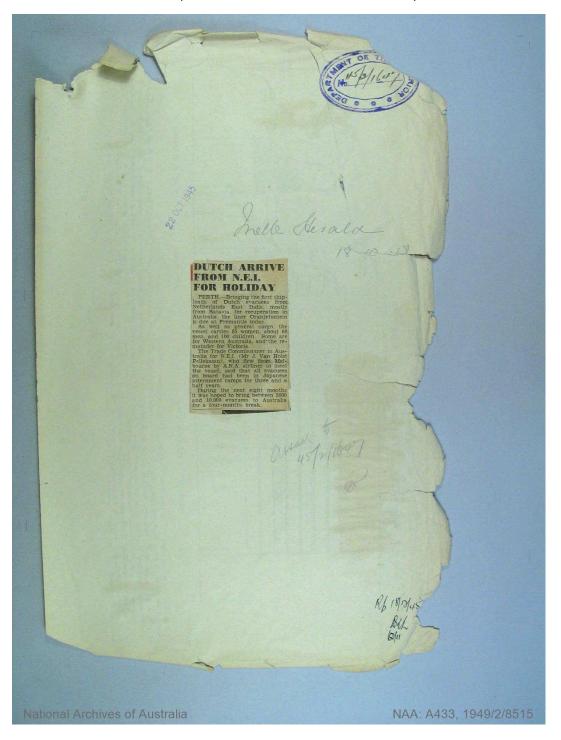
NAA Files. Series number A433, Item ID 74216, Netherlands subjects evacuated from Netherlands East Indies [NEI] to Australia. Generally, 1944-47.

Many news clippings regarding NEI evacuees coming to Australia after the surrender of Japan and extreme unrest between Indonesians and Europeans came about - many regarding the need for accommodation, and the hoped 50,000 individuals who would recuperate in Australia.



Melbourne Gerala 28-11 us

## 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 the representative. Mr Macmahon Ball, hass asked the Commonwealth to accommodate up to 50,000 evacues in Australia. The commonwealth is commonwealth to the Commonwealth of the Commonwealth of the Commonwealth is required to pay their own solicinal agreement to take 5000 white commonwealth of the Commonwealth is required to pay their own solicinal agreement to take 5000 white people from the NEI who would be required to pay their own solicinal agreement to take 5000 white the Commonwealth of the Commonwealth of

This voluntary and humanitar-n move by Fairbridge is what e Dutch hoped would become neral in Australia. The NEI Teade Commissioner

Abell Gerala. 281

### Australia Can Give Sanctuary

A USTRALIA has an urgent humanitarian duty to give sanctuary to as many as possible of the butch 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

Abell Sterala 28 11.05

# SCUING JAVA INTERNEES

# Australia Will Give

Sanctuary To Many

\*\*rom\*\* 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 yearsh as Ramarang attentions\*\*

