

WV/25.

COMMONWEALTH

TELEPHONE L 1141
(6 LINES)
P.O. BOX 76

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE
DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION

PLEASE ADDRESS
THE COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS
AND QUOTE
C. & E.

FREMANTLE

46/4.198
45/2/1647
DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION

17 MAY 1946

MEMORANDUM : RECEIVED Dutch Evacuees.

With reference to the above returned to the Netherlands
is a list of Dutch Nationals East Indies :-

- L. J. Lievenese
- J. T. P. vander Wonde
- H. C. Boek Kolling
- J. G. Arends
- J. A. Meter
- Geert Mulder
- Dirk Sikkel
- F. L. Rutgers
- Thys Way
- J. Maaneman
- J. G. Eygink
- D. Hans
- E. Hartlieb
- W. Molenaar
- H. M. Stiasny
- S. Walsh
- F. den Hartog
- A. L. Vervey
- Mrs. van Mook
- C. van Mook
- Miss A. van Mook
- M. J. van Lynden de Clerq
- J. C. Fock-Lely
- Erna Fock-Lely
- Willemyr Fock-Lely
- Gees Age Fock-Lely
- Mrs. A. D. Pils

- A. M. van den Vegt Smeeman
- J. H. D. Smeeman
- A. M. Smeeman
- Elizabeth Carst
- H. Greeuw
- G. van der Maur
- Abraham van der Burgh
- Mrs. J. I. Boskaljon and child
- Mrs. H. Prey-Pesman and son
- Mrs. C. P. van Driel-Wind & daughter.
- Miss E. Hasselmeyer
- J. Herting
- C. J. van der Broek
- Mrs. Dittner Hammond & daughter.
- J. A. van Heusser
- Miss Kruyt
- A. J. Rasker
- A. P. Funke
- H. Guyts
- Mrs. M. Guyts
- J. Dienema
- E. Smulders
- H. J. de Roos
- J. W. Arps
- J. T. van der Koogh
- A. D. Pils

R. O'Houghlin
COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS W.A.

The Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

name	Col. Dutch	G/E	File No
Harris M ^{rs} W. Langley	TO	7/0/46	46/2/2421
Hijnenburg M ^{rs} E		7/8/46	46/2/1052
Poutsma Hloc		14/4/48	47/2/299
Regterisk C.H.F.		23/1/47	46/2/714
Rusek f. P.		15/1/48	46/2/2171
Van Dolder M ^{rs} + child		31/3/48	46/2/714

16/12/47

AD

Records
 Do attach these
 files AD
 12/3

Mr. Burcham

Please prepare best above
columns detail still here

MS
10/11/57

MM

23rd May, 1947.


Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter of the 1st March 1947 No. RK4/704/C inquiring as to the present whereabouts of the undermentioned persons:-

1. Tjhwa (perhaps spelt "Tjoa") Siang Pik, alias Tsai Soen Pak, male, 25 years.
2. Tjhwa (Tjoa) Siang Poen, male, 20 years.
3. Kwee Liang Sik, male, 26 years.
4. Koo Tjhan (Tjoan) Sing.
5. Ong Tjhwan (Tjowan) Hien, alias Wong Tsai Sin.
6. Ong Tjhwan (Tjowan) List).

There is no trace of the personnel referred to having ever resided in Australia.

Yours faithfully,



T.H.E. Heyes,
Secretary.

The Trade Commissioner for the Netherlands Indies,
Temple Court (10th floor)
422 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. VIC.



HET NEDERLANDSCH-INDISCHE ROODE KRUIS



NETHERLANDS INDIES RED CROSS SOCIETY

45/2 1647

Telephone: M 1988

Representative for the Commonwealth of Australia

TEMPLE COURT (10th Floor)

422 COLLINS STREET.

MELBOURNE

In reply please quote
No. *RKA/704/C*

JH

1st March, 1947.

Dear Sir,

On the 10th of December last I wrote to you (under reference *RKA/8791/C*), as to whether you had any record that the undermentioned persons have, at any time, been in Australia during the years 1942-1945:-

- Quots*
1. Tjhwa (perhaps spelt "Tjoa") Siong Pik, alias Tsai Soen Pak, male, 25 years.
 2. Tjhwa (Tjoa) Siong Poen, male, 20 years.
 3. Kwee Liong Sik, male, 26 years.
 4. Koo Tjhan (Tjoan) Sing.
 5. Ong Tjhwan (Tjowan) Hien, alias Wong Tsai Sin.
 6. Ong Tjhwan (Tjowan) Liat).

No reply has been received to my letter, and as this is an urgent matter for the gentleman on whose behalf I am making these enquiries, I should be obliged if you could let me have your reply at your earliest convenience.

Thanking you in anticipation -

Yours faithfully,

J. van Holst Pellekaan
(J. van Holst Pellekaan),
TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE
NETHERLANDS INDIES.

Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
-5 MAR 1947
RECEIVED

Melbourne, 3rd March 1947



The Department of Immigration
CANBERRA

Dear Sir,

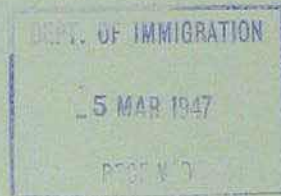
I received from various people in Holland inquiries for relatives missing etc to look into the names of those Dutch people who fled from the Netherlands East Indies to Australia during the period March 1942 till September 1942.

I tried to find this out from the newspapers, but although they were very helpful, was not very successful. Have you by any chance a record of the names of these people?

Thanking you in anticipation I remain with sincere regard

Yours truly

Kloppenburg



*P. J. Kloppenburg
%o Netherlands Information Bureau
Canberra*

TO: HAPU
" PASSPORTS
TELEPH: 2531
2394
HOUR: 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. MONDAY TO FRIDAY.
10 A.M. - NOON, SATURDAY.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. 45/1568

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

RH/BT

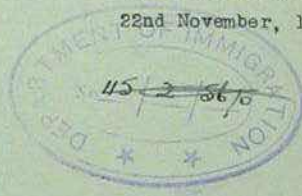
IMMIGRATION AND PASSPORTS OFFICE.

RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION
3 DEC 1946
RECEIVED

Immigration,
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

455 ~~198~~ QUEEN STREET, Collins St.,
MELBOURNE, C.1.

22nd November, 1946.



MEMORANDUM - to

The Secretary,
Dept. of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Dutch Released Internees - ex "Oranjefontein" at Melbourne
24/10/45. Ref. 45/2/5670.

With reference to your memorandum of the 29th October 1946, I
desire to inform you that the abovementioned Dutch released Internees left
the Commonwealth as indicated below:-

- ✓ Eddy Van Hek left on Tasman on 7th June 1946, from Melbourne.
- ✓ Miss M.M. Alfing " " " " " " " " " "
- ✓ J.C. Goodsir, wife and two children " " " " " " " " " "
- ✓ Adolf Versteegh " " " " 24th Oct. " " " "
- ✓ Miss C.M. Van de Pieterman " "Bloemfontein on 20th July 1946 from Melbourne
- ✓ Fred Gerlach " " Kanimbla " 3rd August " " Brisbane.

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
25 NOV 46
RECEIVED

R. H. Macnamara
Commonwealth Migration Officer

M. Kearney

TELEPHONE:
B. 098.
TELEGRAPH:
SUI. DEO. CANBERRA.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

COMMONWEALTH INVESTIGATION BRANCH.

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 13th May, 1946/

IN REPLY, PLEASE QUOTE NO. C/11615/10.

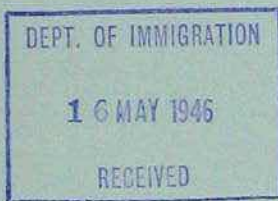
The Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA.

NON-DUTCH EVACUEES FROM THE NETHERLANDS.

----- // With reference to your memorandum of 11th April, No. 45/2/1647, I forward herewith a preliminary list of non-Dutch evacuees who arrived in Australia from the Netherlands East Indies in charge of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation of Evacuees. It is possible that the list is not complete and further enquiries are being made with a view to ensuring that an accurate list is ultimately compiled.

The additional information asked for in your memorandum is also being obtained and will be forwarded as soon as possible.

With regard to Mr. and Mrs. Mautner and family, a report following an application by Mrs. Booghman for the admission of these people was forwarded to you on the 12th October, 1945.



Roland S. Browne
(Roland S. Browne)
Acting Director.

This memo does not appear to be and this file 11/3/46.

Brisbane
30th. April 1946

Deputy Director,
Commonwealth Investigation Branch,
BRISBANE

SUBJECT: NON-DUTCH EVACUEES FROM THE NETHERLANDS
(PRELIMINARY REPORT)

REFERENCE: G1747/Z

I have to report that hereunder is a list of names and nationality of Non-Dutch evacuees who have arrived in Australia from the Netherlands East Indies in charge of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation of Evacuees.

2. A further report giving additional information as required by the Acting Director, vide letter dated 18/4/46 Ref.C/11615/10 is being compiled.

Name	Cert. of Reg. & Nationality	Remarks
MUNSTER, Franz	Q.32486 German	Proceeded to Sydney 19.11.45.
BAUER, Antonin	Q.32493 Czechoslovakian	Proceeded to Sydney 21.11.45
STOCKL, Vilem	Q.32492 Do.	Do.
STOCKL, Helena	Q.32490 Do.	Do.
SYKORA, Vaeclav	Q.32235 Do.	Do.
SYKORA, Nelly (Wife)	Q.32223 Do.	Previously of Dutch nationality)
KANITZ, Bela	Q.32235 Hungarian	Address No.2, Orr Street, Bondi, N.S.W.)
PLUTZINSKY-CHIROKOFF, Elizabeth	Q.32236 Russian	
DIVIN, Antonin	Q.32231 Czechoslovakian	Proceeded to Melbourne 26.11.45
SANDA, Joseph	Q.32232 Do.	Do.
RAJNHARD, Garoslav	Q.32233 Do.	Do.
FERRARI, Wilfred Joseph	Q.34708, Swiss	Proceeded to Sydney 2.1.46
SARKIES, Wilfred John	Q.34699 Armenian	
SARKIES, Helena Paulina (Nee Calstaun)	Q.34700 (Wife) Do.	Previously Dutch
RIEDEL, Karel	Q34641 German	
RIEDEL, Elise	Q.31470 German (Wife)	
BRAUN, Nina Ruth	Q.34722 Austrian	Proceeded to Melbourne 11.2.42 C/o Mr. Alan Brown 121 Glenferry Rd. Malvern, Victoria.
KARAGANTCHEFF, Leonard	Q.34734, Russian	} Accompanied by four (4) sons, 8, 7, 6, & 2½ years of age.
KARAGANTCHEFF, Eugenia, (Wife)	Q34738, Do.	
HELMITSKY, Isaak	Q.34748 Russian	} Accompanied by two (2) daughters, Lila (Q34750 & Ida under 18 years.
HELMITSKY, Ida (Wife)	Q34749 Do.	
NAUFNER, Jakob	Q.34768 Austrian	Previously Dutch Proceeded to Melbourne c/o a daughter Mrs. M.G. Boogmans, 28 Domain St. South Yarra.

SCHMIDT, Hermine
Marie Louise

Q34727 Swiss

Proceeded to Sydney
c/o K.P.M., 255 George
Street.

ELIAS, Nordeccai

British Jew }
Born Bombay }

ELIAS, Israel (Wife) }
British Jew }
Born Baghdad }

Accompanied by a family
of eleven (11) children
between the ages of 22
and 5 years, all born
in N.E.I.

JUDAH, Meeda (Widow) }
British Jew }
Born Bombay }

Accompanied by two sons
and two daughters
(Adults) also Daughter
in law and child aged
3 yrs - all born in
N.E.I.

J. W. Brown

(J.W. BROWN)
Investigator

45/2/1647
C 05419 16 APR 1946

W. Wilkinson, A/g. Boarding Officer.

Immigration Act 1901/1940: Coloured and restricted passengers - s.s. "Curacao" at Sydney 27/3/1946.

The Boarding Inspector.

The s.s. "Curacao" arrived at Sydney from Macassar via Townsville on 27/3/1946, having on board the undermentioned coloured and restricted passengers who were dealt with as follows:-

- Gerard J. SCHOUW
- Geertruida SCHOUW
- Willem F. COTE
- Hermina COTE
- Willem F. K. COTE
- Hendrik BERGEMA
- Jitske BERGEMA
- Pieter BERGEMA
- Lena S. BERGEMA
- Ina A. BERGEMA
- Egbertha H. BERGEMA
- Franchois KLAASEN
- Reyer KONING
- Louise J. KONING
- Aleida H. KONING
- Gerarda C. KONING
- Cornelia J. KONING
- Johanna LINDEBOOM
- Cornelia LINDEBOOM
- Lucas LINDEBOOM
- Jan L. BEEN
- Johanna E. BEEN
- Marie L. BEEN

Official Dutch Evacuees

- Maria M. KLAASEN
- Frans M. KLAASEN
- Ada D. KLAASEN

Official Dutch Evacuees - Coloured.
Certificate of Exemption 6 months.
See separate file, C'46/1547.

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
13 MAY 1946
RECEIVED

W. Wilkinson
(W. Wilkinson)
A/g. Boarding Officer,
28/3/1946.

The Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Forwarded for the Secretary's information.
Certificate of Exemption 689 for six months from 27/3/46 was
issued to Maria M. Klaasen, and two children, - vide C'46/5417.

J. Darcy
(J. Darcy),
A/g Collector of Customs, N.S.W.
10/5/1946.
J.H.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"PASSPORTS," MELBOURNE
TELEPHONE: M.U. 2631,
2364

HOURS:
10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. MONDAY TO FRIDAY,
10 A.M. - NOON, SATURDAY.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
46/2370
45/2/1647

IMMIGRATION AND PASSPORTS OFFICE,
Immigration
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
108 QUEEN STREET,
MELBOURNE, C.1.

FJP/OA

Memorandum:-

30th April, 1946.

The Secretary,
Dept. of Immigration,
CANBERRA,
A.C.T.

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
1 - MAY 1946
RECEIVED

Dutch Evacuees Returning to Netherlands
East Indies or Netherlands.

I refer to the Secretary's minute No.
45/2/1647 dated 12.3.1946, regarding the procedure to
be followed in granting Exit Permits to Dutch evacuees
leaving Australia on collective passports, and now
forward herewith copy of a communication received from
the Secretary, Netherlands Consulate, Melbourne.

The matters referred to were discussed
with Mr. Horgan during my recent visit to Canberra, and
a letter is being sent to the Consulate confirming the
arrangements outlined in the attached letter.

J.P. Horgan
Migration Officer.

COPY.

CONSULATE OF THE NETHERLANDS

for the

STATE OF VICTORIA.

Temple Court 422 Collins Street,

MELBOURNE, C.1. 29th April, 1946

Dear Sir,

With reference to our Telephone Conversation of Friday 26th April, 1946, I beg to submit herewith that I understand that in future evacuees who are being repatriated to the Netherlands East Indies can submit their Passbooks to the Passport and Immigration Office for endorsement with an Exit Permit. I understand, too, that individual G2 forms will have to be submitted.

As far as repatriation to the Netherlands is concerned, arrangements have been made between the Passport -, Taxation - and Customs Authorities and the Royal Netherlands Legation Melbourne, for your office to the effect that I will submit individual G2 forms plus three (3) copies of the "Collective Passport" after which you will endorse the original with a "Collective Exit Permit".

On such collective repatriations no transit visas will be issued, as passengers leaving for the Netherlands will Not be allowed to disembark at interim ports, but for emergency cases.

I would appreciate it if you would confirm the abovequoted matter, if same is agreeable to you.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

for CONSUL

JZ:NO'G

J. ZWALF,
Secretary.

F. J. R. Pennalluriack, Esq.,
Migration Officer,
Passport & Immigration Office,
110 Queen Street,
MELBOURNE, C.1.

SI/72

G/JOD

ACTING SECRETARY:
For your information.

Adonell
Asst. Pte. Secretary

(Written at Sydney)
11th March, 1946.

Dear Mr. van Holst Pellekaan,

Since you wrote to me on December 21 last concerning the plan you then had in train for the reception and maintenance in Australia of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies, His Excellency, the Minister for the Netherlands in Australia, has told me of the decision of the Dutch Government to transfer all Dutch evacuees in Australia to Holland. I understand that this work is now in progress.

The relationship which have existed between you and your organisation on the one hand and myself on the other have been very amicable, and I feel that this is a fitting opportunity to thank you for the consideration which you have invariably shown for the Commonwealth Government's point of view on any matter coming within your purview, and affecting your responsibility as Head of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organization for Evacuees.

I shall be glad to see you on some occasion in the near future if you could spare the time, when you might let me know how the work of the transfer is proceeding, and any other matter that you care to bring to my attention.

With my kindest personal regards,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR A. GALWELL
(ARTHUR A. GALWELL)
Minister for Immigration

Mr. J. van Holst Pellekaan,
Head, Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation
for Evacuees,
422 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE.

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
~~KORUSSIE~~
STATE OF VICTORIA

VHP/JH TEMPLE COURT, 422 COLLINS STREET
TELEPHONE: MU 9601-06
(6 LINES)

MELBOURNE, C. I. 21st December, 1945.

My dear Minister,

ACCOMMODATION FOR EVACUEES
FROM THE NETHERLANDS INDIES

I wish to refer to the conversation which I had with you yesterday in regard to the letter received by the Netherlands Legation in Canberra from the Commonwealth Minister for External Affairs dated 12th December, 1945, No. 13513, copy of which is attached for your file.

I mentioned to you that the Netherlands Minister to Australia, Baron van Aerssen Beyeren van Voshol, had requested me to discuss the matter of accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies with you in my capacity of Head of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees in Australia and New Zealand, as it was apparent from the communications received from the Department of External Affairs in Canberra that that Department did not have a true appreciation of the various facts surrounding this matter.

I handed you a short memorandum in regard to the accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies obtained so far in Australia, copy of which I attach to this letter, and I would particularly draw your attention again to the fact that my organisation so far has only booked a total of five to six hundred beds in hotels, boardinghouses, guesthouses, etc., spread all over Australia. In view of the fact that in such establishments all over the Commonwealth at least two to three hundred thousand beds are available, I expressed the opinion that the total number of beds so far contracted for by my organisation was insignificant in comparison to the total accommodation available in the Commonwealth.

21st December, 1945.

I mentioned also that the total number of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies to be accommodated fell far short and was only a fraction of the total number of servicemen and women returning to civilian life and the total number of Australian civilians seeking accommodation for holidays and other purposes.

As an example in this respect, I would like to mention that my organisation in Adelaide so far could only find accommodation for a little over fifty people, mainly in private homes in or around Adelaide, on account of the fact that in the vicinity of Adelaide bookings had been made for over four thousand Australian civilians for the holiday season which has just commenced.

From these figures I draw the conclusion that the statement of the Department of External Affairs that if our practice of booking accommodation for evacuees in hotels, boardinghouses, etc., is continued "it will have the effect of depriving our own (i.e. Australian) necessitous cases of accommodation," is entirely without foundation.

I also mentioned to you that the contention of the Department of External Affairs that Australian civilians or returned servicemen or women would be at a disadvantage since no official Australian agency exists similar to our Welfare Organisation for Evacuees to obtain accommodation for Australians, in my opinion, is incorrect, as many Australian organisations exist which have, and will, assist ex-servicemen and women to obtain accommodation upon their entry into civilian life. As such, I would like to mention the Commonwealth Department of Social Services, the various Government Tourist Bureaus, the Returned Soldiers' and Sailors' League, the Australian Red Cross and other organisations.

I explained to you that the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees during the past few months has opened offices in five capital cities in Australia (Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth), each having a personnel of from twenty to thirty, of which eighty to ninety per cent. are Australians, some of whom have offered their services in a voluntary capacity.

This organisation has so far handled the entry into Australia of nearly 2,700 evacuees from the Netherlands Indies, has arranged for their registration according to the rules laid down by the Departments of Immigration, Customs,

21st December, 1945.

etc., has arranged for the payment of clothing allowances, monthly living allowances, etc., has arranged for medical and dental care through our own organisation staffed by Netherlands doctors and dentists, etc.

The simple fact that this has been achieved within a short span of time for such a great number of evacuees without anywhere a hitch occurring and in a spirit of great and much valued co-operation with all Australian authorities concerned shows, in my opinion, that we are not only fully capable of handling this matter in the way in which it should be handled, but also that our organisation is fully alive to its responsibilities in regard to the Australian Government and the Australian people.

It was, therefore, all the more disappointing to read that the Commonwealth Department of External Affairs thought fit to request the Netherlands Minister to Australia "that no further bookings of hotel and boardinghouse accommodation be made by Netherlands officials for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies."

I trust that from the information supplied during our interview and in this letter, I will have proved to you that such a restriction of the activities of my organisation in Australia is wholly unwarranted, if not to say unfair.

I explained to you that my organisation is actively engaged in obtaining more accommodation for evacuees, mainly because the original anticipated number of five to ten thousand may be exceeded in the near future on account of the existing danger to the lives of Dutch men, women and children in the Netherlands Indies.

I also explained that I have a rigid understanding with the Netherlands Indies authorities in Batavia that no more evacuees will be sent to Australia than my organisation has found accommodation for, so that at no time we could witness the fact that evacuees from the Netherlands Indies will arrive in Australia without accommodation being available for them.

I mentioned to you that we are actively engaged in obtaining accommodation outside hotels and boardinghouses, i.e., in hostels, camps or other places where my countrymen can be accommodated with a certain measure of comfort. In this regard I explained that the evacuees, who have been in concentration camps for over three and a half years,

21st December, 1945.

naturally do not feel inclined to be happy when put again into a camp, however pleasant their stay in such places could be made.

I admitted also, however, that if a very great number of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies would have to be brought to Australia, we might be compelled to use camps for their accommodation because no other accommodation might be available. As long as this position does not exist, however, the Netherlands Indies authorities will remain hesitant to make use of empty Army camps for billeting of evacuees as long as possibilities for other accommodation may exist.

In this regard I mentioned to you that so far the Australian Government, particularly as far as the Department of External Affairs is concerned, has, in my personal opinion, not made the slightest attempt to provide our organisation with suitable accommodation for evacuees. On the contrary, all accommodation which has been found for our people has been arranged for and found by my organisation, which was the first to seek contact with Australian organisations such as the Red Cross and others, and which through personal contacts, particularly through the Department of Social Services, has obtained a measure of co-operation in this country for which I am deeply grateful.

The work done by our organisation so far and the various contacts made with our Australian friends have, therefore, taught me that a simple statement as contained in the final paragraph of the letter from the Department of External Affairs of 12th December last, that it is inevitable in the circumstances that evacuees from the Netherlands Indies can only make use of camp accommodation, is wholly unfounded. On the contrary, I explained to you the various projects our organisation has in mind for accommodating evacuees outside camps and not in hotels or boardinghouses, but in various buildings, hospitals and other places which are becoming free for use in an increasing number in Australia.

If, therefore, the Commonwealth Government, or more in particular, the Department of External Affairs, is really "fully mindful of the plight of these unfortunate men, women and children in Java and Sumatra and is most anxious to do whatever is within its power to assist in their recuperation," it would seem to me that a first need exists for a clear direction to all Government Departments in Australia, particularly the Departments of the Army, of Air and of the Navy, that all accommodation available in buildings, camps, etc., under their authority which is or which may become vacant in the near future should be made available to our organisation.

21st December, 1945.

I mentioned that I had already had various conversations in this respect with the Quartermaster-General of the Australian Army, but from information received through the Department of Social Services, it would seem that, particularly in the R.A.A.F., various buildings, hospitals, camps, etc., may become available in the near future. Therefore, I should feel grateful if you could arrange that the abovementioned Departments again be requested to render all possible co-operation to my organisation in this respect.