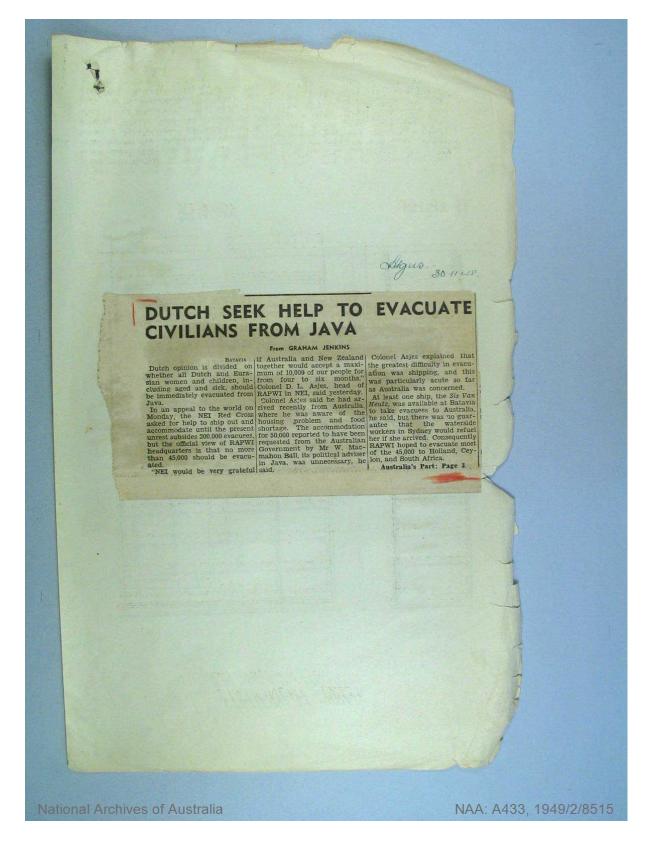
The Argus

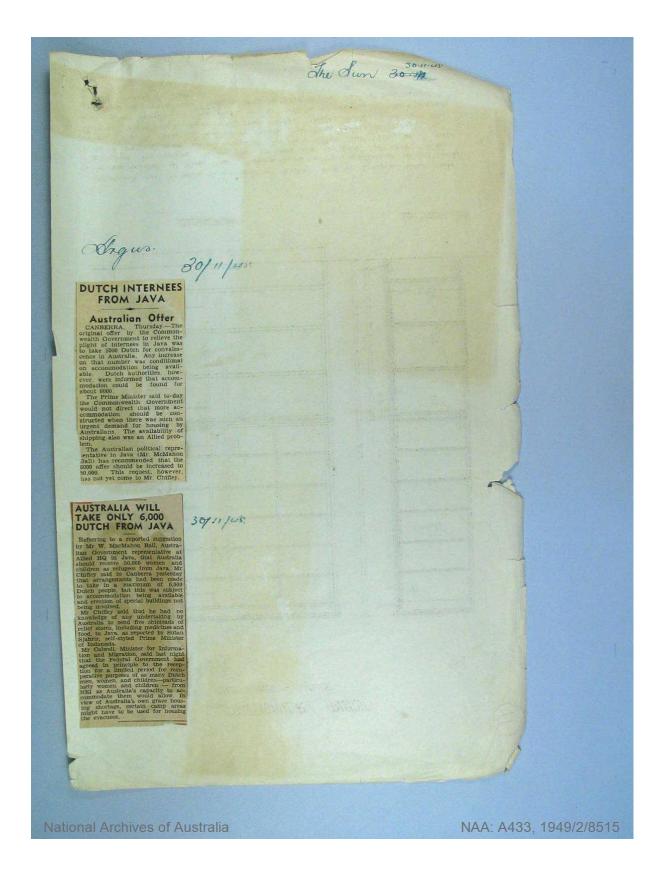
### APPEAL FOR EUROPEANS IN JAVA

Australia Asked To Provide Refuge

# MR MACMAHON BALL ASKS AUSTRALIA TO TAKE 50,000

From AAP Special Repri





## 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.

replaced.

Colonel D. L. Asjes, head of RAPWI (Recovery of Allied Prisoners of War and Interness) organisation in the NEI, said that if 45,000 were evacuated his organisation could cope with the temainder.

Ships were available to start evacuating these people to Australia, he said, but the Dutch were not sure whether tradi unionists in Australia would they might be held up indefinitely in Australia.

Colonel Asjes added thinousands of tons of sellef supplies and a large amount of the policy of the said and american armies was field up in Australia and American armies was field up in Australia and American armies was field up in Australia of the said and a said and it.

Motor transport was urgently the said of the said the

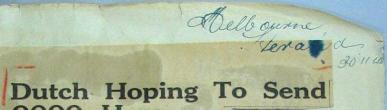
### Roster System

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 exmumber at one time.
(Yesterday the Prime Minister,
Mr. Chiffey, said Australia had
provisionally agreed that accommodation could be found for 6000
refugees)

### No Hospital Cases

No Hospital Cases
Dr. W. M. Bonne, director of
medical services in the NEI, said
medical services in the Nei
med



# 9000 Here From Java

From IAN FLEMING, Heralds 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.

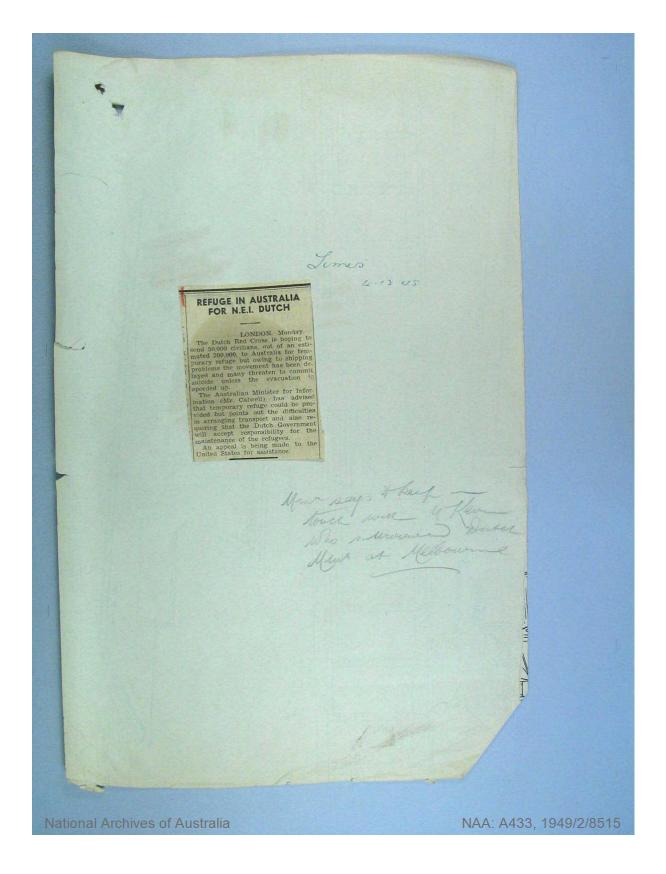
## STAY OF SIX MONTHS

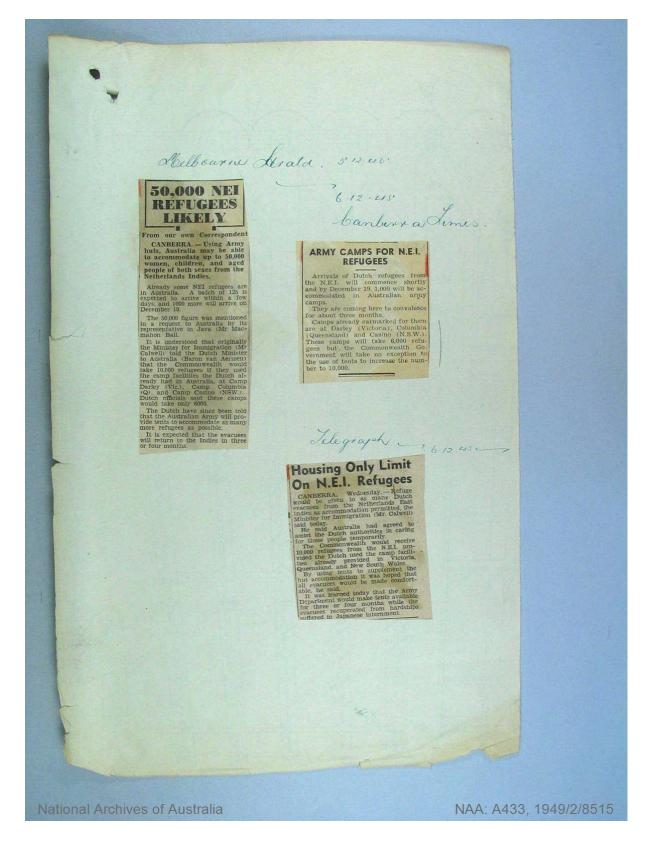
Evacuees would go to Austalia on a roster system, each not all number of former internees railin on a roster system, each not show the result of the state of recuperation, after which hev would return to the venture of the state of the would return to the recuperation, after which there would take their places, and it col. Asjes.