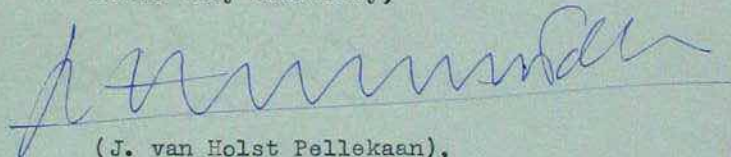
I trust that the above information will enable you to form a clearer picture of the work of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees in Australia, and, if you might consider this to be in the interests of my work on behalf of these unfortunate evacuees from the Netherlands Indies, I would feel grateful if you could make use of the above information in any way as you may think fit.

Finally, I wish to thank you most cordially for the opportunity you have given me to explain our aims and our work to you personally and for the encouragement you have given me to approach you also in the future, when the solution of our problems might need your advice and help.

With my kindest personal regards -

Believe me, my dear Minister,

Yours very sincerely,



(J. van Holst Pellekaan),
Head,
Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation
for Evacuees.

The Honorable A. A. Calwell, M.H.R.,
Minister of Information and Immigration,
Department of Information,
375 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. C.1.

Received in Canberra: 18.12.45

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

12th December, 1945.

13513

CONFIDENTIAL

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to a conversation yesterday between the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation and an officer of the Department of External Affairs concerning the position of accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

For some time the Commonwealth Government has been most anxious to ensure as far as possible that Australians who have experienced the stresses of the past six years, especially our returned prisoners-of-war, those invalided out of the Services and others from the Services who are being re-united with their families, should be given some opportunity of relaxing for the first time in a long period and of rehabilitating themselves both physically and mentally.

The housing position in Australia being at present what it is, a great many of these men and women must look for accommodation in hotels and boarding-houses. Unfortunately, the supply of such accommodation tends to fall well below the demand, particularly at this period of the year.

It is my understanding that Netherlands officials have in the past made a considerable number of hotel and boarding-house bookings for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies and that they have continued to make those bookings.

You will appreciate that where large numbers of evacuees are involved, this practice, if continued, will have the effect of depriving our own necessitous cases of accommodation, and actually places them at a serious disadvantage since no official agency similar to yours exists to obtain accommodation for them.

It is for this reason, and also because of the offer of the Commonwealth Government mentioned below, that the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation has been asked to convey the request of the Commonwealth Government that no further bookings of hotel and boarding-house accommodation be made by Netherlands officials for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

The Commonwealth Government is fully mindful of the plight of these unfortunate men, women and children in Java and Sumatra and, as has already been mentioned to you, is most anxious to do whatever is within its power to assist in their recuperation. The Minister for Immigration has stated that the Commonwealth will accept as many Dutch men, women and children for such purposes as Australia's accommodation capacity will allow and I understand that you will be furnishing a figure of those whom it is proposed to send to Australia in order that this may be examined in the light of the camp accommodation that is available. The fact that camp areas will have to be used is, I am afraid, inevitable in the circumstances now obtaining. I trust that this letter will fully explain to you the reasons underlying the request that has been made and that it will also be read as re-emphasising our desire to assist in the rehabilitation of ex-internees and prisoners-of-war from the Netherlands East Indies in all ways within our power.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest consideration,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Signed: Norman J.O. Makin.

Acting Minister of State for External Affairs.

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
FOR THE
STATE OF VICTORIA

TEMPLE COURT, 422 COLLINS STREET
TELEPHONE: MU 9681-88
(6 LINES)

MELBOURNE, C. 120th December, 1945

ACCOMMODATION FOR EVACUEES

	In camps or other large accommodation organised by NEI Govt.	In private homes etc.	In Hotels, boarding houses, Guesthouses.
Brisbane	900	-	-
Sydney	100	50	250
Melbourne	150	100	600
Adelaide	-	25	25
Perth	50	b 30	400
	1,200	205	1,275

TOTAL: 2,680

Note: Of the total accommodation in hotels, boarding-houses, guest-houses, etc. booked by the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for evacuees of 1,275 beds, 700 beds were provided by the fact that our organisation has been able to find new accommodation which was not available beforehand by making special arrangements with owners of guest-houses, etc., for re-opening their establishments which had been closed for several years owing to wartime conditions. By giving such owners assistance in obtaining staff, furniture, bedding, crockery cutlery, etc., it has proved to be possible to obtain additional accommodation for hundreds of evacuees where such accommodation did not previously exist or, at any rate, was not available to the general public.

6th February, 1946.

My dear Minister,

I attach for your consideration a letter received from Mr. van Holst Pellekaan, who is in charge of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for evacuees, concerning the future use of the Army Canteens Women's Hostel in Degraes Street, Melbourne.

I would appreciate advice as to whether these premises could be made available to the Dutch Authorities for the urgent task of accommodating evacuees from the Netherlands Indies.

Yours sincerely,

(ARTHUR A. CALWELL)

The Right Hon. F.M. Forde, M.P.,
Minister for the Army,
Victoria Barracks,
St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE, S.S.I. Vic.

Encl.

Acting Secretary:

Referred for information.

Not worth file
R. B. Armstrong
Private Secretary.

COPY

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
WELFARE ORGANISATION FOR EVACUEES

Temple Court,
422 Collins St.,
Melbourne.
22/12/45.

My dear Minister,

Accommodation for Evacuees
From the Netherlands Indies

Further to my letter of yesterday in regard to accommodation for evacuees, I wish to draw your attention to the Army Canteens Women's Hostel in Degraeves Street, Melbourne, which, according to information received from the Department of Social Services, will become empty in the near future. The Army Canteens Service wishes to return this building to the Quartermaster-General's Department of the Army as it does not wish to continue the hostel.

I believe that the Minister for the Army, the Hon. F. M. Forde, has some knowledge of this matter, and I would feel grateful if you could approach him for the purpose of making this hostel available to my organisation for the accommodation of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies.

Thanking you in anticipation for whatever you may be able to do in this respect -

I am, my dear Minister,
Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. van Holst Pellekaan
Head

Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation
for Evacuees.

Hon. A. A. Calwell, M.H.R.,
Minister for Information,
375 Collins St.,
MELBOURNE.

14059



CANBERRA.

5/2/46

*With the Compliments
of the
Secretary, Department of
External Affairs.*

Rec'd

4 FEB 1945

File No.

Office of the
Australian Political Representative,
S.A.S.S.A.,
Cathy Building,
SINGAPORE.

23rd January, 1945.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Subject: DUTCH R.A.P.W.I. AND SUPPLY SUPPLIES

1. Evacuation of Dutch R.A.P.W.I. to Australia

Whilst in Batavia, I had discussions with Lieutenant Colonel Brower who is head of the Dutch R.A.P.W.I. Organisation, and he stated that owing to the lack of Foreign Exchange by the Netherlands Government and the enormous amount involved in maintaining R.A.P.W.I. in Siam, Ceylon, India and Singapore the Dutch would now not be sending more than an additional 5,000 Dutch R.A.P.W.I. to Australia. This makes a total figure of 7,500 in all.

Colonel Brower also informed me that they accepted the terms laid down by the Commonwealth Government, and they arrange for a close medical examination of all R.A.P.W.I. going to Australia through their channels.

2. Relief Supplies

I have already reported by signal the situation in regard to relief supplies, and the Dutch and British informed me that the main urgency now is for medical equipment, agricultural implements and machine tools, all of which are included in the supplies at present held in Australia.

The Dutch would not agree to Sjahrir being associated in an appeal to the Commonwealth Government on the grounds that it would build up Sjahrir and the Indonesian Cabinet at a time most awkward in view of pending negotiations. On the other hand, Sjahrir would not agree to associating himself with the Dutch appeal because their official policy is that they do not wish for any Dutch supplies at all.

J. C. S. 1945
J. C. S. 1945

Australian Political Representative

*Copy to Mr. K. G. ...
Files
Sep 15 1945*



4th February, 1946.

Memo. No. _____

The Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

5-FEB

EVACUATION OF DUTCH R.A.P.W.I.

On 10th January the Australian Political Representative, SACSEA, attended a meeting held at Headquarters, SACSEA to discuss the evacuation of Dutch R.A.P.W.I.

2. It was mentioned that in several instances the "mechanics" of evacuation had gone wrong. Mr. Proud pointed out that there would be considerable repercussions if the Dutch arriving in Australia included any who did not comply with the conditions specified by the Australian Government. He had been unable to obtain from ALFSEA or from the Dutch any information as to what medical examination was being carried out on those persons being evacuated by air to Australia through Dutch channels.
3. AFNEI have now been instructed by ALFSEA to ensure that these people are properly medically examined.
4. The Chairman stated that the total figure of Dutch to go to Australia on present plans was 10,000, and that they were at present proceeding in a steady flow, some 3,000 having arrived.
5. The Australian Political Representative remarked that, although General Weijerman had accepted in principle the conditions laid down by the Australian Government at the meeting held by the **PRO** on 24th December, 1945, no official confirmation of acceptance by the Dutch Government had been received. The Dutch representative, subsequently, stated that they had asked for their Government's confirmation and two follow-up signals had been sent, but no replies had been received. A further request stressing the urgency of the matter had been sent to Batavia.
6. Mr. Proud was asked if the Australian Government would accept medical certificates of Dutch doctors. He replied that the responsibility for this rested with the Command, and that if ALFSEA was prepared to accept these certificates, the Australian Government would also accept them. It was agreed that ALFSEA would make suitable arrangements with AFNEI and the Dutch to ensure that medical conditions were fulfilled.
7. The Chairman mentioned that a signal had been sent to the Chiefs of Staff asking them to approach other Governments with a view to finding homes for large numbers of Dutch now in SEAC, should it become necessary at a later date to evacuate them. The signal, which had now been received from the War Office, allocated Dutch shipping for the evacuation of women and children from Java but mentioned no destination. It was said that the destination of these ships appeared to be Holland and that a lift of 12,000 personnel had been arranged. The Chairman said that the matter had been referred to London to ascertain what decision the Chiefs of Staff had, in fact, made, but that, in the meantime, preparations for the movement to Holland should go ahead.

*Alfsea
to file*

8. It was confirmed that all documentation and screening of personnel before movement was being carried out by the Dutch in conjunction with AFNEI and with the Australian Representative.

W.F. Drink
WFD
Secretary.

Seen
WFD
6/2/46


MC

25th January, 1946.

The Secretary,
Prime Minister's Department,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

I am directed to refer to your file No. B.41/1/9, relative to a proposal submitted by Mr. W. J. F. Riordan, M.H.R., that the Sellheim Military Camp at Charters Towers should be used for the accommodation of Dutch evacuees from Java.

It is understood that the Head of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees, Melbourne, is investigating this matter and no doubt he will inform the Department of Social Services as to the suitability or otherwise of the Camp, and that the latter will in turn notify your Department.


(A. R. PETERS)
Acting Secretary.

Wed morning

Mr Nichols

I have the
main file 45/1/1047
to Dutch sources
but our copy of
Mr Riordan's letter
2/1/46 is not on
it. Pls see if
you have it.

A.P. Jones
22/1/46

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION.

DK

No. *457/1627*

22nd January, 1946.

Acting Secretary.

Mr. Calwell has directed me to ascertain what action was taken following receipt of attached letter.

May I assume that you will discuss the matter next time you see the Minister?

R. E. Armstrong
Private Secretary.

Attachment.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

FEDERAL MEMBERS' ROOMS,
COMMONWEALTH OFFICES,
BRISBANE, B.9.

3rd January, 1946.

Dear Mr. Chifley,

I have received a letter from Mr. J.G. McClelland, Town Clerk, Town Hall, Charters Towers, in which he informs me that the Sellheim Military Camp is still intact and would be an excellent location for the evacuation of Dutch people from Java to Australia.

I shall be glad if you will arrange for the matter to be considered and advise me concerning same.

Yours faithfully,

MIN. & DEPT. ARMY.
COPY-MIN. & DEPT. SOC. SERVS. (Sgd.) W.J.F. Riordan
(COMMENT)
MIN. & DEPT. IMM. (COMMENT)
COMM. DISPOSALS COMM.
ACKNOWLEDGED.

W.J.F. Riordan
2-7

The Rt. Hon. J.B. Chifley, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

COPY FOR: The Hon. A.A. Calwell, M.P.,
Minister for Immigration *AKC*

11 JAN 1946

W.J.F. Riordan M.P. done?

IMMIGRATION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM.

O.753.

JG/ML

DECODE TO-
THE AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL
REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

Sent 11th January, 1946.

12.

Apart from Dutch nationals who are being brought to Australia for recuperation purposes under full responsibility of Netherlands Indies authorities in Australia for maintenance and accommodation whilst here, there are many for whom guarantees for private accommodation and financial support have been obtained by the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for evacuees. Particulars of such cases are being furnished by Pelletaan to the Netherlands Indies Bureau of Displaced Persons in Batavia and to the Officer in Charge of Dutch Section of RAPWI at Singapore. Irrespective of relationship of such evacuees to their Australian guarantors, those of European race may be permitted come to Australia for temporary admission without reference to Department of Immigration subject to being free from any communicable disease. Please also inform Major Quartermain.

Mh. & Dept. E.A.

" " Immigration (Memo 45/2/1647 of 11/1/46)

14/1/46.

CABLEGRAM.

0.753.

JG/ML

DECODE TO-
THE AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL
REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

Sent 11th January, 1946.

12.

Apart from Dutch nationals who are being brought to Australia for recuperation purposes under full responsibility of Netherlands Indies authorities in Australia for maintenance and accommodation whilst here, there are many for whom guarantees for private accommodation and financial support have been obtained by the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for evacuees. Particulars of such cases are being furnished by Pellekaan to the Netherlands Indies Bureau of Displaced Persons in Batavia and to the Officer in Charge of Dutch Section of RAPWI at Singapore.

Irrespective of relationship of such evacuees to their Australian guarantors, those of European race may be permitted come to Australia for temporary admission without reference to Department of Immigration subject to being free from any communicable disease. Please also inform Major Quartermain.

Min. & Dept. E.A.
" " Immigration (Memo 45/2/1647 of 11/1/46)
14/1/46.

11th January, 1946.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
(External Communications),
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Will you kindly send a cablegram
to the Australian Political Representative at Singapore
in the following terms:-

"Apart from Dutch nationals who are being brought to Australia for recuperation purposes under full responsibility of Netherlands Indies Authorities in Australia for maintenance and accommodation whilst here, there are many for whom guarantees for private accommodation and financial support have been obtained by the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for evacuees. Particulars of such cases are being furnished by Pellekaan to the Netherlands Indies Bureau of Displaced Persons in Batavia and to the Officer in-Charge of Dutch Section of RANWI at Singapore. Stop. Irrespective of relationship of such evacuees to their Australian guarantors, those of European race may be permitted come to Australia for temporary admission without reference to Department of Immigration subject to being free from any communicable disease. Please also inform Major Quartermain".

*On file.
(Please send
copy to
M. H. J. J. J.
(6) to office*

(A. E. PETERS)
Acting Secretary.

*(Copy to M. Keim
for app.)*

*M. H. J. J. J.
Ref with M. Keim
to me
15/1/46*

*Sev
16/1/46*

MC

11th January, 1946.

Dear Mr. Pellekaan,

EVACUEES FROM THE NETHERLANDS INDIES.

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 7th January, No. RK.4/108, and note the arrangements made for the accommodation and financial support of "sponsored" evacuees from the Netherlands Indies.

As requested, the Australian representative at Singapore is being advised that no objection need be raised to the departure for Australia for temporary admission for recuperation purposes, of any Dutch nationals of European race in respect of whom evidence is available that they have been sponsored by private persons resident in Australia who are prepared to look after them and provide them with accommodation whilst in Australia, subject to the usual understanding that such evacuees are not suffering from any communicable disease.

Yours sincerely,

(A. R. PETERS)
Acting Secretary.

Mr. J. van Holst Pellekaan,
Head, Netherlands Indies Welfare
Organisation for Evacuees for
Australia,
Temple Court,
422 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE, C.I. VIC.

With the Compliments
of
The Trade Commissioner
of the
Netherlands Indies
Government

Temple Court
422 Collins Street
Melbourne

Vol. M 1988

R.K.4/79
c.c. ALL NIWOE OFFICES.
c.c. DR. BLOM, BATAVIA.
c.c. NETHERLANDS LEGATION, CANBERRA.
c.c. BARON VAN AERSEN BEYEREN VAN VOSHOL.
c.c. DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION, CANBERRA, ATTENTION MR/ PETERS.

VHP/JH

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
HEAD OFFICE

4th January, 46.

My dear Minister,

ACCOMMODATION FOR EVACUEES
FROM THE NETHERLANDS INDIES

I wish to refer to my letter of 21st December last, addressed to you, in regard to the above subject, and would like to furnish you hereunder with some additional information regarding accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies which will be available in the near future:

After our last conversation on December 20th, I contacted the Department of the Army where I had a lengthy discussion in regard to possible accommodation for evacuees in disused Army camps, hotels and other buildings. As a result of this discussion I wrote you by my letter of 21st December, reference RND/6164/445, concerning the Servicewomen's Club in Degraaves Street, Melbourne, your reply to which I am awaiting with great interest.

I have also contacted the R.A.A.F. Medical Directorate in regard to a hospital of 150 beds at Wagga which may become available in the near future. Similarly, I am in contact with the Australian Army Headquarters in regard to a hospital at Seymour, in conjunction with an empty training camp adjacent to this. So far, no result has been obtained.

On the advice of the Department of Social Services, I have contacted the Victorian State Government (The Honorable W. P. Barry, M.L.A., Minister of Health, of Housing and for Forests) for obtaining the group of buildings

14th January, 1946.

comprising "Larundel" at Heidelberg, which has been in use during the war by the R.A.A.F. These buildings were destined to be used by the Victorian State Government for housing of mental patients in the future, but are now, since the departure of the R.A.A.F., without immediate use.

Mr. Barry informed me that his Government would be willing to give my Government an opportunity to use these buildings for a period of six to nine months provided he could obtain accommodation for transit housing of families in the A.M.F. camp at Watsonia. I have contacted the Australian Army Headquarters regarding this, but so far no arrangements have been finalised to allow the Victorian State Government to use all or part of the Watsonia camp. If this could be arranged, I feel confident we would be permitted to use the *Larundel* buildings for our purpose, and this would give us an excellent opportunity to organise a very good reception centre for evacuees in Victoria.

Also, through the Department of the Army I am now considering the use of three blocks of Darley Camp near Bacchus Marsh. The position is now being investigated by my Victorian office, who will report to me within the next few days regarding the suitability of this camp for evacuees.

In Western Australia my representative is investigating the possibility of the use of an A.W.A.S. camp at Guildford which might contain 200 people, an empty R.A.A.F. camp at Busselton which might contain up to 500 people and an Army hostel at Faversham, York, which might contain 500 people.

In New South Wales my representative has inspected and favourably recommended the use of two large hostels of the War Housing Commission at Lithgow, which together might contain up to 900 evacuees.

In Queensland my representative in Camp Columbia has now taken over the following additional camp accommodation for evacuees:-

New Para (in the city of Brisbane)	which might contain 300-600 evacuees.
White Cliff, ex-A.W.A.S. Camp-	which might contain 100-200 evacuees.
Perry Park -	which might contain 100-200 single men.
Coolangatta where we have taken over camps	which might contain 200-300 people.

4th January, 1946.

From the above figures you will see that within the next three to four weeks I may have finalised arrangements for extra accommodation for 3,000 evacuees in Australia, this number being in addition and above the arrangements which I had already made.

To sum up the present situation I would like to mention the following:-

Up until December 31st we have accommodated approximately 3,000 evacuees in Australia. To this number can be added 1,000 evacuees per month for at least the next six months as from January 1st, bringing the total for Australia to 9,000 as per end of June next. To these have to be added approximately 3,000 as per the above survey of new accommodation found, while I feel certain that within the next few months I will find still additional accommodation for at least 2,000 people in camps, hostels or otherwise. This would bring the ultimate total for Australia to about 14,000 - this in comparison with the possible accommodation in New Zealand of 3,000 to 5,000.

In the light of the above figures for Australia, it would seem to me that increased numbers of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies could be brought to this country in the very near future, and in respect to this I would like to suggest, in view of telephone conversations I had with the Secretary of your Department, Mr. Peters, that pressure is brought to bear on the Allied organisations which control shipping, particularly the British Ministry of War Transport in London, that additional shipping be made available to evacuate European men, women and children from the Netherlands Indies to Australia at the rate of at least 1,000 per month as from the second half of January, 1946, onwards. If this could be done, we would then have available the following transport facilities for the transport of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies to Australia:

- (a) Transport by N.E.I. military planes at the rate of 600-800 persons per month.
- (b) Transport per hospital ship "Tasman" from N.E.I. to New Zealand at the rate of 600-800 persons per month.
- (c) Transport per shipping still to be made available, say, 1,000 per month.

4th January, 1946.

The total thus to be evacuated from the N.E.I. would attain approximately 2,500 per month as from the end of January, 1946. I understand that this total might cope adequately with the increasing number of European men, women and children who are awaiting evacuation from the Netherlands Indies and who cannot now be transported because of lack of available shipping.

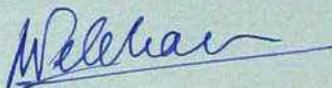
I would, therefore, feel grateful if you could take up the matter of the provision of adequate shipping with the relevant Allied authorities who are in control of this, advising them that if shipping for at least 1,000 persons per month is made available, these persons can be accommodated in Australia without any difficulty.

In respect to the above I would like to mention that apart from the evacuees for which my organisation is fully responsible for their accommodation, allowances, etc., there are also in the N.E.I. an increasing number of people awaiting transportation to Australia, New Zealand and other countries where their relatives or close friends are prepared to arrange for and guarantee their accommodation and financial assistance, provided they can only find transportation to these countries. At the moment it is not possible for the R.A.P.W.I. authorities in the N.E.I., Singapore or elsewhere to arrange for the transportation of such persons to Australia because all available transportation (which at the moment is only by plane) is taken up by fully authorised evacuees. Therefore, also in the interest of these so-called "sponsored" evacuees, it would be necessary to arrange for additional shipping for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies to Australia.

The Netherlands Minister (Baron van Aerssen Beyeren van Voshol) has requested me to forward to you the attached copy of his letter dated 28th December last to The Honorable N.J.O. Makin, Acting Minister of State for External Affairs, the contents of which are self-explanatory.

I am, dear Sir, with kind regards -

Yours very sincerely,



(J. van Holst Pellekaan),
Head,
N.I.W.O.E. for Commonwealth of
Australia.

The Honorable A. A. Calwell, M.H.R.,
Minister of Information and Demigration,
Department of Information

VHP/JH

21st December, 1945.

My dear Minister,

ACCOMMODATION FOR EVACUEES
FROM THE NETHERLANDS INDIES

I wish to refer to the conversation which I had with you yesterday in regard to the letter received by the Netherlands Legation in Canberra from the Commonwealth Minister for External Affairs dated 12th December, 1945, No. 13513, copy of which is attached for your file.

I mentioned to you that the Netherlands Minister to Australia, Baron van Aerssen Beyeren van Voshol, had requested me to discuss the matter of accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies with you in my capacity of Head of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees in Australia and New Zealand, as it was apparent from the communications received from the Department of External Affairs in Canberra that that Department did not have a true appreciation of the various facts surrounding this matter.

I handed you a short memorandum in regard to the accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies obtained so far in Australia, copy of which I attach to this letter, and I would particularly draw your attention again to the fact that my organisation so far has only booked a total of five to six hundred beds in hotels, boardinghouses, guesthouses, etc., spread all over Australia. In view of the fact that in such establishments all over the Commonwealth at least two to three hundred thousand beds are available, I expressed the opinion that the total number of beds so far contracted for by my organisation was insignificant in comparison to the total accommodation available in the Commonwealth.

21st December, 1945.

I mentioned also that the total number of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies to be accommodated fell far short and was only a fraction of the total number of servicemen and women returning to civilian life and the total number of Australian civilians seeking accommodation for holidays and other purposes.

As an example in this respect, I would like to mention that my organisation in Adelaide so far could only find accommodation for a little over fifty people, mainly in private homes in or around Adelaide, on account of the fact that in the vicinity of Adelaide bookings had been made for over four thousand Australian civilians for the holiday season which has just commenced.