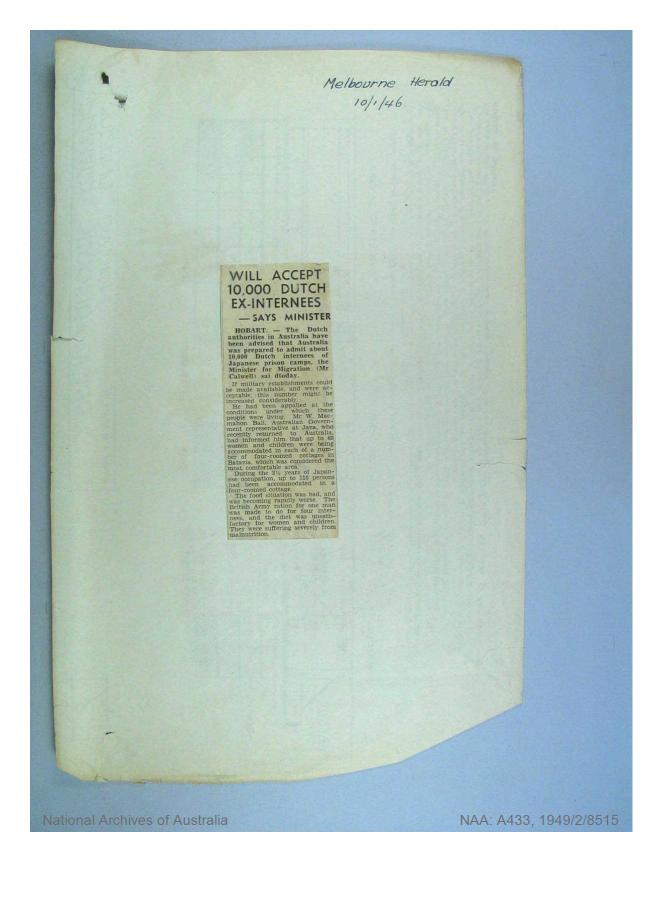
Ke knew Australia could accommodate 9000, but in view of the cousing shortage he did not expected to the australian and sold the service of the Australian and American armies was held up in Australia by the refusal of waterside workers to load it.

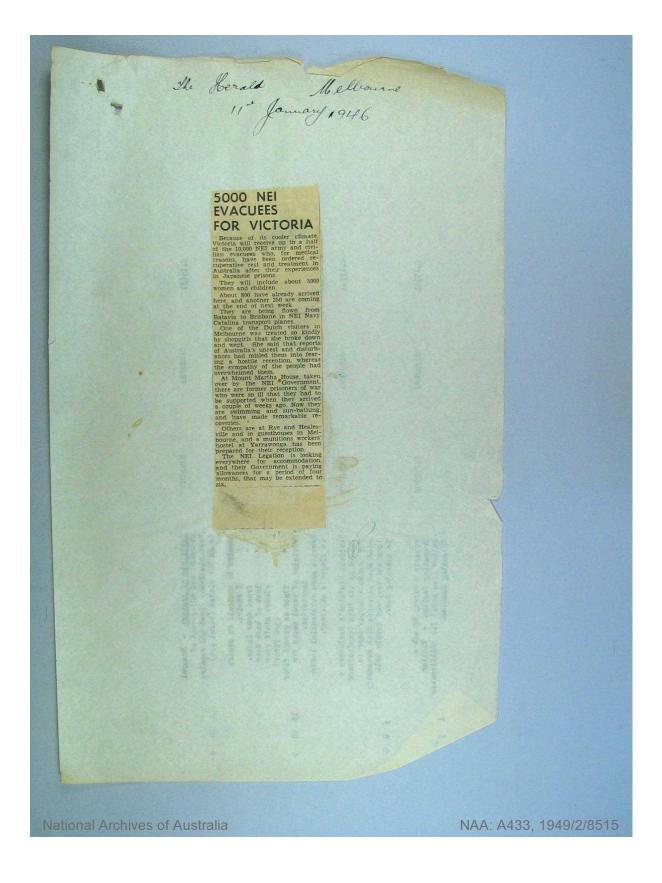
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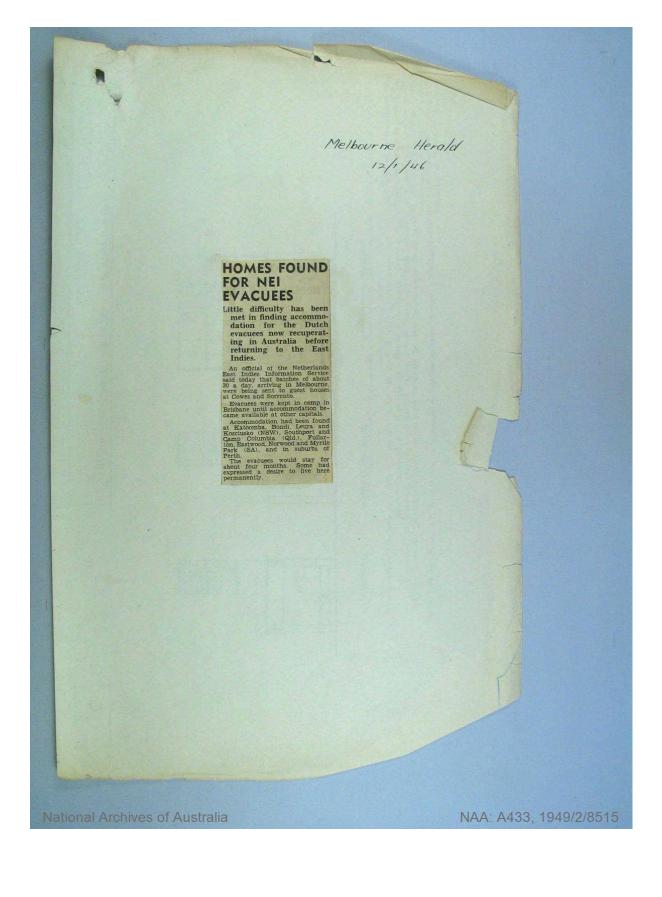
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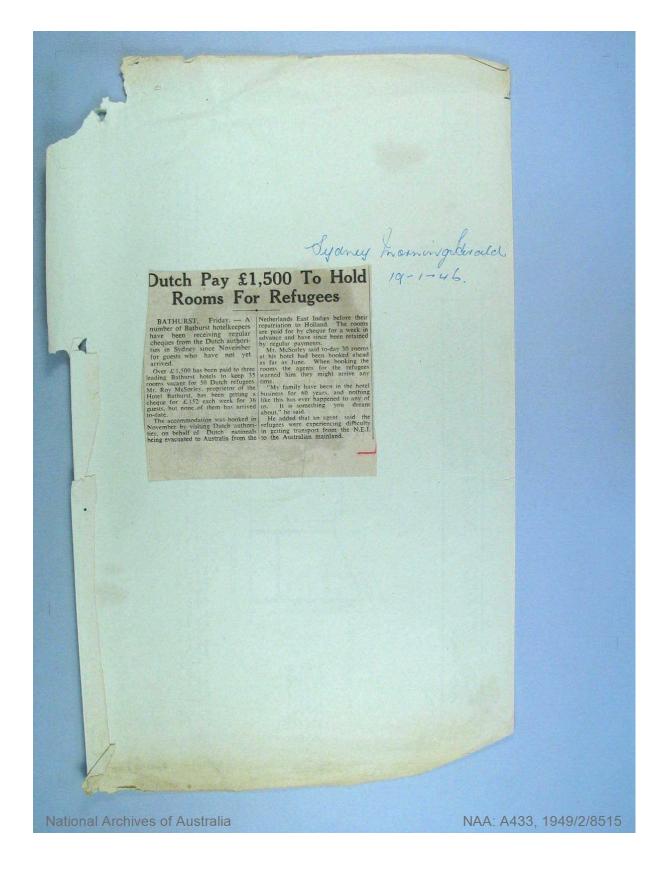