From these figures I draw the conclusion that the statement of the Department of External Affairs that if our practice of booking accommodation for evacuees in hotels, boardinghouses, etc., is continued "it will have the effect of depriving our own (i.e. Australian) necessitous cases of accommodation," is entirely without foundation.

I also mentioned to you that the contention of the Department of External Affairs that Australian civilians or returned servicemen or women would be at a disadvantage since no official Australian agency exists similar to our Welfare Organisation for Evacuees to obtain accommodation for Australians, in my opinion, is incorrect, as many Australian organisations exist which have, and will, assist ex-servicemen and women to obtain accommodation upon their entry into civilian life. As such, I would like to mention the Commonwealth Department of Social Services, the various Government Tourist Bureaus, the Returned Soldiers' and Sailors' League, the Australian Red Cross and other organisations.

I explained to you that the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees during the past few months has opened offices in five capital cities in Australia (Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth) each having a personnel of from twenty to thirty, of which eighty to ninety per cent. are Australians, some of whom have offered their services in a voluntary capacity.

This organisation has so far handled the entry into Australia of nearly 2,700 evacuees from the Netherlands Indies, has arranged for their registration according to the rules laid down by the Departments of Immigration, Customs, etc., has arranged for the payment of clothing

21st December, 1945.

allowances, monthly living allowances, etc., has arranged for medical and dental care through our own organisation staffed by Netherlands doctors and dentists, etc.,

The simple fact that this has been achieved within a short span of time for such a great number of evacuees without anywhere a hitch occurring and in a spirit of great and much valued co-operation with all Australian authorities concerned shows, in my opinion, that we are not only fully capable of handling this matter in the way in which it should be handled, but also that our organisation is fully alive to its responsibilities in regard to the Australian Government and the Australian people.

It was, therefore, all the more disappointing to read that the Commonwealth Department of External Affairs thought fit to request the Netherlands Minister to Australia "that no further bookings of hotel and boardinghouse accommodation be made by Netherlands officials for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies."

I trust that from the information supplied during our interview and in this letter, I will have proved to you that such a restriction of the activities of my organisation in Australia is wholly unwarranted, if not to say unfair.

I explained to you that my organisation is actively engaged in obtaining more accommodation for evacuees, mainly because the original anticipated number of five to ten thousand may be exceeded in the near future on account of the existing danger to the lives of Dutch men, women and children in the Netherlands Indies.

I also explained that I have a rigid understanding with the Netherlands Indies authorities in Batavia that no more evacuees will be sent to Australia than my organisation has found accommodation for, so that at no time we could witness the fact that evacuees from the Netherlands Indies will arrive in Australia without accommodation being available for them.

I mentioned to you that we are actively engaged in obtaining accommodation outside hotels and boardinghouses, ie in hostels, camps or other places where my countrymen can be accommodated with a certain measure of comfort. In this regard I explained that the evacuees, who have been in concentration camps for over three and a half years, naturally do not feel inclined to be happy when put again into a camp, however pleasant their stay in such places could be made.

21st December, 1945.

I admitted also, however, that if a very great number of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies would have to be brought to Australia, we might be compelled to use camps for their accommodation because no other accommodation might be available. As long as this position does not exist, however, the Netherlands Indies authorities will remain hesitant to make use of empty Army camps for billeting of evacuees as long as possibilities for other accommodation may exist.

In this regard I mentioned to you that so far the Australian Government, particularly as far as the Department of External Affairs is concerned, has, in my personal opinion, not made the slightest attempt to provide our organisation with suitable accommodation for evacuees. On the contrary, all accommodation which has been found for our people has been arranged for and found by my organisation, which was the first to seek contact with Australian organisations such as the Red Cross and others, and which through personal contacts, particularly through the Department of Social Services, has obtained a measure of co-operation in this country for which I am deeply grateful.

The work done by our organisation so far and the various contacts made with our Australian friends have, therefore, taught me that a simple statement as contained in the final paragraph of the letter from the Department of External Affairs of 12th December last, that it is inevitable in the circumstances that evacuees from the Netherlands Indies can only make use of camp accommodation, is wholly unfounded. On the contrary, I explained to you the various projects our organisation has in mind for accommodating evacuees outside camps and not in hotels or boardinghouses, but in various buildings, hospitals and other places which are becoming free for use in an increasing number in Australia.

If, therefore, the Commonwealth Government, or more in particular, the Department of External Affairs, is really "fully mindful of the plight of these unfortunate men, women and children in Java and Sumatra and is most anxious to do whatever is within its power to assist in their recuperation," it would seem to me that a first need exists for a clear direction to all Government Departments in Australia, particularly the Departments of the Army, of Air and of the Navy, that all accommodation available in buildings, camps etc., under their authority which is or which may become vacant in the near future should be made available to our organisation.

21st December, 1945.

I mentioned that I had already had various conversations in this respect with the Quartermaster-General of the Australian Army, but from information received through the Department of Social Services, it would seem that, particularly in the R.A.A.F., various buildings, hospitals, camps, etc., may become available in the near future. Therefore, I should feel grateful if you could arrange that the abovementioned Departments again be requested to render all possible co-operation to my organisation in this respect.

I trust that the above information will enable you to form a clearer picture of the work of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees in Australia, and, if you might consider this to be in the interests of my work on behalf of these unfortunate evacuees from the Netherlands Indies, I would feel grateful if you could make use of the above information in any way as you may think fit.

Finally, I wish to thank you most cordially for the opportunity you have given me to explain our aims and our work to you personally and for the encouragement you have given me to approach you also in the future, when the solution of our problems might need your advice and help.

With my kindest personal regards -

Believe me, my dear Minister,

Yours very sincerely,



(J. van Holst Pellekaan)

Head,
Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation
for Evacuees.

The Honorable A.A. Calwell, M.H.R.,
Minister of Information and Immigration,
Department of Information,
375 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. C.1

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
NO.

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
FOR THE
STATE OF VICTORIA

TEMPLE COURT, 422 COLLINS STREET
TELEPHONE: MU 9681-86
(6 LINES)

MELBOURNE, C. I. 20th December, 1945.

ACCOMMODATION FOR EVACUEES

	In camps or other large accommodation organised by NHI Govt.	In private homes etc.	In Hostels, boarding houses, Guesthouses.
Brisbane	900	-	-
Sydney	100	50	250
Melbourne	150	100	600
Adelaide	-	25	25
Perth	50	30	400
	1,200	205	1,275

TOTAL: 2,680

Note: Of the total accommodation in hotels, boarding-houses, guest-houses, etc., booked by the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for evacuees of 1,275 beds, 700 beds were provided by the fact that our organisation has been able to find new accommodation which was not available beforehand by making special arrangements with owners of guest-houses, etc., for re-opening their establishments which had been closed for several years owing to wartime conditions. By giving such owners assistance in obtaining staff, furniture, bedding, crockery, cutlery, etc., which it has proved to be possible to obtain additional accommodation for hundreds of evacuees where such accommodation did not previously exist or, at any rate, was not available to the general public.

Received in Canberra:

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

12th December, 1945.

13513

CONFIDENTIAL

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to a conversation yesterday between the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation and an officer of the Department of External Affairs concerning the position of accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

For some time the Commonwealth Government has been most anxious to ensure as far as possible that Australians who have experienced the stresses of the past six years, especially our returned prisoners-of-war, those invalided out of the Services and others from the Services who are being re-united with their families, should be given some opportunity of relaxing for the first in a long period and of rehabilitating themselves both physically and mentally.

The housing position in Australia being at present what it is, a great many of these men and women must look for accommodation in hotels and boarding-houses. Unfortunately, the supply of such accommodation tends to fall well below the demand, particularly at this period of the year.

It is my understanding that Netherlands officials have in the past made a considerable number of hotel and boarding-house bookings for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies and that they have continued to make those bookings.

You will appreciate that where large numbers of evacuees are involved, this practice, if continued, will have the effect of depriving our own necessitous cases of accommodation, and actually places them at a serious disadvantage since no official agency similar to your ~~e~~xists to obtain accommodation for them.

It is for this reason, and also because of the offer of the Commonwealth Government mentioned below, that the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation has been asked to convey the request of the Commonwealth Government that no further bookings of hotel and boarding-house accommodation be made by Netherlands officials for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

The Commonwealth Government is fully mindful of the plight of these unfortunate men, women and children in Java and Sumatra and, as has already been mentioned to you, is most anxious to do whatever is within its power to assist in their recuperation. The Minister for Immigration has stated that the Commonwealth will accept as many Dutch men, women and children for such purposes as Australia's accommodation capacity will allow and I understand that you will be furnishing a figure of those whom it is proposed to send to Australia in order that this may be examined in the light of the camp accommodation that is available. The fact that camp areas will have to be used is, I am afraid, inevitable in the circumstances now obtaining. I trust that this letter will fully explain to you the reasons underlying the request that has been made and that it will also be read as re-emphasising our desire to assist in the rehabilitation of ex-internees and prisoners-of-war from the Netherlands East Indies in all ways within our power.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest consideration,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Signed: Norman J.O. Makin.

Acting Minister of State for External Affairs.

HJ

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO. R K 4/79

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
FOR THE
VHP/JH STATE OF VICTORIA
HEAD OFFICE

TEMPLE COURT, 422 COLLINS STREET
TELEPHONE: MU 9691-00
(16 LINES)

MELBOURNE, C. I. 4th January, 1946.

My dear Minister,

ACCOMMODATION FOR EVACUEES
FROM THE NETHERLANDS INDIES

I wish to refer to my letter of 21st December last, addressed to you, in regard to the above subject, and would like to furnish you hereunder with some additional information regarding accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies which will be available in the near future:

After our last conversation on December 20th, I contacted the Department of the Army where I had a lengthy discussion in regard to possible accommodation for evacuees in disused Army camps, hotels and other buildings. As a result of this discussion I wrote you by my letter of 21st December, reference R K 4/6164/1145, concerning the Servicewomen's Club in Degraeves Street, Melbourne, your reply to which I am awaiting with great interest.

I have also contacted the R.A.A.F. Medical Directorate in regard to a hospital of 150 beds at Wagga which may become available in the near future. Similarly, I am in contact with the Australian Army Headquarters in regard to a hospital at Seymour, in conjunction with an empty training camp adjacent to this. So far, no result has been obtained.

On the advice of the Department of Social Services, I have contacted the Victorian State Government (The Honorable W. P. Barry, M.L.A., Minister of Health, of Housing and for Forests) for obtaining the group of buildings

14th January, 1946.

comprising "Larundel" at Heidelberg, which has been in use during the war by the R.A.A.F. These buildings were destined to be used by the Victorian State Government for housing of mental patients in the future, but are now, since the departure of the R.A.A.F., without immediate use.

Mr. Barry informed me that his Government would be willing to give my Government an opportunity to use these buildings for a period of six to nine months provided he could obtain accommodation for transit housing of families in the A.M.F. camp at Watsonia. I have contacted the Australian Army Headquarters regarding this, but so far no arrangements have been finalised to allow the Victorian State Government to use all or part of the Watsonia camp. If this could be arranged, I feel confident we would be permitted to use the "Larundel" buildings for our purpose, and this would give us an excellent opportunity to organise a very good reception centre for evacuees in Victoria.

Also, through the Department of the Army I am now considering the use of three blocks of Darley Camp near Bacchus Marsh. The position is now being investigated by my Victorian office, who will report to me within the next few days regarding the suitability of this camp for evacuees.

In Western Australia my representative is investigating the possibility of the use of an A.W.A.S. camp at Guildford which might contain 200 people, an empty R.A.A.F. camp at Busselton which might contain up to 500 people and an Army hostel at Faversham, York, which might contain 500 people.

In New South Wales my representative has inspected and favourably recommended the use of two large hostels of the War Housing Commission at Lithgow, which together might contain up to 900 evacuees.

In Queensland my representative in Camp Columbia has now taken over the following additional camp accommodation for evacuees:-

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White Cliff, ex-A.W.A.S. Camp-	which might contain 100-200 evacuees.
Perry Park -	which might contain 100-200 single men.
Coolangatta where we have taken over	camps which might contain 200-300 people.

4th January, 1946.

From the above figures you will see that within the next three to four weeks I may have finalised arrangements for extra accommodation for 3,000 evacuees in Australia, this number being in addition and above the arrangements which I had already made.

To sum up the present situation I would like to mention the following:-

Up until December 31st we have accommodated approximately 3,000 evacuees in Australia. To this number can be added 1,000 evacuees per month for at least the next six months as from January 1st, bringing the total for Australia to 9,000 as per end of June next. To these have to be added approximately 3,000 as per the above survey of new accommodation found, while I feel certain that within the next few months I will find still additional accommodation for at least 2,000 people in camps, hostels or otherwise. This would bring the ultimate total for Australia to about 14,000 - this in comparison with the possible accommodation in New Zealand of 3,000 to 5,000.

In the light of the above figures for Australia, it would seem to me that increased numbers of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies could be brought to this country in the very near future, and in respect to this I would like to suggest, in view of telephone conversations I had with the Secretary of your Department, Mr. Peters, that pressure is brought to bear on the Allied organisations which control shipping, particularly the British Ministry of War Transport in London, that additional shipping be made available to evacuate European men, women and children from the Netherlands Indies to Australia at the rate of at least 1,000 per month as from the second half of January, 1946, onwards. If this could be done, we would then have available the following transport facilities for the transport of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies to Australia:

- (a) Transport by N.E.I. military planes at the rate of 600-800 persons per month.
- (b) Transport per hospital ship "Tasman" from N.E.I. to New Zealand at the rate of 600-800 persons per month.
- (c) Transport per shipping still to be made available, say, 1,000 per month.

4th January, 1946.

The total thus to be evacuated from the N.E.I. would attain approximately 2,500 per month as from the end of January, 1946. I understand that this total might cope adequately with the increasing number of European men, women and children who are awaiting evacuation from the Netherlands Indies and who cannot now be transported because of lack of available shipping.

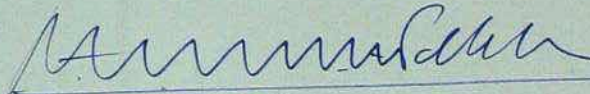
I would, therefore, feel grateful if you could take up the matter of the provision of adequate shipping with the relevant Allied authorities who are in control of this, advising them that if shipping for at least 1,000 persons per month is made available, these persons can be accommodated in Australia without any difficulty.

In respect to the above I would like to mention that apart from the evacuees for which my organisation is fully responsible for their accommodation, allowances, etc., there are also in the N.E.I. an increasing number of people awaiting transportation to Australia, New Zealand and other countries where their relatives or close friends are prepared to arrange for and guarantee their accommodation and financial assistance, provided they can only find transportation to these countries. At the moment it is not possible for the R.A.P.W.I. authorities in the N.E.I., Singapore or elsewhere to arrange for the transportation of such persons to Australia because all available transportation (which at the moment is only by plane) is taken up by fully authorised evacuees. Therefore, also in the interest of these so-called "sponsored" evacuees, it would be necessary to arrange for additional shipping for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies to Australia.

The Netherlands Minister (Baron van Aerssen Beyeren van Voshol) has requested me to forward to you the attached copy of his letter dated 28th December last to The Honorable N.J.O. Makin, Acting Minister of State for External Affairs, the contents of which are self-explanatory.

I am, dear Sir, with kind regards -

Yours very sincerely,



(J. van Holst Pellekaan),
Head,
N.I.W.O.E. for Commonwealth of
Australia.

The Honorable A. A. Calwell, M.H.R.,
Minister of Information and Immigration,
Department of Information,
375 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. C.1.

J 11/3658

Melbourne 28th December 1945.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th of December, 1945, no. 13513, in regard to accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies.

I have noted with great interest that the Commonwealth Government is fully mindful of the plight of these unfortunate men, women and children in Java and other islands of the Netherlands Indies, and is most anxious to do whatever is within its power to assist in their recuperation. I have also noted that the Minister for Immigration will allow as many Dutch men, women and children to enter into Australia for this purpose as Australia's accommodation capacity will permit.

In view of this last information I have requested the Trade Commissioner for the Netherlands Indies Government in Australia, Mr. J. van Holst Pellekaan, who is in charge of all arrangements in regard to evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies, to take this matter up with the Minister for Immigration, and I understand that these conversations are making satisfactory progress towards the aim of accommodating as many Dutch men, women and children in Australia as will prove to be possible.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest consideration,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

sgd. van Aerssen Beyeren

The Honourable N.J.O. Makin.
Acting Minister of State for External Affairs.
CANBERRA ACT.

18412

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



The Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Referred for information, &

favor advised when reported

11 DEC 1945

W.E. Drake
Secretary.

11/12/45. *W.E.*

*Reed by me 30/1/46
No action necessary
(see further correspondence
from H. van Nieuwen
Balkema to H. van Nieuwen)*



CANBERRA.

MEMORANDUM to:

11th December, 1946.

The Director-General,
Department of Social Services,
114 King Street,
WELLINGTON.

Evacuees from Netherlands East Indies.

I desire to refer to conversations last week with your Department in regard to past accommodation and future camp accommodation arrangements for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies. As already mentioned to Colonel Coleman, the present position regarding recovered internees and prisoners of war in the N.E.I. (of whom there appear to be some 100,000 of Dutch nationality), is that the Minister for Immigration has stated that the Commonwealth is prepared temporarily to receive Dutch men, women and children for recuperative purposes to the limit of our accommodation capacity. He had made it clear that since the Commonwealth lacks other facilities camp accommodation will have to be used.

Mr. Calwell's ruling has been notified to the Netherlands Minister in Australia who is at present endeavouring to obtain a figure which could be examined in the light of available camp accommodation here and other relevant factors.

Meanwhile a message has been received from the Australian Political Representative (Mr. Proud) at Singapore to the effect that H.A.W.F.I. has informed him that proposals have been made to the United Kingdom for the evacuation of Dutch N.E.I. to be an overall scheme embracing all the Dominions. Mr. Proud adds that it is possible that a conference will be held at Singapore later to discuss means and conditions to be employed to put the tentative plans into effect. Anticipating such a conference he requests the following information.

1. Location and type of accommodation available.
2. Period for which the Commonwealth is prepared to accommodate the evacuees.
3. Responsibility for costs.
4. Nature of equipment and personal effects N.E.I. will be required to bring with them.

It would be appreciated if you could furnish full details of the nature, capacity and location of the camp accommodation which could be made available here, as well as of facilities existing in each camp and also advise in regard to Mr. Proud's fourth question. The Department of Immigration is being asked to advise in regard to questions 2 and 3.

When the matter has advanced further and all relevant particulars are known, it is proposed to place a submission before Cabinet which it is suggested might go forward as from the Acting Minister for External Affairs, the Minister for Information and your Minister.

RECEIVED.

4372/1047
IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
NO. R.K.4/108

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
FOR THE
STATE OF VICTORIA
HEAD OFFICE

VHP/JH

TEMPLE COURT, 422 COLLINS STREET
TELEPHONE: MU 9881-86
(6 LINES)

MELBOURNE, C. I. 7th January, 1946.

Attention: Mr. A. R. Peters

Dear Sir,

EVACUEES FROM THE NETHERLANDS INDIES

With reference to our telephone conversation of the 5th instant in regard to so-called "sponsored" evacuees from the Netherlands Indies, I wish to confirm that my organisation is obtaining guarantees of sponsorship for accommodation and financial support for a great number of intended evacuees from the Netherlands Indies. These evacuees can be assisted in regard to accommodation and financial support in Australia not only by near relatives but also by business associates, close friends, etc.

I explained to you during our telephone conversation that my organisation is obtaining guarantees of sponsorship for such evacuees on a legal form, copy of which is enclosed for your perusal. When my organisation is satisfied that the person signing such form is fully responsible, this information is forwarded to the Netherlands Indies Government at Batavia, Bureau of Displaced Persons. This Bureau, in turn, informs the R.A.P.W.I. Evacuation Centre in Batavia, other places in Java or Singapore, after which the intended evacuees in question are placed on a waiting list for transportation to Australia or New Zealand.

Under the present circumstances it has proved to be very difficult to obtain transportation for such evacuees on account of the limited facilities available, but if better

7th January, 1946.

means of transportation can be made available in the near future, it would be possible to transport these so-called "sponsored" evacuees to Australia in greater numbers than before.

Upon arrival in Australia, these evacuees will be completely registered by my organisation in the same way as all other evacuees who are sponsored and supported by the Netherlands Indies Government. After registration and payment of a clothing allowance, my organisation hands these people over to their sponsors, who have arranged for their accommodation and who will be responsible for their financial upkeep.

If, for any unforeseen reason, this sponsorship by private persons in Australia might prove to be impossible upon arrival of the evacuee or after the evacuee has remained in Australia for some time, my organisation will assume full responsibility for such evacuee.

I understand that through the Australian representative in Singapore certain restrictions upon the entry of these evacuees into Australia are still being exercised - for instance, that nobody is admitted unless they are near relatives (up to the fourth grade) of their sponsors in Australia. It would seem to me that such restrictions now are impractical and preclude a great number of legitimate cases from coming to Australia, thus causing hardship and disappointment to the intended evacuees concerned.

In view of the fact that my organisation will and can assume full responsibility also for such "sponsored" evacuees (provided they have been resident in the Netherlands Indies for some considerable time prior to 1941), it would seem to me that any restrictions against bringing people out to Australia under the arrangements made with my organisation should be lifted. Therefore, I should be greatly obliged if instructions to this effect could be sent to the Australian representative in Singapore.

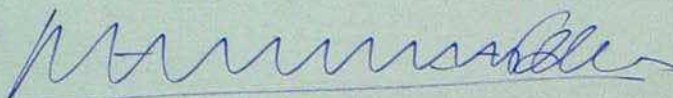
I am sending copy of this letter to the Netherlands Indies Bureau of Displaced Persons in Batavia and to the Officer in Charge of the Dutch Section of R.A.P.W.I. at Singapore for their information, and I would suggest that, in consultation with this last-named official, the Australian representative at Singapore should be able to obtain complete satisfaction that the working arrangements as suggested by me above should meet with no difficulties.

7th January, 1946.

Thanking you in anticipation for your much valued
co-operation in this matter -

I am, dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,



(J. van Holst Pellekaan),

Head,

Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation
for Evacuees for Commonwealth of Aust.

Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

TO: The Representative of the Netherlands Indies
Government,

422 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE.

I the undersigned

of

DECLARE HEREWITH that I take full responsibility for the
accommodation and financial support of the undermentioned
person(s):

Name

Address

State whether relation
(mother, father, etc.)
or friend.

during recreation in Australia AND IN CONSIDERATION of
your having at my request arranged the evacuation to Australia
of the said

I the said

HEREBY AGREE that should you be called upon to make payment for
the accommodation and financial support of the said

whilst in

Australia owing to default in payment by the said

I will make payment to you of
the moneys so paid by you AND I AGREE that this guarantee is a
continuing guarantee.

SIGNED this

day of

One thousand nine hundred and forty

SIGNED by the said

in the presence of:

)
)
)

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
FOR THE
VIP/JH STATE OF VICTORIA
HEAD OFFICE

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TELEPHONE: MU 9881-86
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CANBERRA. A.C.T.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>State whether relation mother, father, etc., or friend.</u>
-------------	----------------	--

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Australia owing to default in payment by the said

I will make payment to you of
the monies so paid by you AND I AGREE that this guarantee is a
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DATED this day of
One thousand nine hundred and forty

SIGNED by the said
in the presence of

}
}

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
NO.

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
FOR THE
VHP/JH ~~STATE OF VICTORIA~~
HEAD OFFICE

TEMPLE COURT, 422 COLLINS STREET
TELEPHONE: MU 9681-86
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continuing guarantee.

D A T E D this

day of

One thousand nine hundred and forty

SIGNED by the said

in the presence of

)
)

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

HE/TF

O.274,5,6.

Dated 4th January 1946.

DECRYPTER TO:

The Secretary of State
For Dominion Affairs,
LONDON..... 5

Repeated to:

The Prime Minister of New Zealand,
WELLINGTON..... 6

The Australian Political Representative,
SINGAPORE..... 6

Secret.

Your telegram No. 534 of 19th December, Netherlands Indies evacuees - Dutch authorities in Australia who are responsible for reception and accommodation of evacuees are introducing from 500 to 800 persons a month by Dutch planes which is limit their capacity by this means. They have already introduced 3000 and present target is 10000.

From end this month they state they will be able provide accommodation for approximately 2000 monthly and would greatly appreciate shipping enable approximately 1000 to be brought by sea if possible at end January and thereafter 1000 each month for February, March and April.

Commonwealth Government would support approach to the United States Government for allocation shipping space to bring Dutch evacuees to Australia, provided present shipping allocated for repatriation of Australian service personnel is not inter-ferred with.

War Cabinet
E.A.
Min. & Dept of Immigration (re Memo 45/2/1647)

8th January 1946.

*There is no further action
required on papers
hereunder.*

8/10/46

KR

4th January, 1946.

The secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
(External Communications),
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

I am directed to request that you will kindly
arrange for a cablegram to be sent to the secretary of state
for Dominion Affairs, London, in the following terms:-

" **SECRET.** (Repeat to Prime Minister, New Zealand, and
Australian Political Representative, Singapore.)

Your telegram No. 534 of 19th December, Netherlands
Indies evacuees - Dutch authorities in Australia who are
responsible for reception and accommodation of evacuees
are introducing from 600 to 800 persons a month by
Dutch planes which is limit their capacity by this means.
They have already introduced 3000 and present target
is 10000.

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provide accommodation for approximately 2000 monthly
and would greatly appreciate shipping enable approximately
1000 to be brought by sea if possible at end January and
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Commonwealth government would support approach to
the United States government for allocation shipping
space to bring Dutch evacuees to Australia, provided
present shipping allocated for repatriation of Australian
service personnel is not interfered with."

*Mr Van Holst
Pellegrin
advised me
by phone to
the effect
I need be
would confer
in detail*

4/1/46

*J.P.B.
4/1/46*

(A. R. PETERS)
Acting secretary.

*(I informed Mr. X
the Draft & P.M.'s Concurrence)*
4/1/46

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

/FF

O.147

Dated 3rd January 1946.

DECIPHER TO:

The Australian Government Representative,
SINGAPORE.

4.

Your telegrams 44, 55 and 56 - as there appears to be some confusion in regard to arrangements for movement of Dutch evacuees from Java to Australia for recuperation purposes, you are advised that the position is briefly as follows. Minister for Immigration agreed that Dutch authorities could introduce evacuees up to the limit which could be suitably accommodated. Owing limited extent suitable accommodation in sight, present target is up to 10,000 under conditions already known to you. This number includes 3,000 who have already arrived.

Mr. Van Holst Pellekaan, Netherlands Trade Commissioner, Melbourne, is in charge arrangements for reception, accommodation and care of these evacuees. He states under present conditions can place approximately 1,000 a month, that evacuees are being brought to Australia by Dutch planes on average thirty daily, and he has co-operation of Rapwi organisation at Batavia and Singapore in regard to personnel selected for despatch to Australia.

He is negotiating with Army, Air and Navy here with view to endeavouring secure additional accommodation to enable numbers to be increased from beginning next month. He knows nothing of estimated numbers referred to in first paragraph your telegram 56.

He states Hospital Ship "Tasman" now on way to Java has been allocated to carry evacuees to New Zealand, approximately 7000 a month.

Regarding your telegram 55, you could suggest that Netherlands Representative, General Weysiman, should communicate with Van Holst Pellekaan who could advise him fully of arrangements he has made this end.

Min. & Dept of Immigration
E.A.
Social Services.

4th January 1945.

*x I asked Mr Keen to
check up which 700 or 7000
was in Cablegram, ref latter
& correct to 700.*

MC

3rd January, 1946.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
(External Communications),
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

I am directed to request that you will kindly send a cablegram to the Australian Government Representative, Singapore, in terms of the attached draft.

(A. R. PETERS)
Acting Secretary.

DRAFT CABLEGRAM TO AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE, SINGAPORE.

Your telegrams 44, 55 and 56 - As there appears to be some confusion in regard to arrangements for movement of Dutch evacuees from Java to Australia for recuperation purposes, you are advised that the position is briefly as follows. Minister for Immigration agreed that Dutch authorities could introduce evacuees up to the limit which could be suitably accommodated. Stop. Owing limited extent suitable accommodation in sight, present target is up to 10,000 under conditions already known to you. This number includes 3,000 who have already arrived.

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He is negotiating with Army, Air and Navy ^{view} ~~endeavouring~~ ^{accommodate & enable number to be increased} secure additional ~~monthly~~ ^{monthly} ~~quota~~ from beginning next month. He knows nothing of estimated numbers referred to in first paragraph your telegram 56.

He states Hospital Ship "Tasman" now on way to Java has been allocated to carry evacuees to New Zealand, approximately 700 a month.

Regarding your telegram 55, you could suggest that Netherlands Representative, General Weysiman, should communicate with Van Holst Pellekaan who could advise you ^{him} fully of arrangements he has made this end.

At Palembang, in response
to my further inquiry
said that so far he
could arrange
accommodate.

(a) for 1000 a month
in Aust.

(b) for 700 a month
in N.S.

He has already fixed up
3000 in Aust. & is
aiming to buy out another
7000.

At present Dutch planes
are being an average of
about 30 a day - which
nearly fills up the 1000 per
month.

He is negotiating with
Army, Air & Navy for
Camp, account of getting the
from his side of getting the
able to amount for acceptance
of more than 1000 a
month.

29/12/45

Mr. Pellekaan, in answer to my inquiry, said he was quite unaware of proposal to introduce evacuees of the extent mentioned in Cider Fraud's Cablegram No 56.

An average of from 25 to 30 are arriving daily - they are first placed in Camp Columbia at Bane, & then transferred to the suitable accommodation.

Mr. Colwell said he is satisfied with present arrangements made by Mr. Pellekaan, who had fully explained position to him in a letter.

The Tacoma (Dutch hospital ship) is to left about 700 evacuees from Java taken direct to N.Y. It is expected to proceed to N.Y. monthly for some time.

W.P.

29/12/45

W.P. be 94 of Papua
Evacuees & Dutch sponsored
lot in they came to home in
the amount of 1.75



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
CANBERRA.

In reply quote No. *P.45759/28*

31st December, 1945.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA.

2-JAN

DUTCH EVACUEES.

You will observe from his telegram of December 27th, that the Australian Government Representative at Singapore is somewhat confused as to the number of evacuees the Commonwealth is willing to accept, one reason for his uncertainty being the movement of some twenty-five evacuees to Australia each day by Mr. van Holst Pelikaan. He refers to a reported Dutch target of 22,000 and to the accommodation of the evacuees in other than camp areas.

2. On December 19th, Mr. Proud was informed, at the instance of your Department, that the Minister for Immigration was agreeable to the temporary admission of up to 10,000 evacuees subject to (a) assumption of all responsibilities by the Dutch; (b) the exclusion of certain medical categories. He had already, on December 12th, been told that camp areas in Australia would have to be used for the evacuees and that the Netherlands authorities here had been asked to furnish a figure of evacuees which could be examined in the light of suitable camp areas available and other facilities.

3. Since the matter is under active and apparently urgent consideration by Admiral Mountbatten, you will no doubt wish to transmit through this Department a reply to Mr. Proud's queries of December 27th and a reply also to the queries contained in his telegram of 20th and 24th December. Copies of these telegrams have been referred to you and to the Department of Social Services with whom you are presumably in consultation.

4. You will also have seen two telegrams from the Dominions Office of December 19th, one of which enquires whether it would be in accordance with the wishes of the Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments if they supported, vis a vis the United States, a Netherlands Government request for the allocation of shipping space required for the move of 15,000 evacuees to Australia and New Zealand. It will no doubt be desired also to send through this Department a definitive reply to this enquiry.

5. You will readily appreciate our interest in the development of this matter which bears directly on the Commonwealth's political relations with the Netherlands Government and on our relations with the Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia Command. Any further assistance which this Department can give in discussions with the Netherlands authorities or in implementing your decisions through the Australian Government Representative at Singapore will be offered most readily. We do urge upon you however the importance of the Dutch authorities putting forward a firm plan so that all concerned will know where we are.

[Signature]
Secretary.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

2 JAN 1946

DEB:PO'N

I.39563

SC107

DECRYPTER FROM:

Dated 27th December, 1945

2140

R.J.C. FROUD Esq.,
AUST. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

Recd. 28th December, 1945

IMMEDIATE:

56. S.E.A.C. Liaison Staff have advised SACSEA that Holst Pelekaan states they are moving to Australia as many Rapwi as can be accommodated other than in camps. Estimates 6000 by middle of January and 2000 a month thereafter. Target figures are 22,000 and civil accommodation only will be used. Approximately 25 per day are arriving by air and hospital ship TASMAN is proceeding to Java to lift 700.

There is considerable confusion here as to whether -

(A) The Australian Government is aware of this apparent independent Dutch action;

(B) Whether the figure 10,000 is in addition to any number that may be moved by the Dutch independently;

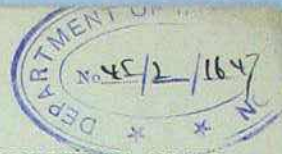
(C) If the Dutch can accommodate 22,000 in places other than camps, whether they also require camp accommodation for 10,000;

Suggest you should contact Brigadier Denoy and Holst Pelekaan and after consultation advise me as suggested in paragraphs (A), (B) and (C).

Further that until Policy is finally decided the Dutch authorities should be informed that all moves of Rapwi to Australia must be approved by the Commonwealth Government.

MIN. AND DEPT. OF E.A.
MIN. AND DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
MIN. AND DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES

28th December, 1945



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,

CANBERRA.

27th December, 1945.

In reply quote No.

P.45/59/20

MEMORANDUM to:

The Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA.

EVACUEES EX N.E.I.

I should be glad if you would kindly refer to telegrams No.44 (I.39127) and No.55 (I.3946) from the Australian Government Representative, Singapore concerning the above subject.

It would be appreciated if, after consultation with the Department of Social Services, you could let me have a reply for transmission to Mr. Proud.

W. J. Dunk
SECRETARY.

WJ

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

JT:NO'R

I. 59.72

DECRYPTER FROM:

Dated 27th December, 1945

S. 97/CJ

1720

THE PRIME MINISTER OF
NEW ZEALAND,
WELLINGTON.

Recd. 28th December, 1945

Secret.

Addressed Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs
No. 430 repeated Canberra No. 227.

Your telegram No. 423 of 19th December, Netherlands Indies Evacuees; It is not altogether clear to us from your message whether shipping is required evacuees, for the reception of whom arrangements, as outlined below, have been made in New Zealand, or for other persons from the Netherlands Indies whose future must in present circumstances be uncertain.

During the course of a discussion a few days ago the Consul General of Netherlands mentioned to us that consideration was being given to the evacuation of a large number of Dutch and Eurasian Refugees and while he hinted that we might be invited to consider certain proposals, he stated then that he had neither been instructed nor was he in a position to put any. We could not, therefore, at this time venture any opinion regarding the reception of any persons of the latter category in New Zealand.

It has, however, been arranged as a result of discussions with the Netherlands Indies Authorities which commenced in June of this year that facilities for rest and recuperation will be afforded in New Zealand to a number of evacuees from the Netherlands Indies. Accommodation for all such persons will be arranged by the Netherlands Indies Authorities after consultation and agreement with us and facilities required in both transit camps, boarding houses and hotels seem reasonably established. It was agreed that none of these persons would be in need of hospital treatment or any special medical care; that the evacuees would remain here for a period of approximately four months, that they would come at the rate of about 500 per month and on the expiration of that period the Netherlands Indies Authorities would arrange for them to leave.

We are given to understand that the first shipment will arrive in January and if this scheme continues for from eight to twelve months as we have tentatively agreed, the total number that would come to New Zealand within the maximum period would be in the order of 6,000. At any one time there would be approximately 2,000 evacuees in New Zealand.

MIN. AND DEPT. OF E. A.
MIN. AND DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES
MIN. AND DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
MIN. AND DEPT. OF ARMY

28th December, 1945

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.*Handwritten signature*

DBB:NC'H

I.39563

30107

DECYPHER FROM:

Dated 27th December, 1945

2140

R. J. C. PROUD ESQ.,
AUST. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

Recd. 28th December, 1945.

IMMEDIATE:

56. S.E.A.C. Liaison Staff have advised SACSEA that Holst Pelekaan states they are moving to Australia as many Rapwi as can be accommodated other than in camps. Estimates 6000 by middle of January and 2000 a month thereafter. Target figures are 22,000 and civil accommodation only will be used. Approximately 25 per day are arriving by air and hospital ship TASMAR is proceeding to Java to lift 700.

There is considerable confusion here as to whether -

- (A) The Australian Government is aware of this apparent independent Dutch action;
- (B) Whether the figure 10,000 is in addition to any number that may be moved by the Dutch independently;
- (C) If the Dutch can accommodate 22,000 in places other than camps, whether they also require camp accommodation for 10,000;

Suggest you should contact Brigadier Bency and Holst Pelekaan and after consultation advise me as suggested in paragraphs (A), (B) and (C).

Further that until Policy is finally decided the Dutch authorities should be informed that all moves of Rapwi to Australia must be approved by the Commonwealth Government.

MIN. AND DEPT. OF E.A.
MIN. AND DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION
MIN. AND DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES

28th December, 1945

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

JT/MP.

O.32089 70.

Decypher to:

Dated 25th December 1945.

The Secretary of State
For Dominion Affairs,
LONDON. 469.

Repeat to:

The Prime Minister
of New Zealand,
WELLINGTON. 284

Your 534. On 19th December the Australian Political Representative, Singapore, was instructed to notify S.A.C.S.E.A. that the Commonwealth Minister for Immigration was agreeable to the temporary admission to Australia of up to 10,000 Dutch men, women and children subject to

- (a) The exclusion of certain medical categories
- (b) assumption by the Dutch of responsibility for reception, care and maintenance and for costs.

The allocation of shipping for this purpose raises many matters of political consequence which we are considering.

Int. Min. & Dept. External Affairs (re draft 24/12/45)
Min. & Dept. Immigration.
Min. & Dept. Social Services.

20th December, 1945.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

NVI/MP.

0.32056.

Decyphered to:

Dated 25th December, 1945.

Australian Political Representative,
SINGAPORE.

26. MOST IMMEDIATE. SECRET.

Reference my 24. We should appreciate urgent advice regarding availability of shipping for evacuation to various areas including Australia and New Zealand. We are especially desirous to know the extent, if any, which the shipment of evacuees is likely to affect the repatriation of Australian servicemen.

2. We have received a telegram from United Kingdom Government which indicates that shipping will present some difficulty involving large political issues requiring decisions by Governments. One question is whether the evacuees are to be given priority over repatriation of British and American forces.

3. Your comment is desired before we reply to a United Kingdom Government enquiry as to whether we concur in their supporting vis a vis the United States a Netherlands Government request for allocation of shipping space for movement of 15,000 evacuees to Australia and New Zealand.

External Affairs (re draft 24/12/45)
Min. & Dept. Immigration.

30th December, 1945.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

MP.

I. 39467.

XP015.

Dated 24th December, 1945.

1946.

Rec'd 25th December, 1945.

Decypher from:

The Australian Government Representative,
SINGAPORE.

56. From Proud.

At a meeting called at S.A.C.S.E.A. today the Netherlands Representative, General Wegeiman stated that he would accept in principle the Australian conditions for entry of R.A.P.W.I. on behalf of his Government, but asked for elucidation of the following points.

1. Would the Dutch have to staff all camps themselves? I informed the General that so far I knew he must take it that the Dutch would have to supply all staff for camps.
2. Would the Australian Government be able to supply transport for the R.A.P.W.I. in Australia to camps? I said I would request information on this subject and it was possible that certain army transport might be made available.
3. Would the Dutch authorities be able to purchase the necessary supplies for camps in Australia? Could such supplies be transported to camps by Australian authorities? I mentioned that I believed it was possible that certain Dutch relief supplies to Australia could be allocated for this purpose but I thought it would be understood they could purchase supplies on the Australian Mainland.
4. Would the R.A.P.W.I. be able to obtain employment in Australia or accept employment if it were offered to them? I said I would have to refer this matter to the Commonwealth Government.
5. I should be grateful if you could let me know as soon as possible the Commonwealth Governments final answers to these four points as it is possible that a ship will be made available to carry civilian R.A.P.W.I. to Australia in the next 14 days. I should also like clarification as to the location and the types of camps (see my telegram 44) and whether camps are hatted or tented.
6. The problem of medical examination before embarkation is a most difficult one as there is a shortage of medical officers in this theatre. However, it was agreed that it would be undertaken jointly by S.A.C.S.E.A. and such medical officers as the Dutch could provide. The question was raised whether individual medical certificates would have to be provided for each person and I stated I took it that this would be so.

War Cabinet.
Defence.
External Affairs.
Min. & Dept. Immigration.

26th December, 1945.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

/HM

I. 39127

DECODE, FROM -

SC131

Dated 20th December 1945

1615

Rec'd 20th December 1945

J. C. R. PROUD,
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

44.

IMMEDIATE :

Following from Proud.

Your telegram No. 34. I have informed S.A.C.S.E.A of your decision and they will endeavour to obtain an assurance from the Dutch authorities to the terms of your telegram. It is possible that a ship may be available about the end of the year with a capacity of approximately 1500. Can you advise location and capacity of camps and ports to which movements should be arranged.

WAR CABINET.

E.A.

DEFENCE

IMMIGRATION.

21st December 1945.

~~Col. Cole~~ or Col. Cole
Mr Burden (Social Services)

I spoke to Mr Rowe re this Cablegram
He said he would get in Col. Cole
I got in touch with Mr Velleman.
Latter rang me up late &
said he would like more definite
information. If ship could be diverted
to New G. accommodation could be provided
there for at least 1000. he would have
to arrange for the others to come to
Sydney & Melbourne
A. J. Selous
24/12/45

SECRET.**CABLEGRAM.**

C. 31712/13

Sent: 19th December, 1945.

BH/PA

DECYPHER TO:
 AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT
 REPRESENTATIVE,
 SINGAPORE.

Re. Repeated to Plumb for information 27. MOST IMMEDIATE.

Your 29 and 31 - SACSEA should be notified that Minister for Immigration is agreeable to the temporary admission of up to 10,000 Dutch men, women and children subject to SACSEA arranging with the Dutch authorities to furnish him with a formal assurance:

- (a) that the Dutch will assume all responsibility for the reception, care and maintenance of the evacuees and for all costs;
- (b) that tubercular and V.D. cases will be excluded as well as those requiring hospitalisation and those who are bedridden, infirm, blind or unable to look after themselves. There are no available sanatoria even for our own people and hospital accommodation is severely over-taxed; medical and other staffs for camps will be extremely difficult if not impossible to find. The long term objection is that in view of their condition, few of these cases once here will be able ever to leave;
- (c) that the people sent to Australia will be medically examined before embarkation.

It is desired that SACSEA and yourself should impress upon the Dutch authorities concerned in any transfer movement to Australia that all the arrangements must necessarily be left to them. The movement will presumably be spaced, but will nevertheless be a large one involving them and especially Dutch officials here in a good deal of hard work and preparation. Merely to land these people in Australia is not enough and their responsibilities in this connection should be stressed.

War Cabinet
 Min. & Dept. Immigration
 Dept. E.A.
 " Defence.
 20.12.45.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

JES/PM.

I.59143.

XBOO158.

DATED: 19th December, 1945.
2235.

RECD: 21st December, 1945.

DECYPHER FROM -

The Secretary of State
For Dominion Affairs,
L O N D O N.

Circular D. No. 2265. SECRET.

My telegram of 1st December, D. No. 2170, paragraph 2.

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES.

The Netherlands Government replied expressing appreciation of our concern regarding the problem of evacuation of Dutch and Eurasians from Java. They state that evacuation has already been initiated on a plan elaborated by Netherlands Representatives in Java, according to whom about 50,000 women and children are to be evacuated to Holland and 15,000 to Australia and New Zealand where reception arrangements are being made. The main difficulty is, however, shipping. The Netherlands authorities require shipping space for evacuation to Holland of 10,000 in December, 20,000 in January and 20,000 in February and shipping space for 15,000 destined for Australia and New Zealand. The Netherlands Government suggest that the United Kingdom Government should join with them in requesting the Combined Chiefs of Staff, Washington, to allocate the necessary shipping space and in asking the United States Government to support this request before the Combined Chiefs of Staff. They understand the present heavy demands on shipping for repatriation of British and American Forces in the Far East but feel that priority should be given to European women and children in Java. If developments in the Netherlands East Indies require a larger scale of evacuation at short notice the Netherlands Government would be glad to consider the situation in concert with us.

2. The Netherlands Government's reply raises two questions.

- (a) Whether and to what extent we should be prepared to allocate shipping to help meet the present urgent Dutch need and
- (b) Whether and through what channel we should support the Dutch approach to the United States Government.

3. As regards (a) the full implications of such an allocation will have to be considered and His Majesty's United Kingdom Ambassador at The Hague has been instructed to inform the Netherlands Government that we are giving the matter urgent consideration.

4. As regards (b) the Ambassador has been instructed to state that allocation of shipping resources on a scale necessary to meet Dutch requirements would involve such large political issues that, in our view, the Combined Chiefs of Staff would be obliged to leave decisions to the Governments. We, therefore, wish to suggest that the Netherlands Government should approach the United States Government direct; we should be quite ready to support such an approach and His Majesty's United Kingdom Ambassador at Washington would be instructed accordingly.

WAR CABINET
E.A.
DEFENCE
IMMIGRATION

21/12/45.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

TH/HE.

DECRYPTER FROM:

SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DOMINION AFFAIRS
L O N D O N.

I. 39109.
XB00157.
Dated 19th December, 1945.
2250.
Received 20th December, 1945.

Secret.

Australia No. 534, New Zealand No. 423.

My telegram of today D No. 2265.

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES.

We assume that it would be in accordance with the wishes of His Majesty's Governments in Commonwealth of Australia and in New Zealand if we supported via a via United States Government, Netherlands Government's request for allocation of shipping space required for the move of 15,000 refugees to Australia and New Zealand.

War Cabinet.
External Affairs.
Defence.
Immigration.

21st December, 1945.

Evacuees from
N. E. I.

Mr. said he had
discussed with Mr.
Van Holst Pellekaan & others
the question of Camp
accommodations & thought
that satisfactory arrangements
could be made.

I reminded Mr.
of necessity of leaving
it to Social Service
& cooperate with
Mr. Pellekaan for an
arrangement of camp
care of these people
after arrival. AP 21/12

13556



CANBERRA.

*With the Compliments
of the
Secretary, Department of
External Affairs.*

COPY

Cop 3 + in. letter
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Department of Social Services,
Kinnear House, 114 King Street,
Melbourne. 18th December, 1945.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

EVACUEES FROM NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES.

With reference to your memorandum of 11th December, and to the discussions Mr. Egan had with Mr. Kevin concerning the abovementioned subject, I desire to confirm the information given regarding camp facilities.

Location and type of accommodation available.

COWRA. Prisoner-of-war camp is now available for disposal. The camp has a hutted capacity of 4,000, with all facilities, and is sewered.

HARVEY. Hutted camp with all facilities other than sewerage, is also available for disposal. This camp has a capacity of 1,000.

MT. MARTHA. Tented camp with hutted facilities, has a capacity for 4,500.

With additional minor accommodation, it is thought there would be available camp capacity for about 10,000 persons. It is not known what facilities in way of blankets, kitchen utensils, etc. are available, but enquiry is being made into this aspect and further advice will be furnished as soon as possible.