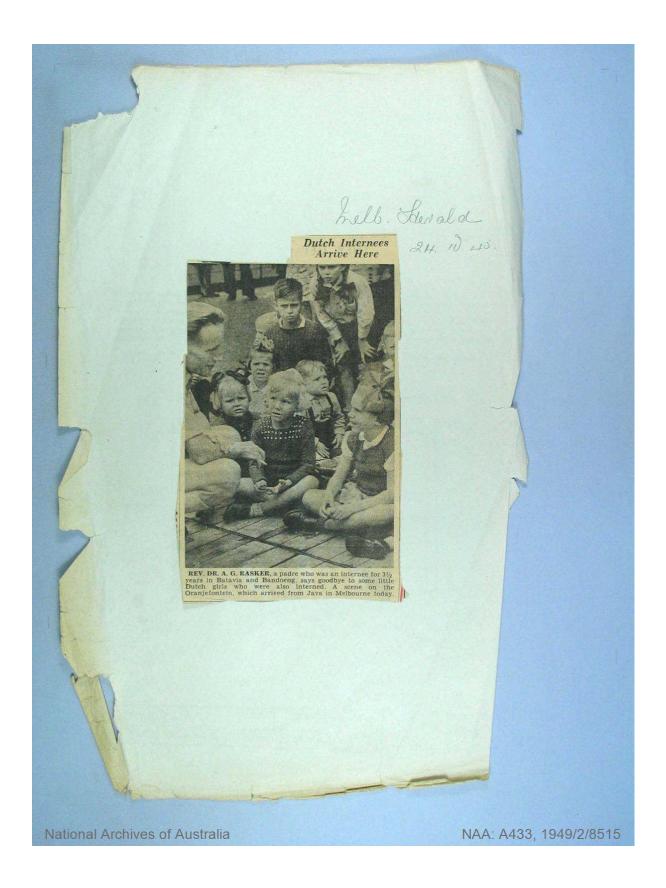


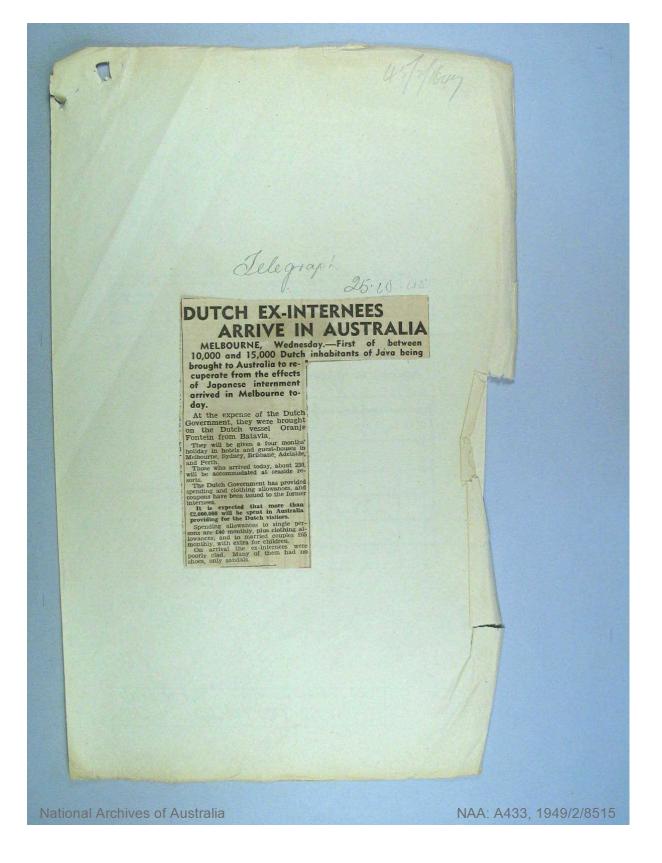