With regard to hospital accommodation, it is thought the Air Force hospitals at Wagga and Tocumwal would very likely become available in the near future, although it has not been possible to obtain a definite statement from the R.A.A.F. in this regard. Both hospitals have 150 beds. There is also a possibility that a 400 bed hospital at Townsville will become vacant in the near future.

The following is an extract from a report prepared by the Chief Liaison Officer of this Department relative to some additional aspects of this question discussed over the telephone by Colonel Coleman with Mr. Kevin, viz. -

"It was also requested that the following information be supplied:-

- (a) Number of Dutch nationals who have already arrived in Australia?

/(b).....

- (b) Number accommodated in Army Camps?
- (c) Number accommodated in other than Army Camps?

On 7th December, I interviewed Mr. Wessels, Vice Consul of the Netherlands and discussed the question referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 above. Regarding paragraph 5 (a.b.c.) the following information is submitted -

- (a) 1750
- (b) 400 in Camp Columbia (Queensland)
- (c) Perth 450, Adelaide 50, Victoria 700, New South Wales 150

Mr. Wessels explained that as the Dutch nationals arriving in Australia were being accommodated with the object of recuperating them to health, after their sojourn in Japanese prison camps, and the fact of accommodating them in disused Army Camps would not be very beneficial to them, when it is considered that most of them have spent long periods in concentration camps, and that Army camps in the main were erected for temporary accommodation of troops and generally speaking are not suitable for mixed sexes and children, if the withdrawal of civilians from N.E.I. was part of an evacuation plan, then the use of Army Camps would be necessary. At the present time the Dutch authorities have established a reception staff in each State, who deal with reception, transport, medical attention and pay of all Dutch ex-internees on and after their arrival. I am advised that no difficulty is being experienced in the distribution of food or clothing coupons to the ex-internees. The Dutch authorities also have a number of Welfare Workers with their Red Cross sections. I am also informed that a complete medical staff, consisting of doctors, dentists, nurses and orderlies are expected to arrive in Australia shortly, but difficulty is being experienced in obtaining a suitable establishment in Victoria to form a hospital. At present the Dutch authorities are not in a position to say what number of nationals are expected to arrive in Australia, and are seeking that information from the Netherlands Indies."

In any discussions that have taken place up to the present between this Department and the Dutch authorities relative to the reception of Dutch nationals from Java, it has been made clear by the Dutch authorities that they have their own organisation for dealing with the reception, accommodation, transport, etc. of all Dutch ex-internees and nationals arriving in Australia for recuperation and that they attend to their own financial arrangements. It seems desirable that arrangements should be made on these lines in the event of any further nationals being sent to this country for rehabilitation.

(Sgd.) F. H. ROWE
Director - General

13514



CANBERRA.

19th December, 1945.

With the Compliments

of the

Secretary, Department of

External Affairs.

A.R. Peters, Esq.,

A letter in the accompanying terms
was sent to the Dutch Legation on
17th Dec.

DEPARTMENTAL OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
CANBERRA.

12th December, 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to a conversation yesterday between the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation and an officer of the Department of External Affairs concerning the position of accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

For some time the Commonwealth Government has been most anxious to ensure as far as possible that Australians who have experienced the stresses of the past six years, especially our returned prisoners-of-war, those invalided out of the Services and others from the Services who are being re-united with their families, should be given some opportunity of relaxing for the first time in a long period and of rehabilitating themselves both physically and mentally.

The housing position in Australia being at present what it is, a great many of these men and women must look for accommodation in hotels and boarding-houses. Unfortunately, the supply of such accommodation tends to fall well below the demand, particularly at this period of the year.

It is my understanding that Netherlands officials have in the past made a considerable number of hotel and boarding-house bookings for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies and that they have continued to make these bookings.

You will appreciate that where large numbers of evacuees are involved, this practice, if continued, will have the effect ...

His Excellency
Baron F.C. van Aerssen Deyeren van Voelch, N.W.O.,
Her Netherlands Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary
and Minister Plenipotentiary,
Royal Netherlands Legation,
CANBERRA.

the effect of depriving our own necessitous cases of accommodation, and actually places them at a serious disadvantage since no official agency similar to yours exists to obtain accommodation for them.

It is for this reason, and also because of the offer of the Commonwealth Government mentioned below, that the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation has been asked to convey the request of the Commonwealth Government that no further bookings of hotel and boarding-house accommodation be made by Netherlands officials for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

The Commonwealth Government is fully mindful of the plight of these unfortunate men, women and children in Java and Sumatra and, as has already been mentioned to you, is most anxious to do whatever is within its power to assist in their recuperation. The Minister for Immigration has stated that the Commonwealth will accept as many Dutch men, women and children for such purposes as Australia's accommodation capacity will allow and I understand that you will be furnishing a figure of those whom it is proposed to send to Australia in order that they may be examined in the light of the camp accommodation that is available. The fact that camp areas will have to be used is, I am afraid, inevitable in the circumstances now obtaining. I trust that this letter will fully explain to you the reasons underlying the request that has been made and that it will also be read as re-emphasising our desire to assist in the rehabilitation of ex-internees and prisoners-of-war from the Netherlands East Indies in all ways within our power.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest consideration,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Norman J. Makin).

Acting Minister of State for External Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

SECRET.**CABLEGRAM.****MOST**

45/2/1644

PEC/JO

Decypher from

Australian Government Representative
SINGAPORE.

I. 36938

SC 55

Dated 18th December, 1945

1648

Recd. 18th December, 1945

58

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Following for Burton from Froud.

Reference your telegram 17,

British RAPWI advise that 544 Indonesians are being cared for by them in F.I.C. There are no other Indonesians officially classed as RAPWI. The term I.P.T.U. (inhabitants friendly to us) is applied to Indonesians and other permanent residents of the Netherlands East Indies who are co-operating with Allied Forces. I am obtaining figures giving the approximate number of these in areas with which we have contact, but they cannot be considered as part of any evacuee scheme to Australia. They only be treated as evacuees if it were decided to evacuate these areas in which we at present have control and in which they are resident. In such case, however, they would not be considered as part of the scheme for Australia.

2. I must again press for immediate information as to number of Dutch RAPWI that Australia is prepared to accept. Otherwise I am afraid the matter will be taken up on the level of the Supreme Commander to the Prime Minister.

3. Request also immediate reply to my telegram 21. Eastman is signalling you regarding release of terms of Thai Agreement.

WAR CABINET
E.A. (AFIN.)
DEFENCE
MINISTER AND DEPARTMENT IMMIGRATION
19th December, 1945

MC

URGENT.

18th December, 1945.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

With reference to your memorandum of the 17th December, P.45/59/28, relative to cablegrams Nos. 29-31 from the Australian Government Representative, Singapore, I am directed to request that you will kindly arrange for a reply to be sent in terms of the attached draft.



(A. R. PETERS)
Acting Secretary.

(Copied to Keirin)

KR.

DRAFT CABLEGRAM TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

"Your 29 and 31 - SACSEA should be notified that Minister for Immigration is agreeable to the temporary admission of up to 10,000 Dutch men, women and children subject to SACSEA arranging with the Dutch authorities to furnish him with a formal assurance;

- (a) that the Dutch will assume all responsibility for the reception, care, and maintenance of the evacuees and for all costs;
- (b) that tubercular and V.D. cases will be excluded as well as those requiring hospitalisation and those who are bedridden, infirm, blind or unable to look after themselves. There are no available sanatoria even for our own people and hospital accommodation is severely over-taxed; medical and other staffs for camps will be extremely difficult if not impossible to find. The long term objection is that in view of their condition, few of these cases once here will be able ever to leave;
- (c) that the people sent to Australia will be medically examined before embarkation.

It is desired that SACSEA and yourself should impress upon the Dutch authorities concerned in any transfer movement to Australia that all the arrangements must necessarily be left to them. The movement will presumably be spaced, but will nevertheless be a large one involving them and especially Dutch officials here in a good deal of hard work and preparation. Merely to land these people in Australia is not enough and this should be stressed."

(Cable by Mr. ...)



45/2/1647

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
CANBERRA.

In reply quote No. P.45/59/28.

17th December, 1945.

Urgent

MEMORANDUM TO:

The Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

EVACUEES BY NET

You will have already seen Mr. Proud's (Australian Political Representative) messages from Singapore in regard to the above subject, especially his No. 29 of 14th December, and his No. 31 of 15th December, 1945.

Copies attached

After speaking with Mr. Peters, and following further efforts to obtain from the Netherlands Legation, a figure which might be examined, it is suggested that a cablegram in the following terms might suitably be sent to Mr. Proud. If you agree with its terms, would you kindly inform me in order that it may be despatched:-

The figure to be seen also considered Health Social Services in connection with this draft

"Your 29 and 31. You should inform SACSEA that we can receive up to 10,000 Dutch men, women, and children, subject to -

- (a) SACSEA arranging with Dutch authorities to furnish Australian Government with a formal assurance that the Dutch will assume all responsibility for the reception, care, and maintenance of the evacuees and for all costs;
- (b) the need to exclude tubercular and V.D. cases as well as those requiring hospitalisation and those who are bedridden, infirm, blind, or unable to look after themselves. We have no available sanatoria even for our own people and hospital accommodation is severely over-taxed; medical and other staffs for camps will be extremely difficult if not impossible to find. The long term objection is that in view of their conditions, few of these cases once here will be able ever to leave;
- (c) medical examination before embarkation;
- (d) the term Dutch can if necessary, be read as including Eurasians, but we are anxious as far as possible to keep the entries to whites.

(4)

SACSEA and yourself should impress upon the Dutch authorities concerned in any movement here, that all the arrangements must necessarily be left to them. The movement will presumably be spaced, but will nevertheless be a large one involving them and especially Dutch officials here in a good deal of hard work and preparation. Merely to land these people in Australia is not enough and this should be stressed."

*Submitted for Minister's approval
17/12/45*

H. E. Drake
Secretary

Mr. Minister,

Mr. Peters has
discussed this with
Chas. Kewin.

I presume they
will be seeking your
views before sending a
reply.

R. E. 2

17/12

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

ML/MF.

T.38613.

SC138.

Dated 14th December, 1945.

Decypher from:

1216.

Received 14th December, 1945.

The Australian Government Representative,

SINGAPORE.

29. MOST IMMEDIATE.

Reference your telegram 35 December 12th repeated Plumb.

S.A.C.S.E.A. are pressing me regarding the number of Dutch refugees you are willing to accept in Australia

Understand from Benot up to 10,000 can be accommodated in ex military camps. S.A.C.S.E.A. wish to know urgently if this is a firm figure and agreed to by the Dutch as they wish to make use of immediate available shipping. Can you impress on the Dutch and Social Services the necessity for immediate decision.

Request immediate information regarding conditions under which they will be accepted and admission of Tubercular patients.

War Cabinet,
Min. & Dept. Immigration,
External Affairs,
Social Services,
Defence.

15th December, 1945.

SECRET.

AW/PA

CABLEGRAM. O. 31184/66
Sent: 12th December, 1946.

DECIPHER TO:
AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

11. Repeat to Plumb, Batavia, 65.

Year 4 and 10. We have informed Netherlands Minister that we are agreeable in principle to taking Dutch ex internees and prisoners of war to the limit of our accommodation capacity, adding that in view of accommodation shortage camps areas would have to be used. Netherlands authorities have been asked to furnish a figure which can be examined in the light of suitable camp areas available and other factors. We still await their estimate and also a report from Department of Social Services on existing camps and facilities. The great problem is likely to be staffing of camps as regards which we can see no answer at present except community self help by the evacuees.

War Cabinet, Min. & Dept. Immigration.
Dept. E.A.
" Defence
" Social Services.
13.12.46.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

ML/MP.

I.38613.

SC138.

Dated 14th December, 1945.

1216.

Received 14th December, 1945.

Decypher from:

The Australian Government Representative,
S I N G A P O R E.

29. MOST IMMEDIATE.

Reference your telegram 35 December 12th
repeated Plumb.S.A.C.S.E.A. are pressing me regarding the
number of Dutch refugees you are willing to accept in
Australia.Understand from Benet up to 10,000 can be
accommodated in ex military camps. S.A.C.S.E.A.
wish to know urgently if this is a firm figure and agreed
to by the Dutch as they wish to make use of immediate
available shipping. Can you impress on the Dutch and
Social Services the necessity for immediate decision.Request immediate information regarding
conditions under which they will be accepted and admission
of Tubercular patients.War Cabinet.
Min. & Dept. Immigration.
External Affairs.
Social Services.
Defence.

15th December, 1945.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

:NO 'N

I. 38751

DECYPHER FROM:

Dated 15th December, 1945

SC170/P

1506

J.C.R. PROUD ESQ.,

Recd. 16th December, 1945

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.MOST IMMEDIATE:

No. 31.

Further to my telegram 29. Numbers of Rapwi to be evacuated to all Countries is being decided by S.A.C.S.E.A. not the Dutch Authorities. The present requirements approximately 50,000.

Under these circumstances they consider it unnecessary to obtain any figures from the Dutch in Australia. Can you advise immediately how many Australia could absorb.

We can see no objection here to Rapwi running the camps on the basis of self help.

WAR CABINET
DEFENCE
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
IMMIGRATION

16th December, 1945

13474



CANBERRA.

14.12.45.

*With the Compliments
of the
Secretary, Department of
External Affairs.*

The Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration:

COPY.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES,
KINNEAR HOUSE,
114 KING STREET,
MELBOURNE.

11th December, 1945.

1130.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

Dutch Nationals at present in Australia.

In reply to telephoned enquiry by Mr. Kevin to Mr. Coleman of this Department on 7th December, 1945, regarding the number of Dutch nationals who are accommodated in Australia, the following information supplied by the Vice Consul of the Netherlands is forwarded:-

- (a) Number accommodated in Army Camp sites -
Camp Columbia (Q'ld.) 400
- (b) Number accommodated in hotels and guest houses,
W.A. - 450. S.A. 50. Vic. 700. N.S.W. 150.
- (c) Total accommodated (a) and (b) above up to
17th November, 1945 - 1750.

(SGD.) F.H. ROWE.
Director-General.

MW/PA

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. Immigration

SECRET.

CABLEGRAM. O. 31154/55
Sent: 12th December, 1945.

DECRYPTER TO:
AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE,
SINGAPORE.

11. Repeat to Plumb, Batavia, 35.

Your 4 and 10. We have informed Netherlands Minister that we are agreeable in principle to taking Dutch ex internees and prisoners of war to the limit of our accommodation capacity, adding that in view of accommodation shortage camps areas would have to be used. Netherlands authorities have been asked to furnish a figure which can be examined in the light of suitable camp areas available and other factors. We still await their estimate and also a report from Department of Social Services on existing camps and facilities. The great problem is likely to be staffing of camps as regards which we can see no answer at present except community self help by the evacuees.

War Cabinet, Min. & Dept. Immigration.
Dept. E.A.
" Defence
" Social Services.
13.12.45.

13465



CANBERRA.

With the Compliments
of the
Secretary, Department of
External Affairs.

Mr. Pelen: The attached has been
submitted to Mr. Mather for
approval & signature JCAK. 13/1/45

DEPARTMENTAL OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
CANBERRA.

12th December, 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to a conversation yesterday between the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation and an officer of the Department of External Affairs concerning the position of accommodation for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

For some time the Commonwealth Government has been most anxious to ensure as far as possible that Australians who have experienced the stresses of the past six years, especially our returned prisoners-of-war, those invalided out of the Services and others from the Services who are being re-united with their families, should be given some opportunity of relaxing for the first time in a long period and of rehabilitating themselves both physically and mentally.

The housing position in Australia being at present what it is, a great many of these men and women must look for accommodation in hotels and boarding-houses. Unfortunately, the supply of such accommodation tends to fall well below the demand, particularly at this period of the year.

It is my understanding that Netherlands officials have in the past made a considerable number of hotel and boarding-house bookings for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies and that they have continued to make those bookings.

You will appreciate that where large numbers of evacuees are involved, this practice, if continued, will have
the effect ...

His Excellency
Baron F.C. van Aerssen Beyeren van Voshol, M.W.O.,
Her Netherlands Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary
and Minister Plenipotentiary,
Royal Netherlands Legation,
CANBERRA.

the effect of depriving our own necessitous cases of accommodation, and actually places them at a serious disadvantage since no official agency similar to yours exists to obtain accommodation for them.

It is for this reason, and also because of the offer of the Commonwealth Government mentioned below, that the Counsellor of the Royal Netherlands Legation has been asked to convey the request of the Commonwealth Government that no further bookings of hotel and boarding-house accommodation be made by Netherlands officials for evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies.

The Commonwealth Government is fully mindful of the plight of these unfortunate men, women and children in Java and Sumatra and, as has already been mentioned to you, is most anxious to do whatever is within its power to assist in their recuperation. The Minister for Immigration has stated that the Commonwealth will accept as many Dutch men, women and children for such purposes as Australia's accommodation capacity will allow and I understand that you will be furnishing a figure of those whom it is proposed to send to Australia in order that this may be examined in the light of the camp accommodation that is available. The fact that camp areas will have to be used is, I am afraid, inevitable in the circumstances now obtaining. I trust that this letter will fully explain to you the reasons underlying the request that has been made and that it will also be read as re-emphasising our desire to assist in the rehabilitation of ex-internees and prisoners-of-war from the Netherlands East Indies in all ways within our power.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest consideration,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Norman J. Makin).

Acting Minister of State for External Affairs.

SECRET.

CABLEGRAM.

/PM.

I.37742.

IMMEDIATE

T.M. NR2748.
DATED: 5th December, 1945.
0859.
RECD: 6th December, 1945.

The Australian Government
Representative,
SINGAPORE.

IMMEDIATE.

4. Following for Burton from Proud.

Reference your telegram 28 to Batavia repeated to
S.A.C.B.E.A.

S.A.C.B.E.A. have informed me that proposals have
been made to the United Kingdom for the matter of evacuation
of Dutch RAPWI to be as an over all scheme embracing fully
Dutch participation and that United Kingdom Government is
communicating with you on the subject.

It is possible that a Conference will be held here
later to discuss the means and conditions to be employed to
put plans into effect.

In that case information will be required on the
following matters -

Location and type of accommodation
Period for which Commonwealth Government is prepared to
accommodate them
Responsibility for costs
Nature of equipment and personal effects RAPWI will be
required to bring with them - medical categories to be
excluded.

I should be grateful if you could inform me of
any views you may have on these matters.

A/Mr. & Dept. of E.A. (ATTN.)
Mr. & Dept. of Immigration

6th December, 1945.

COPY.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM,
CANBERRA.

Ref. 2/173.
IMMEDIATE.

5th December, 1945.

My dear Prime Minister,

You will no doubt have seen the Secretary of State's telegrams D2170 and D2171 of the 1st December about the possible evacuation of Dutch women and children from Java.

I have now received a telegram from Viscount Addison stating that the position of these unfortunate people, who number about 50,000, is precarious and that Mr. Denning, the Political Adviser to Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, reports that the Petition quoted in telegram D2171 in no way exaggerates the present situation. The Secretary of State states that the only real solution appears to lie in the evacuation of as many as possible women and children to suitable countries outside South East Asia and India and he has asked me to sound you whether the Australian authorities would be prepared to help in accommodating some of these people for the time being and, if so, the number they could handle. A similar approach is being made to the authorities in New Zealand and in the Union of South Africa. Lieutenant-Governor van Mook has informed Mr. Denning that Holland can take 25,000 and His Majesty's Ambassador at the Hague has been asked to enquire urgently of the Netherlands Government their views on the matter.

I saw in the press the other day a statement that Mr. McMahon Ball, the Australian Representative at Batavia, had suggested to the Commonwealth Government that Australia might find accommodation for 50,000 people. There is also a report in the Sydney Morning Herald today that the Minister for Immigration, Mr. Calwell, had sent a telegram to the Dutch Red Cross signifying Australia's willingness to offer a temporary haven for evacuees from Java in camps and military tents on the understanding that the Dutch Authorities would provide maintenance and transport.

Lord Addison states that the United Kingdom Government are urgently exploring the possibility of providing shipping accommodation but that in order to do so adequately they would wish to know the probable destinations and numbers involved and adds that according to a press report from Batavia more than 12,000 Dutch nationals (P.O.W. and evacuees) are already being accommodated at Singapore but that the latter could not feed or house any more.

I have been asked to say that the United Kingdom Authorities would be grateful for the earliest possible reply.

Yours sincerely,

(SGD.) W.C. HANKINSON.

The Right Honourable
J.B. Chifley, M.P.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

DECRYPTER FROM --
 W. McMAHON BALL ESQ.,
 AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT
 REPRESENTATIVE,
 BATAVIA.

I. 56965
 LEG NR. 2658
 DATED 27th November, 1945.
 RECEIVED 28th November, 1945.

21.

For some time now Dutch women and children ex internees have been beseeching me to gain asylum for them for some months in Australia. Their condition is pitiful. This morning the Combined Red Cross Authorities have made an appeal in the press to support a campaign to find a place outside Java to which these women might be sent to recuperate. This morning the Catholic Bishop of Batavia called on me to make a special appeal to Australia emphasizing that Australia was particularly attractive because it is close and because of its climate and political stability.

I venture to suggest that if Australian leaders were to visit these camps they would be so deeply moved that they would be prepared to make great sacrifices to rescue as many of these people as possible. I understand that we have undertaken to accept a maximum of 10,000 on condition that the Dutch provide accommodation and that this condition effectively limits the number to 6,000. I feel this to be a humanitarian appeal of the most urgent and genuine kind. I believe that a very generous Australian gesture would bring us great goodwill and have no political implications. There are approximately 190,000 Dutch and Eurasian men, women and children who want temporary asylum. I would respectfully venture to suggest that we might offer to take 50,000 instead of 10,000. But if action is to be effective it must be immediate.

I await very eagerly any advice about the project of sending food and supply ships from Australia here.

War Cabinet
 External Affairs
 Defence
 Min. & Dept. Immigration (attn.)

29/11/45

*I agree to admin
 up to limit
 of accomm. Attach to us/1/1/45*

CABLEGRAM.**SECRET.**

NVP/RE.

O. 30407/8.

DECYPHER TO:

Dated 3rd December, 1945.

MR. MACMAHON BALL,
BATAVIA.

28.

Repeated to Proud, Singapore No. 1.

For Plumb.

Your 23.

Reference quota of evacuees.

Federal Government has been considering whole question. Minister for Immigration has stated that Government had agreed in principle to the reception for limited period for recuperative purposes of as many Dutch men, women and children from Indies as Australia's capacity to accommodate them would allow.

The question is under discussion with the Dutch who appear doubtful about the numbers involved. The initiative now lies with the Dutch in the matter.

Hotel and boarding house accommodation is seriously over-taxed in Australia and only available accommodation will possibly be in army camps. This aspect is being examined.

War Cabinet.
External Affairs (re draft 3.12/45)
Immigration.
Defence.

4th December, 1945.

45/2/1647

? Has Govt agreed to
admit additional
numbers
D. M. Collins suggesting

Sydney Morning Herald
Melbourne Herald
Sydney Herald
5.12.45
4.12.45

CANBERRA OFFER

Hiding Java Evacuees

LONDON, Dec. 4 (A.A.P.).—The Australian Minister for Information, Mr. Calwell, has sent a telegram to the Dutch Red Cross signifying Australia's willingness to offer a temporary haven for evacuees from Java in camps and military tents, a Dutch Red Cross official told the Associated Press of America.

The official said that Mr. Calwell pointed out that the Dutch would have to provide maintenance and transport. The shipping position was critical, the official added, and an appeal for help had been made to the United States.

The official added that the Dutch Red Cross hoped to move 50,000 civilians to Australia.

The nerves of the civilian internees in Java had reached breaking point, and hundreds would collapse mentally and attempt suicide unless evacuation was hastened.

Anglo-Dutch Talks

The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. McNeil, told the House of Commons that he had instructed the British Ambassador at The Hague to seek the views of the Dutch Government as soon as possible on the whole subject of the evacuation of civilians from Java.

Mr. McNeil was replying to a question as to what steps were being taken to meet the appeal made by the chairman of the Batavia Red Cross.

It was not yet clear how many persons were involved, but meanwhile Britain was urgently investigating certain possibilities relating to reception areas and shipping facilities, said Mr. McNeil.

Major Lloyd George (Lib.) said that the immediate danger was that a very large number of the interned women and children were apparently in the interior, and it was not a question of getting them out of Java as much as getting them to a safe part of Java under British protection.

A conference of Allied military commanders, over which the Allied Supreme Commander in South-East Asia, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten will preside in Singapore on Thursday, will discuss problems in Java and Indo-China, says the Associated Press of America correspondent at Singapore.

Lord Alanbrooke, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, will be among the high-ranking officers present.

Demands Moderated

The "Premier" of the Nationalist "Government," Sutan Sjahrir, said today that he did not think intervention by America or the United Nations was the only way to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Indonesian problem, and the Indonesians still did not exclude the possibility of direct negotiation with the Dutch.

This is a departure from the Nationalists' earlier insistence on international intervention.

Sjahrir added that he did not think that the United Nations could step in without consulting the Dutch. "In all these matters the Dutch attitude must be considered," he said.

To-day 12 Dakotas began a shuttle service between Batavia and Bandoeng, flying a battalion of the Fourth Maharattas to Bandoeng.

The situation at Bandoeng has deteriorated. Extremists there yesterday locked 14 people in a house and set fire to it with petrol.

INTERNEES' PLIGHT

GRAVE IN JAVA

URGENT PLEA FOR SHIPS

From IAN FLEMING

BATAVIA, Monday.—Many women internees in Java would lose their reason unless they were evacuated soon, Mr A. Gutwirth (of Belgium), president of the Batavia Red Cross, said today in asking Australia to take 50,000 internee women, children and aged sick.

He appealed to Australian trade unionists to put all political considerations aside and do nothing to hinder the evacuation of the suffering people.

Mr Gutwirth was referring to a statement by Dutch officials that they hesitated to use Dutch ships to take these people to Australia lest the trade unionists refused to refund them.

Mr Gutwirth has received a copy of a cable sent by the Minister for Migration (Mr Calwell) to the Australian Government representative in Java, Mr Macmahon Ball, saying that Australia will offer a temporary haven to help internees to recuperate, the number to be limited only by the available accommodation.

Mr Calwell says the Australian Government is willing to put camps and military tents at the disposal of the evacuees to supplement other accommodation, the Dutch authorities to arrange transport.

Mr Gutwirth said he was most grateful for the offer. The internees would be better off under canvas in Australia than in Java. The urgent need was ships.

"Cry of Despair"

The local Dutch news sheet today publishes a "cry of despair" from internees at Bandoeng, the scene of much recent fighting, where 20,000 internees and 32,000 other refugees are concentrated.

These people, in their appeal, say that if no more British forces are available, and if it is impossible "for political reasons" to land Dutch troops, enough ships and planes should be made available to evacuate the women, children and aged sick.

They claim that delay may result in the death of thousands, and criticise the "bureaucratic administrative system"—apparently referring to the RAPWI (Recovery of Allied Prisoners of War and Internees) organisation.

BRITAIN INQUIRING

Australian Associated Press

LONDON, Monday.—The British Ambassador at The Hague would seek the views of the Dutch Government as soon as possible on the whole subject of evacuation of civilians from Java, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Mr H. McNeil) said in the Commons today. He had been asked what steps were being taken to meet the appeal of the chairman of the Batavia Red Cross.

He said: "The appeal has not yet reached me, but I have received a copy of another appeal addressed to the Lieut-Governor of the NEI on November 26 by members of women's camps in Batavia regarding the evacuation of women and children, aged and sick, from Java. It is not yet clear how many persons are involved. Meanwhile, we are urgently investigating certain possibilities relating to reception areas and shipping facilities."

PLAN FOR NEI REFUGEES

THE Queensland cane season is about completed. Between Mackay and Mossman large cane farms have barracks to house the cane cutters. These barracks are completely self-contained and house some 1500 men. If these barracks could be made available for refugees from the Netherlands East Indies, they could be disembarked at Cairns, Townsville or Bowen, thus obviating travel to the southern States.—"A.R.B." William Street, City.

The Age
11.12.45

OFFER TO DUTCH EAST INDIES

Temporary Home in Australia

THE HAGUE, Dec. 3 (A.A.P.).

The Dutch Red Cross hopes to move 50,000 civilians to Australia from an estimated 200,000 that it would like to evacuate from the Netherlands East Indies.

A Red Cross official said the nerves of the civilians had reached breaking point. Hundreds would collapse mentally and attempt to commit suicide unless their evacuation was hastened.

A telegram has been received from Mr. Calwell, Australian Minister for Information, saying Australia would be willing to offer temporary haven camps and military tents. The Dutch must provide transport and maintenance. The shipping position was critical.

Replying to a question in the House of Commons, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Mr. McNeil) said he had instructed the British ambassador at The Hague to seek the views of the Dutch Government as soon as possible on the whole subject of the evacuation of civilians from Java. The Government was seriously concerned with the project.

Melb. Herald

Age
29.12.45

Refugees from Batavia

BRISBANE, Friday. — Nearly 100 evacuees from Batavia are being brought to Brisbane each week by the Netherlands East Indies Air Force. They are being staged at Camp Colombia, at Wacol, near Brisbane.

The commanding officer of the 19th Squadron, Colonel W. Zersteegh, said to-night he hoped to increase the service soon to 1000 a week.

RP

Sells Herald

29. 12. 45

**EVACUATION
PLANS MAY
BE UPSET**

BRISBANE — Plans for the evacuation of refugees from Batavia to Australia are likely to be upset because of insufficient accommodation.

The principal Dutch camp in Australia at Wacol is already crowded with refugees and other Dutch personnel, and it was stated today by the officer in charge of the camp, Colonel de Stopelaar, that unless more suitable camp areas could be found the evacuation programme would have to be curtailed.

Colonel de Stopelaar denied a report that the Dutch Air Force hoped soon to bring back 1000 refugees a week. He did not think the total number to come to this country would exceed 2000, he said. No refugees would be sent to southern States.

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICE

Melbourne, 27th November, 1945.

X01 PRESS:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PLEA OF DUTCH EX-PRISONERS OF WAR TO SAVE WOMEN AND CHILDREN

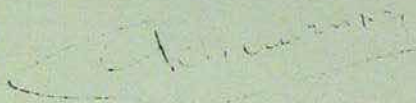
"Dutch ex-prisoners of war in East Asia are greatly concerned about the fate of their wives and children" states a telegram sent to the Netherlands Prime Minister by the President of the recently formed Union of Dutch ex-prisoners of war and internees.

"We therefore take the liberty to request Your Excellency to take every step in order to obtain immediately from the Allies the necessary sea and air transport with a view to effecting evacuation as soon as possible.

"The ex-prisoners of war are under the impression that world opinion is still not fully aware of the very grave and dangerous position of the Dutch women and children who deliberately and courageously shared with Indonesia the Japanese oppression, but who are now - three months after the capitulation of Japan - in an even worse situation.

"They wish to draw your special attention to those Dutch women and children who are still at places far from official concentration points without any protection."

Netherlands Indies Government
Information Service


A. Schuurman
(Head Publicity Department)

JH

Circular to:

1st November, 1945.

Collector of Customs:
Sydney, Fremantle and Brisbane.

Immigration & Passports Officer, Melbourne.

Temporary admission of Dutch Europeans and
Indonesians from Netherlands East Indies
for recuperative purposes.

I refer to my memorandum dated the 10th
September regarding the abovementioned subject and forward
herewith for your information copies of Netherlands East
Indies Registration Form and Passbook adopted by the
Netherlands East Indies Government for use by evacuees
shortly to arrive in Australia.

The registration forms will be completed before
evacuees reach the port of disembarkation. It has been
agreed that the registration form will be accepted in place
of separate personal statements on Form 43 and that the
Netherlands East Indies passbook which each adult will hold
will be accepted in lieu of passports.

JH
(A. H. PETERS)
Acting Secretary.

*New Case
H.L.*

Rs. 14/1/45

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.



POSTAL ADDRESS:
BOX 2, G.P.O., CANBERRA, A.C.T.
TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
CANBERRA, 629; 620; B 814.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"COMPOSITELY,"
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

SECURITY SERVICE.

Canberra, A.C.T., 23rd October, 19 45.

Ref. No. 11407/23

The Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA.

Alien Registration of European Dutch Evacuees
from N.E.I.

I attach for your information copy in duplicate of the N.E.I. Registration Form and the Passbook adopted by the N.E.I. Government for use by evacuees shortly to arrive in this country.

This has reference to your memorandum of the 16th instant, No. 45/2/1647.

25 OCT 1945
5 OCT 1945

W. S. Simpson
(W. S. SIMPSON),
Director-General of Security.

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT

NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANISATION FOR EVACUEES
(N. I. W. O. E.)

1. Naam _____
Surname
2. Voornamen _____
Christian names
3. Volledig adres _____
Complete address
4. Adres van naasten bloedverwant _____
in Nederland of Ned. Indie
Address of nearest relative in the Netherlands
or the Netherlands Indies
5. Plaats en datum van geboorte _____
Place and date of birth
6. Beroep _____
Occupation
7. Nummer van Uw pasboek _____ ; alwaar afgegeven _____
Number of your passbook where issued
wanneer _____
when
8. Is U genaturaliseerd in Australië? _____ in een ander land _____
Have you been naturalized in Australia? in another country?
9. Hebt U gediend in een vreemd (niet Nederlandsch) leger? _____
Have you served in a foreign (non-Netherlands) army?
Zoo ja, waar en wanneer _____
If so, where and when?
10. Is U gewoon of buitengewoon dienstplichtig in Nederland of Nederlandsch-Indië? _____
Are you liable to compulsory service in the Netherlands or the Netherlands Indies?
11. Aankomst in Australië _____
Arrival in Australia
12. (Eigen) naam van echtgenoot(e) _____
(Maiden) name of husband (wife)
13. Voornamen van echtgenoot(e) _____
Christian names of husband (wife)
14. Volledig adres van echtgenoot(e) _____
Complete address of husband (wife)
15. Plaats en datum van geboorte van echtgenoot(e) _____
Place and date of birth of husband (wife)
16. Nummer van het pasboek van echtgenoot(e) _____
Number of the passbook of your husband (wife)
afgegeven _____ wanneer _____
issued at when
17. Kinderen:
Children:

	Voornamen Christian Names	Plaats van geboorte Place of birth	Datum van geboorte Date of birth
a.	_____	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____	_____
c.	_____	_____	_____
d.	_____	_____	_____
e.	_____	_____	_____

Datum
Date

Handtekening
Signature

24th October, 1945.

Dear Sir,

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 19th October, forwarding eight specimen copies of the Passbook to be issued to evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies, together with registration forms which will be compiled for each of these persons and of which a copy will be handed to the Immigration officers in each State where these persons will land.

The proposed arrangements are acceptable to this Department.

Yours faithfully,

(A.R. Peters)
Acting Secretary.

P. Wessels, Esq.,
Head, Netherlands Indies Welfare
Organization for Evacuees,
422 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE, C.I. Victoria.

In Tenthredin
Pls send a copy of form
& pass book to
① CC, Fremantle
② " Brisbane
③ " Sydney
④ J.P. Office Melbourne
See report in connection
with our Cir. of 18/9/45

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
MELBOURNE OFFICE

422 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE, C.I.

19th October, 1945.

A.R. Peters, Esq.,
Acting-Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

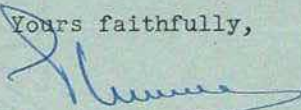
Dear Sir,

In accordance with your letter of the 15th October, I now take pleasure in enclosing herewith eight specimen copies of the Passbook, which will be issued to Evacuees from the N.E.I., together with Registration forms which will be compiled for each of these persons, and of which a copy will be handed to the Immigration Officers in each State where these persons will land.

Trusting that you will find these in order,

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,



P. Wessels,
Head, N.I.W.O.E.

PW:PM

ENC:

45/1/3144

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

WHOLLY PRINTED MATTER

Mr. A. Peters,
Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
c/- Department of the Interior,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

IF NOT DELIVERED WITHIN 7 DAYS, RETURN TO
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION,
P.O. BOX 780 H, MELBOURNE, C.1, VICTORIA.


24th October, 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO:

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs.
(External Communications)

I am directed to request that you will kindly
send a cablegram to S.A.C.S.E.A. in the following terms :-

"Commonwealth Government agreed to Netherlands
Indies Government bring to Australia temporarily for
recuperation purposes Dutch Europeans from N.E.I. on under-
standing N.E.I. will assume responsibility for their
maintenance and care here and that none suffering from
dangerous or communicable diseases will be sent without
prior authority from Minister Immigration after consultation
with Commonwealth Department of Health. Dutch authorities
here will regulate introduction according to accommodation
available. According to message from Dr. Van Meek Dutch
internees who are eligible under this arrangement are being
required under an order from Australian authorities to
proceed to Singapore before coming Australia but position
is that Commonwealth offers no objection to these inter-
nees coming Australia direct from Java if shipping facilities
available to bring them direct."


(A.N. Peters)
Acting Secretary.



26.10.45.

*(Orig. handed
to Mr. Keen to all
I got sent.
Mr. Gahan also requested
to send copy of Dept. of
Imm. Mr. Sullivan, Dublin
I spoke and he said in
copy of advice being
in Hall Room 26/10/45*

15th October, 1945.

Dear Mr. Wessels,

EUROPEAN DUTCH EVACUEES FROM NETHERLANDS
EAST INDIES.

I refer to the attached copy of letter addressed to you by the Director-General of Security relative to the arrangement approved by him for the registration of Dutch Europeans who are sent to Australia from the Netherlands East Indies for recuperative purposes.

So far as Immigration Act requirements are concerned, the duplicate copy of the N.E.I. registration statement which you propose to have prepared in respect of each batch will be accepted in place of separate personal statements on form 42, and the N.E.I. passbook which each adult will hold will be accepted in lieu of passports.

The Customs and Immigration officers in the various states have already been advised of the general authority for the temporary admission of these evacuees.

Yours sincerely,



(A.R. Peters)
Acting Secretary.

Mr. Wessels, Esq.,
Vice-Consul for the Netherlands,
422 Collins Street, Temple Court,
MELBOURNE, Victoria.

Director-General of Security,
Security Service,
CANBERRA.

Forwarded for information in connection with your
5th October, No. 11407/23.



(A.R. Peters)
Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration.
15/10/45

John ...

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

POSTAL OFFICE:
BOX 100, P.O., CANBERRA, A.C.T.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
CANBERRA, 629; 620; B 814.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"COMPOSITELY,"
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

SECURITY SERVICE,

Canberra, A.C.T., 5th October, 19 45.

Ref. No. 11407/23.

Dear Mr. Peters,

Following a conversation I had with the Vice Consul for the Netherlands this morning I attach copy of letter I have forwarded to him and would suggest that you might be good enough to advise him of your acceptance of the proposals set out insofar as they affect the Immigration Act. For this purpose I enclose an additional copy of my letter to Mr. Wessels so that if you think fit you can send it to him as confirmation of your approval.

Yours sincerely,

W. B. Simpson
(W. B. SIMPSON),
Director-General of Security.

The Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

SECURITY SERVICE,

5th October, 1945.

Ref. No.

Pieter Wessels, Esq.,
 Vice Consul for the Netherlands,
 422 Collins Street,
 Temple Court,
MELBOURNE.

Dear Mr. Wessels,

Aliens Registration of European Dutch Evacuees from N.E.I.

With reference to our conversation this morning the requirements of the National Security (Aliens Control) Regulations and the Immigration Act will be met if the following procedure is adopted:-

- (1) The Officer of your Service who will board the ship at its first port of call will prepare a duplicate copy of your N.E.I. Registration and this will be accepted in lieu of the requirements of the Immigration Act;
- (2) He will fill in a form AI under the National Security (Aliens Control) Regulations (copy attached).

When the ship reaches its port of disembarkation an Officer of this Service will board the ship and the evacuees can file past the Officer each handing to the Officer the two documents referred to above. The Commonwealth Officer will then stamp on the page nominated of the N.E.I. Passbook a certificate in the following form:-

Commonwealth of Australia
 Aliens Control Regulations
 Temporary Exemption granted up to.....1945.

It is agreed you will insert in the appropriate place in the N.E.I. Passbook an instruction to the evacuee in words to the following effect:-

On the inside of the back cover this Passbook will contain a rubber stamp temporarily exempting you from the Aliens Registration requirements of the Commonwealth of Australia. Should you be permitted to remain in Australia after the date shown in that Exemption Certificate you must report to the nearest Commonwealth Aliens Registration Officer for a further exemption. The address of such Registration Officer may be obtained from the Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Office.

Holders of N.E.I. Passbooks properly stamped will be absolved from the necessity of reporting to the Alien Registration Officer during the validity of their exemption.

You will receive a copy of this letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Immigration, in addition to this one to signify the approval of that Department.
 It is understood you will advise the deputy in each State of the arrival of any vessel carrying European Dutch Evacuees as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,
 (W. B. SIMPSON),
 Director-General of



COPY:JDS.

J 11/2459

ROYAL NETHERLANDS LEGATION

5-OCT Rec'd

Melbourne, 18th September, 1945.

Sir,

The Netherlands Indies Government has requested me to bring the following to your notice:-

"From recent discussions between Netherlands Indies and Australian officials it transpires that it may be advisable to clarify the situation with respect to contact between Netherlands Indies and Australian authorities in the matter of arrangements to be made for evacuees from the Netherlands Indies, which is becoming of increasing importance.

The most expedient arrangement would seem to have one Netherlands Indies official appointed for this purpose. For this reason, the Trade Commissioner for the Netherlands Indies at Melbourne, Mr. J. van Holst Pellekaan, has been granted full powers to handle this matter on behalf of the Netherlands Indies Government. All other Netherlands Indies officials should approach Australian authorities on this subject only after consultation with the Trade Commissioner."

26 SEP 1945

It would be very much appreciated if the foregoing could be brought to the notice of the Departments concerned.

I have the honour &c.

(Sgd.) W. E. van Panhuys.
Counsellor.

N.J.O. Meek, Esq.,
Acting Minister for External Affairs,
Canberra.

The Acting Secretary,
Dept. of Immigration,
CANBERRA.

Referred for information.

W E Dumb
Secretary,
Dept. of External Affairs,
25/9/45.

len
W. E. Dumb
10/9/45
Mr. Dussels, the
Nice Council at
held, appear to be
the actual deal with
official deal with
Warren

Nell Herald 21.9.45



26 SEP Rec'd

5000 DUTCHMEN, PAYING GUESTS

About 5000 Dutch men, women and children liberated from prison camps in the Netherlands East Indies will be Australia's first post-war tourists.

25 SEP 1946

The first shiploads will reach Australia early in November for short periods of urgently needed rest, feeding-up, and mental recuperation after privations in internment or prisoner-of-war camps since early 1942.

They will come not as refugees or evacuees but as moneyed visitors. They will probably bring more than £2,000,000 worth of Dutch money into Australia during the initial six months of the scheme.

The plan for the recuperation of these people in Australia, only recently agreed to by the Commonwealth, will be strictly a cash transaction. Dutch authorities must organise the whole scheme within Australia, including the acquisition of accommodation.

Initially, the Australian visitors, who will be limited to Europeans, will be housed in transit areas such as Camp Columbia, Queensland; Camp Casino, N.S.W.; Camp Darley, near Melbourne; and a camp yet to be selected in Western Australia.

Stays in these military camps will be as brief as possible because they will be structurally too reminiscent of how the Dutch have been living in the past 3½ years.

Then they will be sent to hotels, guest houses, boarding houses, or any other available accommodation. This leave period will be financed either by their firms or by the N.E.I. Government, and the visitors will be able to pay for the best available accommodation.

Attach to 45/2/1647

*RB 10/11/45
SKL
7/11*

Telegraphs.

September 22. 9. 45.

CASINO WON'T WELCOME INDONESIAN EVACUEES

An influx of Indonesian evacuees from Java would not be welcome at Casino, the Mayor of Casino (Ald. A. Robinson) said yesterday.

He was commenting on the announcement that between 2000 and 3000 European and Indonesian evacuees from Java would be brought to Australia to recuperate.

The evacuees will be placed in camps in Brisbane, Perth, Casino (N.S.W.), and Darley (Vic.).

Alderman Robinson said: "We have had a Javanese camp here for the past two years, under Dutch control.

"There are still about 1000 Javanese here. We would sooner be without them.

"The Javanese are well-behaved, but they are from the coolie class, and we

are not very happy about having that type of person here.

"But if they are sick we will put up with them, and do the best we can for them."

Mr. L. Sedgwick, Casino solicitor, said: "The town will not welcome more evacuees from Java. Residents are tired of the camp already here."

Mr. L. Jones, of the Northern Star newspaper: "I don't think the Indonesians will be welcomed—people here regard them as an inferior race.

"But the business people will raise no objections."

Mr. G. Thomson, garage proprietor: "The evacuees are all right. We will look after them."

Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of Immigration,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

10th September, 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO:

The Collector of Customs, BRISBANE, SYDNEY, FREMANTLE.
The Immigration and Passports Officer, MELBOURNE.

TEMPORARY ADMISSION OF DUTCH EUROPEANS AND
INDONESIANS FROM N.E.I. FOR RECUPERATIVE
PURPOSES.

In response to representations by the Netherlands Minister in Australia, the Government approved of his being advised that Netherlands subjects from the liberated Netherlands Indies could be sent to Australia for recuperative purposes for any period up to six months, provided satisfactory arrangements could be made for their accommodation with the existing facilities available and provided also -

- (i) that the Netherlands Indies Government will be responsible for their maintenance whilst in Australia and for their ultimate return to the Netherlands Indies, and will supply personnel for looking after them where such care is necessary;
- (ii) that no persons suffering from dangerous or communicable diseases will be sent here unless prior authority is obtained from the Minister after consultation with the Commonwealth Department of Health;
- (iii) that this general approval was to be subject to further agreement as to numbers to be sent.

2. The Netherlands East Indies authorities take up with the Department of the Army the question of military camps for the purpose of accommodating these. Further information is available you will be advised if arrangements are made to send any of them to your State.

3. It is not expected that many, if any, Indonesians will be sent to Australia under this arrangement, but if they should be asked to complete applications (Form 16) for certificates of exemption and their arrival reported.

4. No action need be taken in regard to white Netherlands subjects who are not suffering from dangerous communicable diseases except to report their arrival and record of their names. If any are found to be suffering from communicable diseases they should be placed under certificate of exemption and their arrival specially reported.

(A. R. Peters)
Acting Secretary.

*Wife & husband
two months*

Sept 1945

R/S

H. Hoja

Review Customs
Kinnaird, B. G. & Co.,
Sydney, of the general
approval of say leader
advice must be given
when ~~in~~ is need
as to where these
people will be
accommodated

(L. H. & Co. in (Plan),
N. S. W. or A. S. T.)

C. D. H. H. S.

1/9/45

Minister for Immigration,
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

28th August, 1945.

My dear Prime Minister,

I refer to the letter of 25th July received by you from Mr. W.J.F. Riordan, M.P., covering one from Mr. J. Killoran, Secretary of the Queensland Dairymen's Association, East Barron, relative to the question of accommodation being found on the Tableland for liberated internees from the Netherlands East Indies who are sent to Australia for recuperation.

With your concurrence I recently arranged for the Netherlands Minister to be advised by the Department of External Affairs that Netherlands subjects from the liberated Netherlands Indies could be sent to Australia for recuperative purposes for any period up to six months, provided satisfactory arrangements could be made for their accommodation with the existing facilities available and provided also -

- (i) that the Netherlands Indies Government will be responsible for their maintenance whilst in Australia and for their ultimate return to the Netherlands Indies, and will supply personnel for looking after them where such care is necessary;
- (ii) that no persons suffering from dangerous or communicable diseases will be sent here unless prior authority is obtained from the Minister after consultation with the Commonwealth Department of Health;
- (iii) that this general approval was to be subject to further agreement as to numbers to be sent here.

The question whether a disused military camp is to be used for accommodation purposes, and if so, in what locality, is a matter for the Netherlands Indies Government authorities to take up with the Department of the Army.

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR A. GALWELL
(Arthur A. Calwell)
Minister for Immigration.

The Right Honourable J.B. Chifley, M.P.,
Prime Minister of the Commonwealth,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

The Director-General,
Department of Social Services.

Forwarded for your information.

(R.P. Peters)
Acting Secretary,
Department of Immigration.
31/ 8/45

*Mr. Rex phone me
in this regard Army
were all right
Cuth*

21/8/45

*W. K. ...
(R. will
resubmit me
with address
Cuth)*

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CANBERRA ... A.C.T.

25th July, 1945.

Dear Mr. Chifley,

I am enclosing herewith a letter I have received from Mr. J. Killoran, Secretary of the Queensland Dairymen's Organisation at East Barron.

Mr. Killoran says that the attention of his Organisation has been drawn to an article in the North Queensland "Register" regarding a plan for the leasing by the N.E.I. of large abandoned military camps to accommodate East Indies internees.

The Queensland Dairymen's Organisation is desirous of bringing before your notice the possibilities of the Tableland areas where Australian troops have been trained.

I should be pleased if consideration could be given to the suggestions of Mr. Killoran.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) W.J.F. RIORDAN.

ACTING SECRETARY:

For preparation of a reply for the Minister's signature please.

No. Bar
Asst. Pt
17/8/

The Rt. Hon. J.B. Chifley, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA.

ACKNOWLEDGED.

COPY - P.M.
MIN & DEPT.
MIN & DEPT.
MIN & DEPT.
C.&A.

3 - AUG 1945

The Hon. A.A. Calwell, M.P.,
Minister for Immigration.

QUEENSLAND DAIRYMEN'S ORGANISATION.

East Barron,

19th July, 1945.

W.J.P. Riordan, M.H.R.,
CANBERRA.

Dear Sir,

Our attention has been drawn to an article in North Queensland Register headed Dutch Plans for N.E.I. 150,000 Dutch for Australia and New Zealand which states a plan has been announced by former N.E.I. Lieut-Governor, Dr. Hubertus Van Hook to negotiate with Australian and New Zealand Governments for the leasing of large abandoned Military Camps close to capital Cities to accommodate 150,000 East Indies internees as soon as they are released from the N.E.I. to enable them to recuperate. We wish to bring before you the great possibilities our area offers for such a scheme as that outlined by the Doctor, and as this area carried several Divisions of our Troops we consider it could easily handle many more internees for the N.E.I. Our large Military Hospital could easily handle all those requiring attention and as you know the climate here is quite ideal for such a purpose as proposed by the Doctor. The area we feel sure is better suited to accommodate these internees than being parked close to capital Cities, adding to the already congested conditions, in those areas.

As milk and fresh vegetables can be supplied almost in unlimited quantities, we are of the opinion that the Dutch Plan could be altered to include our area as one part for their scheme. We therefore request you to be good enough to place the matter before the Dutch Consul pointing out the great advantages our area offers, with Camp sites, Hospital, the superb climate and in fact ideal conditions for such a scheme. We also ask you to place the matter before the Ministers, who would be connected with such a scheme and help to have a good proportion of the internees diverted to this area, as we are sure the country would benefit by their sojourn here, as they may become future settlers.

For your personal attention to this most important matter we thank you in anticipation.

Kind regards,

(Sgd.) J. KILLORAN.

Department of Immigration,
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

20th August, 1945.


MEMORANDUM TO:

The Acting Secretary
Department of External Affairs.


ADMISSION OF N.E.I. AND INDONESIAN EVACUEES.

With reference to your memorandum of 20th July, No. 45/49/5/1, and previous correspondence, I am directed to inform you that the Netherlands Minister may be informed that approval has been given for Netherlands subjects, including Indonesians, to be sent to Australia from the Netherlands East Indies for recuperative purposes for any period up to six months, provided satisfactory arrangements can be made for their accommodation with the existing facilities available and subject to the understanding -

- (2) that the Netherlands Indies Government will be responsible for their maintenance whilst in Australia and for their ultimate return to the Netherlands Indies, and will supply personnel for looking after them where such care is necessary;
- (11) that no persons suffering from dangerous or communicable diseases will be sent here unless prior authority is obtained from the Minister after consultation with the Commonwealth Department of Health.


(A.R. Peters)
Acting Secretary.

P.S. The Minister also desires that it be pointed out that this general approval is subject to further agreement as to the numbers to be sent here. This could be further considered when information is available as to the extent to which suitable accommodation could be provided.

X 

(ii) that no persons suffering from dangerous or communicable diseases will be sent here unless prior authority is obtained from the Minister after consultation with the Commonwealth Department of Health;

Print

(b) that no general authority will be given at present for the admission of Indonesians, but if it is later found desirable to send a limited number to Australia and evidence is available that there will be suitable accommodation for them, a further request will receive careful consideration.

W. J. Drake

RECOMMENDATION
APPROVED

1/ 8/45

18/45

The Minister, after discussion with the Prime Minister and with his Concurrence, decided that the Netherlands Minister be informed in terms of para. 8(a), approval to be subject to further agreement as to numbers to be sent here.

W. J. Drake
16/8/45

The Minister said he had discussed this matter with the Netherlands Minister at Melbourne. I also spoke to Mr. Montagu and said that his Dept could not arrange accommodation but that Mr. Drake had suggested their taking up with the Army the question of use of barracks made of a military camp in S.A.

W. J. Drake
18/8/45

W. J. Drake
18/8/45

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR & IMMIGRATION.

No. 45/2/1647.

MEMORANDUM:ADMISSION OF N.E.I. AND INDONESIAN EVACUEES.

The Netherlands Minister has expressed gratitude for the part played by this Department in conjunction with the Australian Red Cross in arranging for the reception and transport from Townsville of about 59 Netherlands subjects who were amongst the internees liberated in the Philippines and sent to Australia in April last.

2. He states that when the liberation of Netherlands East Indies makes further progress it will be desired to send greater numbers of Netherlands subjects and Indonesians to Australia temporarily for recuperation purposes.

3. He asks whether the Commonwealth Government will agree in principle to accommodate these people.

4. The responsibility for finding temporary accommodation for British nationals and others who may be sent to Australia from liberated territories in the South-West Pacific area has now been taken over from this Department by the Department of Social Services, who will co-operate with the Australian Red Cross and Department of the Army.

5. It is a matter, however, for the Minister to decide whether approval may be given for the temporary admission of Dutch Europeans and Indonesians, provided suitable accommodation can be found for them.

6. There would be no reason to object to the admission of any Netherlands Europeans from the liberated Netherlands East Indies area, provided the Netherlands Government authorities in Australia ascertain beforehand that suitable accommodation will be available and subject to the understanding that they will accept full responsibility for their maintenance and care whilst in Australia and ultimate return to the Netherlands East Indies.

7. The question of the admission of a large number of Indonesians, however, is more difficult, as it is not desirable to give an open authority for any large number of coloured people to come to Australia for a lengthy period. Consideration might perhaps be given to the question of the temporary admission of a limited number of the official class.

8. It is recommended that so far as this Department is concerned -

(a) approval ~~will~~ be given for Dutch nationals, ^(including Indonesians) ~~to be sent to Australia from the Netherlands East Indies for recuperative purposes for any period up to six months, provided satisfactory arrangements can be made for their accommodation, and subject to the understanding :-~~

(i) that the Netherlands Indies Government will be responsible for their maintenance whilst in Australia and for their ultimate return to the Netherlands Indies, and will supply personnel for looking after them where such care is necessary;

/ (ii)

with the existing facilities available

45/2/1647.

MEMORANDUM:ADMISSION OF N.E.I. AND INDONESIAN EVACUEES.

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8. It is recommended that so far as this Department is concerned -

(a) approval ~~will~~ be given for Dutch nationals of European race to be sent to Australia from the Netherlands East Indies for recuperative purposes for any period up to six months, provided satisfactory arrangements can be made for their accommodation, and subject to the understanding :-

(i) that the Netherlands Indies Government will be responsible for their maintenance whilst in Australia and for their ultimate return to the Netherlands Indies, and will supply personnel for looking after them where such care is necessary;

/ (ii)

- (ii) that no persons suffering from dangerous or communicable diseases will be sent here unless prior authority is obtained from the Minister after consultation with the Commonwealth Department of Health;
- (b) that no general authority will be given at present for the admission of Indonesians, but if it is later found desirable to send a limited number to Australia and evidence is available that there will be suitable accommodation for them, a further request will receive careful consideration.

1/ 8/45

45/2/16-7.

NOTE.

Some time ago I discussed this matter with the Counsellor of the Netherlands Legation (Mr. Montijn) and learned from him that Mr. J. van Holst Pellekaan, on behalf of the N.E.I. Government, was making enquiries, particularly in Western Australia, with a view to seeing whether suitable accommodation could be arranged for evacuees from the N.E.I. when further territories became liberated.

2. I also explained that this Department was looking into the general question in connection with expected further arrivals of evacuees from British North Borneo.

3. When the Netherlands Minister and Mr. Montijn called at the Department recently (in connection with the question of facilities being granted for the former's family to come to Australia from the Netherlands), I discussed the matter of the evacuees further with them and learnt that although a Committee had been formed in Western Australia, the enquiries as to prospects of suitable accommodation being available had not been successful.

4. I informed them that the Chief Migration Officer of this Department, who was absent at the time in Sydney, would report the result of his enquiries and also concerning proposed changes in regard to the reception of evacuees generally.

5. The Netherlands Minister asked that consideration be given and advice furnished concerning the question whether the Commonwealth would agree in principle to the admission of N.E.I. and Indonesian evacuees in event of it being possible to make suitable arrangements for their accommodation in Australia.

awls.

27/ 7/45



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
CANBERRA.

886
No. 45/49/5/1

20th July, 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO:

The Secretary,
Department of Interior,
CANBERRA.

ADMISSION OF N.E.I. AND INDONESIAN EVACUEES

I should be greatly obliged by an early reply to my minute of 3rd July forwarding a note dated 28th June, 1945, from the Netherlands Minister, and to previous correspondence in this matter.

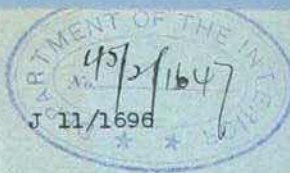
23 JUL 1945

J.M. Wood
Acting Secretary.
for 1945

Mr Nutt is making
some inquiries
about at Sydney

12/9/45

8/6!
COPY:JP.



ROYAL NETHERLANDS LEGATION

Melbourne 28th June 1945.

Sir,

I wish to refer to my letter of the 1st of March 1945 (J 11/532), by which I had the honour to make an appeal to the Australian Government for their cooperation in the matter of the accommodation and maintenance of Netherlands and Netherlands Indies evacuees from the Netherlands Indies after the liberation of parts of this country.

Meanwhile a certain number of Netherlands subjects have already been evacuated from the Philippines and have found a very warm welcome in this country. In this connection, I wish to express the gratitude of the Netherlands and Netherlands Indies Governments for the generous hospitality which the Australian authorities have again displayed on this occasion.

Referring more especially to the fourth paragraph of my abovementioned letter and considering the steady progress which is being made with the reoccupation of important parts of the Netherlands East Indies, in which the gallant Australian Forces play such an important part, I would very much appreciate it if you could confirm to me that also these greater numbers of Netherlands subjects and Indonesians could be temporarily accommodated in Australia for their reconvalescence. A formal agreement in principle by the Australian Government, pending detailed arrangements through the appropriate channels, would be a matter of great satisfaction and gratitude to all circles concerned.

I have the honour &c.
(Sgd.)

VAN AERSEN BEYEREN.

The Hon. N.J.O. Mekin,
Acting Minister for External Affairs,
Canberra, A.C.T.

The Secretary,
Dept. of the Interior. 3 JUL 1945

Referred for favour of urgent advice in connection with minute of 15th March and memoranda of 20th April and 12th June, 1945.

J. D. L. Hood
Acting Secretary,
Dept. of External Affairs, 3/7/45.



(IC. 45/49/5/1)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
CANBERRA.

12th June, 1945.

29 JUN Rec'd
12 JUN 1945

MEMORANDUM to:

The Secretary,
Department of the Interior,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

I refer to my minute of 15th March on a copy of a letter from the Royal Netherlands Legation regarding the accommodation of Netherlands evacuees from liberated territories, and to my memorandum of 20th April on the same subject.

An early reply would be appreciated.

J. D. L. Hood
Acting Secretary. *R*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CANBERRA.

20th April, 1945.

(IC.45/49/5/1)

5292

MEMORANDUM to:

The Secretary,
Department of the Interior,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

I refer to copy of a letter of 1st March, 1945, from the Royal Netherlands Legation to Dr. Evatt, minuted to you on 15th March, relative to accommodation in Australia of an estimated two to three thousand Netherlands and Netherlands East Indies evacuees from liberated territories. I would appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience.

23 APR 1945

J. S. L. Hood

Acting Secretary.

A

45/2/16/47

I reviewed the attached
letter with Mr. Houston,
& explained that there are
57 Dutch on the way to
Australia (see 115/1/1454) and
that this Dept. in conjunction
with Aust. Red Cross was
making arrangements for
the reception & immediate
care of these & the other
evacuees to arrive
next week end.

I suggested also that he
arrange for the Netherlands
Ch. of other representatives
at Sydney to get in touch
with Mr. Arnold Johnston,
at Aust. Cons. Office, Sydney,
who was proceeding to Cebu.

W. H. H. H.

29/3/45.

3712



ROYAL NETHERLANDS LEGATION

MELBOURNE 1st March, 1945.

17 MAR 1945

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that a number of Netherlands subjects who were interned in the Philippines have been liberated by the victorious armies under command of General MacArthur.

It is likely that part or all of these evacuees, numbering about 55, will be directed to Australia and will arrive in Brisbane, where arrangements for their reception have been discussed by the Netherlands Indies authorities with Australian and USA Army authorities.

The N.E.I. authorities have also approached Dr. Newman Morris, Chairman of the Australian Red Cross, with the problem of accommodation for these people. Dr. Newman Morris intimated that it would probably be possible for the Australian Red Cross to arrange for temporary accommodation for these Manila evacuees in or around Sydney (possibly in Australian Red Cross Convalescent Homes in Leura, Blue Mountains).

When the liberation of the Netherlands East Indies will make further progress, it is expected that a total number roughly estimated at between 2 and 3 thousand Netherlands and Netherlands East Indies evacuees from liberated territories will have to be accommodated.

In their case, as in the case of the Philippine evacuees, it would be a matter of great relief and satisfaction to us if accommodation could be provided for in Australia. This country has already extended a hearty welcome to a great many of our evacuees, making them feel perfectly at home here, and you will understand that we are again looking upon your country as a possible place for convalescence for our countrymen.

It is with these thoughts in mind that I venture to approach you with a view of soliciting the co-operation of the Australian Government in this matter.

If the Commonwealth Government agrees in principle to accommodate our evacuees, it might be advisable to set up a working committee consisting of Australian and Netherlands or Netherlands East Indies officials to handle the problem.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest consideration,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(SGD.) VAN AERSSSEN BEYEREN.

16 MAR 1945

The Right Honourable
Dr. H.V. Evatt LL.D., K.C.,
Minister for External Affairs,
CANBERRA.

The Secretary,
Department of the Interior.

Referred for favour of advice. Copy has also been sent to Security Service.

J. D. L. Hood
Acting Secretary,
Dept. of External Affairs.
15/3/45.

R

XXXXXX
Immigration

MX.

Department of Immigration,
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

20th August, 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO:

The Acting Secretary,
Department of External Affairs.

ADMISSION OF N.E.I. AND INDONESIAN EVACUEES.

With reference to your memorandum of 20th July, No. 45/45/5/1, and previous correspondence, I am directed to inform you that the Netherlands Minister may be informed that approval has been given for Netherlands subjects, including Indonesians, to be sent to Australia from the Netherlands East Indies for recuperative purposes for any period up to six months, provided satisfactory arrangements can be made for their accommodation with the existing facilities available and subject to the understanding -

- (1) that the Netherlands Indies Government will be responsible for their maintenance whilst in Australia and for their ultimate return to the Netherlands Indies, and will supply personnel for looking after them where such care is necessary;
- (11) that no persons suffering from dangerous or communicable diseases will be sent here unless prior authority is obtained from the Minister after consultation with the Commonwealth Department of Health.

(A.R. Peters)
Acting Secretary.

P.S. The Minister also desires that it be pointed out that this general approval is subject to further agreement as to the persons to be sent here. This could be further considered when information is available as to the extent to which suitable accommodation could be provided.

W. J. J. J.

Telegraph

25.10.45

DUTCH EX-INTERNEES ARRIVE IN AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.—First of between 10,000 and 15,000 Dutch inhabitants of Java being brought to Australia to recuperate from the effects of Japanese internment arrived in Melbourne today.

At the expense of the Dutch Government, they were brought on the Dutch vessel *Oranje Fontein* from Batavia.

They will be given a four months' holiday in hotels and guest-houses in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Perth.

Those who arrived today, about 230, will be accommodated at seaside resorts.

The Dutch Government has provided spending and clothing allowances, and coupons have been issued to the former internees.

It is expected that more than £2,000,000 will be spent in Australia providing for the Dutch visitors.

Spending allowances to single persons are £40 monthly, plus clothing allowances, and to married couples £65 monthly, with extra for children.

On arrival the ex-internees were poorly clad. Many of them had no shoes, only sandals.

Melb. Herald

**Dutch Internees
Arrive Here**

24. 10. 45.



REV. DR. A. G. RASKER, a padre who was an internee for 3½ years in Batavia and Bandoeng, says goodbye to some little Dutch girls who were also interned. A scene on the Oranjefontein, which arrived from Java in Melbourne today.

Argus 28.1.46

Age 28.1.46

SHIP ARRIVES MELBOURNE

Packed in Hold

Packed in the hold of the 7000-ton steamship Tzabadak, which, under normal conditions, offers accommodation to only 40 passengers, 460 evacuees from Japanese internment in Java, arrived in Melbourne yesterday.

Evidence of the terrible squalor in which these people had travelled was to be seen in the holds of the ship, where they had been forced to sleep and prepare their food. Until the vessel arrived at Fremantle passengers had been without bedding or blankets, and, except in the rare cases where some carried thin mats, they slept on coats on the iron deck.

Lack of cooking facilities necessitated the use of army hard rations, which were prepared in the small, ill-ventilated holds in which the evacuees slept.

The position was eased slightly at Fremantle, where Red Cross helpers provided blankets, and additional food supplies were taken on board. Sixty-five evacuees left the ship, but sufficient accommodation was not available to disembark any greater number.

The chairman of the Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisa-

tion for Evacuees (Mr. P. Wessels), who met the ship, yesterday explained that the passengers had been told of the conditions under which they would have to travel before they embarked, but they preferred the ship life to a continued stay in Java.

"It is essential to get these people away to some place where they can regain their health," Mr. Wessels said, "but no shipping space is available, and both my organisation and the passengers realise that they will have to take what they can get."

Immediately after berthing at Victoria Dock yesterday official parties boarded the ship to arrange registration, the issue of food and clothing books, and to organise the disembarkation of the 196 passengers who will remain in Victoria. Those leaving the ship at Melbourne will be sent to suitable rest places in the country, where they will remain until they are in a fit condition to resume a normal existence.

Finance has been arranged by the N.E.I. Government, and each evacuee has been given certain funds to maintain his independence while in Australia.

EVACUEES ARRIVE FROM JAVA

370 On Board Dutch Vessel

With 370 Dutch men, women, and child evacuees from Java crowded into a space normally provided for 50 passengers, the cargo vessel Tjibadak arrived in Victoria Dock yesterday after a three weeks' voyage from Batavia.

Most of the evacuees had spent several years in Japanese internment camps, where some of the children were born. While in Australia they will be provided with food and clothing coupons and money by the N.E.I. Government.

The vessel left Batavia with 430 persons on board, but 60 of them disembarked at Perth. They were evacuated by the N.E.I. Government for four to six months' rehabilitation in Australia. All of them were penniless and had practically no possessions beyond the clothes they wore. They were short of food, medical supplies, and clothing on the voyage.

Most of the evacuees slept and lived in the hold of the ship. Until food was Army rations of bully beef and other tinned food. Because the ship's galley could not possibly cope with so many people, committees were formed to heat and distribute the tinned food. The only medical casualties during the voyage were four cases of measles, which have already been taken to Fairfield Hospital.

Two hundred of the evacuees will land in Melbourne today, and will proceed to guest houses at Mornington, Healesville, and Queenscliff. An additional 170 will travel to Sydney in the ship.

For their arrival in Melbourne yesterday the passengers put on a brave show. With simple blouses and women used the last remnants of their lipsticks and put on the smart European hats they had salvaged from the wreck of Indonesia. The men wore carefully pressed tropical suits and native sandals.

S.M. Sderald 29.1.46

JAVA EVACUEES ARRIVE

Pathetic Conditions

MELBOURNE, Monday.—With 370 Dutch men, women, and children evacuees from Java, crowded into a space normally provided for 50 passengers, the cargo vessel Tjibadak has arrived in Melbourne after a three weeks' voyage from Batavia.

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The vessel left Batavia with 430 persons on board, but 60 disembarked at Perth. They were evacuated by the N.E.I. Government for four to six months' rehabilitation in Australia.

All were penniless and had practically no possessions beyond the clothes they wore.

They were short of food, medical supplies, and clothing on the voyage. Most of the evacuees slept and lived in the hold of the ship until they arrived at Fremantle. Their only food was army rations of bully beef and other tinned food.

Argus. 28.1.46



DUTCH INTERNEES FROM JAVA lining the rail of the Tjibadak when the ship berthed at Victoria Dock yesterday. From left: Sister A. Keulemans, Sister W. Von Der Burg, Miss N. Droste, Sister C. Miedema, and Miss N. Jockes.

Sydney Morning Herald

19-1-46.

Dutch Pay £1,500 To Hold Rooms For Refugees

BATHURST, Friday. — A number of Bathurst hotelkeepers have been receiving regular cheques from the Dutch authorities in Sydney since November for guests who have not yet arrived.

Over £1,500 has been paid to three leading Bathurst hotels to keep 35 rooms vacant for 50 Dutch refugees. Mr. Roy McSorley, proprietor of the Hotel Bathurst, has been getting a cheque for £152 each week for 36 guests, but none of them has arrived to-date.

The accommodation was booked in November by visiting Dutch authorities, on behalf of Dutch nationals being evacuated to Australia from the

Netherlands East Indies before their repatriation to Holland. The rooms are paid for by cheque for a week in advance and have since been retained by regular payments.

Mr. McSorley said to-day 30 rooms at his hotel had been booked ahead as far as June. When booking the rooms the agents for the refugees warned him they might arrive any time.

"My family have been in the hotel business for 60 years, and nothing like this has ever happened to any of us. It is something you dream about," he said.

He added that an agent said the refugees were experiencing difficulty in getting transport from the N.E.I. to the Australian mainland.

Melbourne Herald

12/1/46

HOMES FOUND FOR NEI EVACUEES

Little difficulty has been met in finding accommodation for the Dutch evacuees now recuperating in Australia before returning to the East Indies.

An official of the Netherlands East Indies Information Service said today that batches of about 30 a day, arriving in Melbourne, were being sent to guest houses at Cowes and Sorrento.

Evacuees were kept in camp in Brisbane until accommodation became available at other capitals.

Accommodation had been found at Katoomba, Bondi, Leura and Kosciusko (NSW), Southport and Camp Columbia (Qld.), Fullarton, Eastwood, Norwood and Myrtle Park (SA), and in suburbs of Perth.

The evacuees would stay for about four months. Some had expressed a desire to live here permanently.

The Herald Melbourne
11th January 1946

5000 NEI EVACUEES FOR VICTORIA

Because of its cooler climate, Victoria will receive up to a half of the 10,000 NEI army and civilian evacuees who, for medical reasons, have been ordered recuperative rest and treatment in Australia after their experiences in Japanese prisons.

They will include about 5000 women and children.

About 800 have already arrived here, and another 250 are coming at the end of next week.

They are being flown from Batavia to Brisbane in NEI Navy Catalina transport planes.

One of the Dutch visitors in Melbourne was treated so kindly by shopgirls that she broke down and wept. She said that reports of Australia's unrest and disturbances had misled them into fearing a hostile reception, whereas the sympathy of the people had overwhelmed them.

At Mount Martha House, taken over by the NEI Government, there are former prisoners of war who were so ill that they had to be supported when they arrived a couple of weeks ago. Now they are swimming and sun-bathing, and have made remarkable recoveries.

Others are at Rye and Healesville and in guesthouses in Melbourne, and a munitions workers' hostel at Yarrowonga has been prepared for their reception.

The NEI Legation is looking everywhere for accommodation, and their Government is paying allowances for a period of four months, that may be extended to six.

Melbourne Herald

10/1/46.

WILL ACCEPT 10,000 DUTCH EX-INTERNEES

— SAYS MINISTER

HOBART. — The Dutch authorities in Australia have been advised that Australia was prepared to admit about 10,000 Dutch internees of Japanese prison camps, the Minister for Migration (Mr Calwell) said today.

If military establishments could be made available, and were acceptable, this number might be increased considerably.

He had been appalled at the conditions under which these people were living. Mr W. Macmahon Ball, Australian Government representative at Java, who recently returned to Australia, had informed him that up to 60 women and children were being accommodated in each of a number of four-roomed cottages in Batavia, which was considered the most comfortable area.

During the 3½ years of Japanese occupation, up to 110 persons had been accommodated in a four-roomed cottage.

The food situation was bad, and was becoming rapidly worse. The British Army ration for one man was made to do for four internees, and the diet was unsatisfactory for women and children. They were suffering severely from malnutrition.

Melbourne Herald. 5.12.45

50,000 NEI REFUGEES LIKELY

From our own Correspondent

CANBERRA — Using Army huts, Australia may be able to accommodate up to 50,000 women, children, and aged people of both sexes from the Netherlands Indies.

Already some NEI refugees are in Australia. A batch of 125 is expected to arrive within a few days, and 1000 more will arrive on December 19.

The 50,000 figure was mentioned in a request to Australia by its representative in Java (Mr Macmahon Ball).

It is understood that originally the Minister for Immigration (Mr Calwell) told the Dutch Minister to Australia (Baron van Aerssen) that the Commonwealth would take 10,000 refugees if they used the camp facilities the Dutch already had in Australia, at Camp Darley (Vic.), Camp Columbia (Q), and Camp Casino (NSW). Dutch officials said these camps would take only 6000.

The Dutch have since been told that the Australian Army will provide tents to accommodate as many more refugees as possible.

It is expected that the evacuees will return to the Indies in three or four months.

6.12.45

Canberra Times

ARMY CAMPS FOR N.E.I. REFUGEES

Arrivals of Dutch refugees from the N.E.I. will commence shortly and by December 19, 1,000 will be accommodated in Australian army camps.

They are coming here to convalesce for about three months.

Camps already earmarked for them are at Darley (Victoria), Columbia (Queensland) and Casino (N.S.W.). These camps will take 6,000 refugees but the Commonwealth Government will take no exception to the use of tents to increase the number to 10,000.

Telegraph

6.12.45

Housing Only Limit On N.E.I. Refugees

CANBERRA, Wednesday — Refugees would be given to as many Dutch evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies as accommodation permitted, the Minister for Immigration (Mr. Calwell) said today.

He said Australia had agreed to assist the Dutch authorities in caring for these people temporarily.

The Commonwealth would receive 10,000 refugees from the N.E.I. provided the Dutch used the camp facilities already provided in Victoria, Queensland, and New South Wales.

By using tents to supplement the hut accommodation it was hoped that all evacuees would be made comfortable, he said.

It was learned today that the Army Department would make tents available for three or four months while the evacuees recuperated from hardships suffered in Japanese internment.

Times

12-12-45

**REFUGE IN AUSTRALIA
FOR N.E.I. DUTCH**

LONDON, Monday.

The Dutch Red Cross is hoping to send 50,000 civilians, out of an estimated 200,000, to Australia for temporary refuge but owing to shipping problems the movement has been delayed and many threaten to commit suicide unless the evacuation is speeded up.

The Australian Minister for Information (Mr. Calwell) has advised that temporary refuge could be provided but points out the difficulties in arranging transport and also requiring that the Dutch Government will accept responsibility for the maintenance of the refugees.

An appeal is being made to the United States for assistance.

*News says to keep
touch and if possible
who interviewed Dutch
Minister at Melbourne*

Melbourne

Herald

30 11 45

Dutch Hoping To Send 9000 Here From Java

From IAN FLEMING, Herald Correspondent

BATAVIA—Dutch officials in Batavia controlling the evacuation of former internees do not want to send more than 45,000 from Java, and would be satisfied if Australia took 9000.

Those going to Australia would be practically all pure Dutch women and children.

Colonel D. L. Asjes, head of the RAPWI (Recovery of Allied Prisoners of War and Internees) said that ships were available to begin, but the Dutch feared that Australian trade unionists might not refuel them and they might be held up in Australia indefinitely.

STAY OF SIX MONTHS

Evacuees would go to Australia on a roster system, each batch staying for six months for recuperation, after which they would return to the Netherlands East Indies and others would take their places, said Col. Asjes.

He knew Australia could accommodate 9000, but in view of the housing shortage he did not expect her to take a greater number at one time.

In addition to thousands of tons of relief supplies, a large amount of motor transport bought from Australian and American armies was held up in Australia by the refusal of water-side workers to load it.

Motor transport was required urgently to get internees from the danger areas.

The peril of internees in some areas was illustrated by the following passage in yesterday's communiqué: "At Semarang Indonesian guns and mortars shelled a RAPWI camp and the gaol, killing four and wounding six internees."

Official Dutch figures give the

total number of former internees and prisoners of war still in Java as 76,071.

Of these 19,000 are in Batavia and the rest scattered in camps all over Java.

Dr. W. M. Bonne, Director of Medical Services in NEI, said that at the request of the Australian Government no hospital cases would be sent to Australia.

His organisation examined all recovered internees and placed them in four medical categories:—

- 1.—Fit.
- 2.—Fit to return to the NEI after four to six months' recuperation in Australia or elsewhere.
- 3.—Those probably fit to return after a year in Holland.
- 4.—Unfit to return to the tropical climate.

Of 15,000 examined 35 per cent. went into Class 1, 30 per cent. into Class 2, 25 per cent. into Class 3, and the remaining 10 per cent. into Class 4.

On this basis about 25,000 would be in the category fit for evacuation to Australia, but, of course, the Commonwealth would not be expected to take them all.

All evacuation was on a voluntary basis.

HOMELESS PROBLEM

The problem of homeless people in Java, however, is more complex than the picture afforded by the foregoing figures.

Those apply only to RAPWI personnel. In addition to 76,071 of these, there are 183,000 people not interned during the Japanese occupation, but forced by the recent disorders to evacuate their homes.

Most of these are Eurasians, many with little Dutch blood, but all Dutch Eurasians here have the status of Dutch citizens. All these have become the responsibility of the RAPWI organisation, but no plans have been made yet to evacuate them from Java.

The problem of these people is very difficult, as away from Java they would be people without a country.

An appeal was made at a Red Cross conference in Batavia this week for the evacuation of up to 200,000, based on the assumption that the lives of Europeans and Eurasians are not safe in Java at present.

Official Dutch circles do not agree. It is also believed that the Dutch take the view that mass evacuation would give the impression of abandoning Java, which they have no intention of doing.

Mt. A. Nutworth (of Belgium), president of the Batavia Red Cross, said today that his figure of 200,000 included Dutch and other Europeans, Eurasians, Ambonese and other races not in Java, but throughout NEI, although 75 to 80 per cent. are in Java.

"The Red Cross takes a humanitarian view and, in view of recent incidents and the present critical situation, we think these people will have to be evacuated, unless more protection can be given them," he said.

"They have suffered a terrible strain for four years, and cannot stand any more."

DUTCH OFFICIALS SEEK REFUGE IN AUSTRALIA FOR 9000 FROM JAVA

From IAN FLEMING, "Sun" Special Representative.

BATAVIA, Friday. — Dutch officials in charge of evacuation of former internees, say they want to evacuate no more than 45,000 from Java, and would be satisfied if Australia took 9000.

Those coming to Australia, they say, would be almost entirely pure Dutch women and children, and would not include hospital cases.

Evacuees would come to Australia on a roster system, each batch staying for six months, and then being replaced.

Colonel D. L. Asjes, head of RAPWI (Recovery of Allied Prisoners of War and Internees) organisation in the NEI, said that if 45,000 were evacuated his organisation could cope with the remainder.

Ships were available to start evacuating these people to Australia, he said, but the Dutch were not sure whether trade unionists in Australia would agree to refuel them and feared they might be held up indefinitely in Australia.

Colonel Asjes added that thousands of tons of relief supplies and a large amount of motor transport purchased from the Australian and American armies was held up in Australia by the refusal of wharves to load it.

Motor transport was urgently required for the evacuation of internees from danger areas.

Roster System

Evacuees would go to Australia on a roster system, each batch staying for up to six months for recuperation.

They would then return to the NEI, others taking their place.

Colonel Asjes said he knew Australia could accommodate 9000, but in view of the housing shortage did not expect her to take a greater number at one time.

(Yesterday the Prime Minister, Mr. Chifley, said Australia had provisionally agreed that accommodation could be found for 6000 refugees.)

No Hospital Cases

Dr. W. M. Bonne, director of medical services in the NEI, said that at the request of the Australian Government no hospital cases would be sent to Australia.

About 25,000 would be fit for evacuation to Australia.

Official Dutch figures give the total number of former internees and POWs still in Java as 76,071.

Of these, 19,000 are in Batavia and the rest scattered in camps all over Java.

In addition there are 183,000 non-RAPWI people—people not interned by the Japs but forced by recent disorders to evacuate their homes.

Most of them are Eurasians and no plans have yet been made to evacuate them.

The Sun 30-11-48

Argus.

30/11/48

DUTCH INTERNEES FROM JAVA

Australian Offer

CANBERRA, Thursday.—The original offer by the Commonwealth Government to relieve the plight of internees in Java was to take 5000 Dutch for convalescence in Australia. Any increase on that number was conditional on accommodation being available. Dutch authorities, however, were informed that accommodation could be found for about 8000.

The Prime Minister said to-day the Commonwealth Government would not direct that more accommodation should be constructed when there was such an urgent demand for housing by Australians. The availability of shipping also was an Allied problem.

The Australian political representative in Java (Mr. McMahon Ball) has recommended that the 8000 offer should be increased to 50,000. This request, however, has not yet come to Mr. Chifley.

AUSTRALIA WILL TAKE ONLY 6,000 DUTCH FROM JAVA

30/11/48

Referring to a reported suggestion by Mr. W. MacMahon Ball, Australian Government representative at Allied HQ in Java, that Australia should receive 50,000 women and children as refugees from Java, Mr. Chifley said in Canberra yesterday that arrangements had been made to take in a maximum of 6,000 Dutch people, but this was subject to accommodation being available and erection of special buildings not being involved.

Mr. Chifley said that he had no knowledge of any undertaking by Australia to send five shiploads of relief stores, including medicines and food, to Java, as reported by Sutan Sjahrir, self-styled Prime Minister of Indonesia.

Mr. Calwell, Minister for Information and Migration, said last night that the Federal Government had agreed in principle to the reception for a limited period for refugees, women, and children—particularly women and children—from NEI as Australia's capacity to accommodate them would allow. In view of Australia's own grave housing shortage, certain camp areas might have to be used for housing the evacuees.

Stiguo. 30 11 48.

DUTCH SEEK HELP TO EVACUATE CIVILIANS FROM JAVA

From GRAHAM JENKINS

BATAVIA Dutch opinion is divided on whether all Dutch and Eurasian women and children, including aged and sick, should be immediately evacuated from Java.

In an appeal to the world on Monday, the NEI Red Cross asked for help to ship out and accommodate until the present unrest subsides 200,000 evacuees, but the official view of RAPWI headquarters is that no more than 45,000 should be evacuated.

"NEI would be very grateful

if Australia and New Zealand together would accept a maximum of 10,000 of our people for from four to six months," Colonel D. L. Asjes, head of RAPWI in NEI, said yesterday.

Colonel Asjes said he had arrived recently from Australia, where he was aware of the housing problem and food shortage. The accommodation for 50,000 reported to have been requested from the Australian Government by Mr W. Macmahon Ball, its political adviser in Java, was unnecessary, he said.

Colonel Asjes explained that the greatest difficulty in evacuation was shipping, and this was particularly acute so far as Australia was concerned.

At least one ship, the *Sis Van Heutz*, was available at Batavia to take evacuees to Australia, he said, but there was no guarantee that the waterside workers in Sydney would refuel her if she arrived. Consequently RAPWI hoped to evacuate most of the 45,000 to Holland, Ceylon, and South Africa.

Australia's Part: Page 2

Hell. Herald 28.11.45

RESCUING JAVA INTERNEES

Australia Will Give Sanctuary To Many

From IAN FLEMING, Herald Correspondent

BATAVIA, Tuesday. — Thousands of Dutch and Eurasian women and children at Ambarawa, "hot spot" of Java at the moment, will be evacuated by sea from Semarang, 20 miles away, to Batavia as soon as the road is cleared of Indonesian extremists.

Naval vessels at Semarang are ready to ship 4000 in the first "lift."

Yesterday the Indonesians again launched an attack at Ambarawa near the internee camp, where several women and children were butchered a few days ago.

This news coincides with an urgent appeal by the Batavia Red Cross organisation today for the evacuation of up to 200,000 former internees, women and children and aged and sick, from Java until conditions are more normal.

A petition signed by 18 representatives of these innocent victims of war and revolution appeals to the whole civilised world to assist the evacuation by all available means. It emphasises the almost unbearable strain these people had undergone and declares that under present conditions evacuation is the only sure means of safeguarding their lives.

This appeal underlines the urgent need for more British troops in Java to protect internees.

It was announced at the Red Cross press conference today that arrangements had been made to accommodate about 6000 of these people at a time in Australia on a rotation system for a rest and recuperation period of four months.

It was also stated by an International Red Cross representative that thousands of tons of Red Cross supplies for Java were held up in Australia by the refusal of waterfront workers to load ships.

The Indonesian Nationalist Committee adopted a resolution expressing the desirability of replacing British and Dutch troops in Java by Russian, Australian and Chinese troops.

An official press release tonight stated that:

"The committee passed with acclaim a resolution expressing the sincere thanks of the Indonesian Government to the people and Government of Australia.

"Special note was taken of the help given by Australian Labor. Mention was also made of the dock workers' strike as a protest against Dutch imperialism, of the assistance given to returning Indonesian sailors, of the support given by Australian soldiers in Borneo to Indonesians opposed to the Dutch there, and to the various expressions of encouragement and goodwill frequently appearing in the Australian press and on the radio."

(Plea To Australia For Refuge—Page 5)

The Argus

28.11.45

APPEAL FOR EUROPEANS IN JAVA

Australia Asked To Provide Refuge

From GRAHAM JENKINS

BATAVIA

An urgent appeal to all nations to provide shipping to evacuate 200,000 Europeans and Eurasians in Java who have reached the limit of human endurance was made yesterday by the NEI Red Cross.

Australia, Canada, and USA were among the countries specially asked to provide accommodation for evacuees until there was some amelioration of the present unrest.

Australia had agreed to take only 5,000, said Dr N. S. Blom, general representative of the NEI Red Cross, who recently arrived from Melbourne. The Dutch had found accommodation for this number in hotels and boarding houses in capital cities and holiday resorts. The NZ Government had agreed to take 4,000.

The Federal Government had given good co-operation in procuring relief supplies, but 30,000 tons was still on Australian wharves awaiting shipment. In addition only 30,000 of 140,000 Red Cross parcels packed in co-operation with the Australian Red Cross had arrived in Java. Another 30,000 were on the way, but 80,000 were still awaiting shipping. Some parcels had been distributed among Dutch and other nationals rescued from Indonesian extremists in Sourabaya.

MR MACMAHON BALL ASKS AUSTRALIA TO TAKE 50,000

From AAP Special Representative in Batavia

Mr W. Macmahon Ball, Australian Government Representative in Java, has urgently written to the Australian Government on the question of the evacuation of women and children from Java. He suggests a bold revision of ideas, and urges a special effort to enable up to 50,000 to be accommodated.

The suggestion was despatched to the Australian Government yesterday following the citizens' appeal, and after a conversation with Monsignor Willekens, Apostolic Vicar to Batavia, who headed the signatories to the petition.

The British and American consuls have cabled their governments asking that the utmost be done.

Melbourne Herald 28.11.45

REFUGE PLEA FOR NEI EVACUEES

Australia Asked To Take 50,000

By a Special Correspondent

In Java, three months after the Japanese surrender, 200,000 Dutch subjects—mainly whites—are in greater peril than at any moment during their 3½ years' captivity by the Japanese.

Still in a violent war area, they face massacre, starvation and disease unless they are evacuated quickly.

From Java, official representatives of Britain, America, Australia and New Zealand are appealing for refuge in their countries for tens of thousands of men, women and children still living in prison compounds.

RED CROSS APPEAL

The appeal for havens for these people came from Mr. Arom Gutwirth, chairman of the Batavian Red Cross.

The Australian Government representative, Mr. Macmahon Ball, has asked the Commonwealth to accommodate up to 50,000 evacuees in Australia.

This is a tenfold expansion of the Commonwealth's original agreement to take 5000 white people from the NEI who would be required to pay their own way and find their own shelter in Australia.

Under the evacuation scheme about 1200 people have reached Australia in the past few weeks.

They have been accommodated in hotels, hostels, boarding houses and private homes. Another 1000 will arrive early next month.

Homes For Children

It is obvious that if the people of the NEI are to be given refuge by their nearest neighbor, the Netherlands' shortage of shipping will require Australia to play a full part in handling the problem.

It is not sufficient to hand over military camps to the Dutch authorities and then withdraw from all responsibility, as has been the case so far.

The Dutch, in the centres already at their disposal, have been unable to obtain either staffs, medical facilities or transport to handle supplies.

The Dutch in Australia, with no power to requisition buildings and completely at the mercy of those who have commercial accommodation to offer, have reached almost a dead end.

In Western Australia, the Fairbridge Farm School organisation is now caring for 70 Dutch children each month, taking an immense burden from their parents' shoulders—also possibly beginning Australia's lagging child migration scheme.

This voluntary and humanitarian move by Fairbridge is what the Dutch hoped would become general in Australia.

The NEI Trade Commissioner

But the Netherlands Indies welfare organisations for evacuees, established in each Australian capital, are at their wits' ends to find further accommodation.

The great drawback is that the evacuation is happening at the beginning of the holiday season, with accommodation at a premium even without the influx of thousands from overseas.

Dutch authorities here realise the evacuation of nationals from Java is a matter of the utmost urgency.

But they also see the physical difficulties in acquiring many thousands of beds in a country already almost disastrously short of housing.

The army camps controlled by the Dutch in Australia—Camp Columbia in Queensland, and Camp Casino in NSW—can only hold a few additional thousands.

in Australia (Mr. J. van Holst Pellekaan) says that if the women of Australia would open their homes to evacuate Dutch children, as did the needy housewives of Britain after the liberation of Holland, it would help greatly to solve the problem.

Australia Can Give Sanctuary

AUSTRALIA has an urgent humanitarian duty to give sanctuary to as many as possible of the Dutch and Eurasian victims of war and revolution in Java. They are mostly women and children who endured three and a half years of humiliation at the hands of the Japanese only to find at the end of it that they were enmeshed in the Indonesian rising.

Now, three months from the end of the war, many of the internees have yet to be recovered. Their situation grows in peril with the distraught state of the island, with the inability of the National leaders to hold the masses in control, and with the ugly passions that have followed the bloodshed in which British forces have been unwillingly involved.

Even for ex-internees now in the comparative safety of British-held zones, the measures of relief are inadequate. Their appeals, in open letters to the women of Australia must stir the sympathies of those to whom war and its aftermath has been less harsh.

Of the 200,000 white and Eurasian people in Java who are at the limit of human endurance, Australia is said to have agreed to accept 50,000. The Government's own political representative in Java, Mr. W. Macmahon Ball, has now urged that a special effort be made to accept up to 50,000. Army camps could provide at least temporary quarters.

Other countries, too, have been asked to help. This is a call not to a political commitment but to humanity. We are the nearest neighbor with the means of success.

Starting

Melb. Herald. 28.11.45



22 OCT 1945

Inelle Herald

18-10-47

DUTCH ARRIVE FROM N.E.I. FOR HOLIDAY

PERTH.—Bringing the first shiploads of Dutch evacuees from Netherlands East Indies, mostly from Batavia, for recuperation in Australia, the liner Oranjefontein is due at Fremantle today.

As well as general cargo, the vessel carries 85 women, about 60 men, and 100 children. Some are for Western Australia, and the remainder for Victoria.

The Trade Commissioner in Australia for N.E.I. (Mr J. Van Holst Pellekaan), who flew from Melbourne by A.N.A. airliner to meet the vessel, said that all evacuees on board had been in Japanese internment camps for three and a half years.

During the next eight months it was hoped to bring between 5000 and 10,000 evacuees to Australia for a four-months break.

*Attache to
4572/1647*

Rb 18/10/45

*B.H.
@u*

N^o 15

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANISATION
FOR EVACUEES

PASS BOOK

NAME _____

SURNAME

(Block Letters)

CHRISTIAN NAMES

(Block Letters)

NAMES OF CHILDREN

AGE

AGE

AGE

N.I. ADDRESS

ARRIVED FROM

AT

PORT

ON

OTHER DETAILS

SPECIMEN SIGNATURE of PAYEE

In the event of this book being lost, will the finder please return to Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Office at:—

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This book is to be retained by you and submitted to the Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Office before any of the following conditions be made:—

Registration.—On the inside of the back cover this book is to be stamped with a rubber stamp temporarily exempting you from the requirements of the Commonwealth of Australia. Should you wish to remain in Australia after the date shown in that Exemption Certificate, you must report to the nearest Commonwealth Aliens Registration Office for further exemption. The address of such Registration Office is to be obtained from the Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Office.

Transport.—Any person wishing to travel to another country must contact the Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Office at the proposed destination, in order that, if the journey is a long one, reservations and accommodation at destination may be arranged. If travellers are unable to contact the N.I. Evacuee State Office, they may proceed on their journey, paying cash for their own fares.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

This book is to be retained by you and submitted to the Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Office before any of the following payments or issues can be made:—

Registration.—On the inside of the back cover this Passbook will contain a rubber stamp temporarily exempting you from the Aliens Registration requirements of the Commonwealth of Australia. Should you be permitted to remain in Australia after the date shown in that Exemption Certificate you must report to the nearest Commonwealth Aliens Registration Officer for a further exemption. The address of such Registration Officer may be obtained from the Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Office.

Transport.—Any person wishing to travel to another State should first contact the Netherlands Indies Evacuee State Officer and notify him of the proposed destination, in order that, if the journey is authorised, train or other reservations and accommodation at destination may be arranged. If intended travellers are unable to contact the N.I. Evacuee State Office, they may still proceed on their journey, paying cash for their own fares, and obtain a refund

CLOTHING.

Total Allowance Due A £.....

Total No. Coupons Allowed.....

Place	Date		Place	Date	
		Amt. All. Rec. Signature			No. Coup. Rec. Signature
		Amt. All. Rec. Signature			No. Coup. Rec. Signature
		Amt. All. Rec. Signature			No. Coup. Rec. Signature
		Amt. All. Rec. Signature			No. Coup. Rec. Signature
		Amt. All. Rec. Signature			No. Coup. Rec. Signature

COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITIES.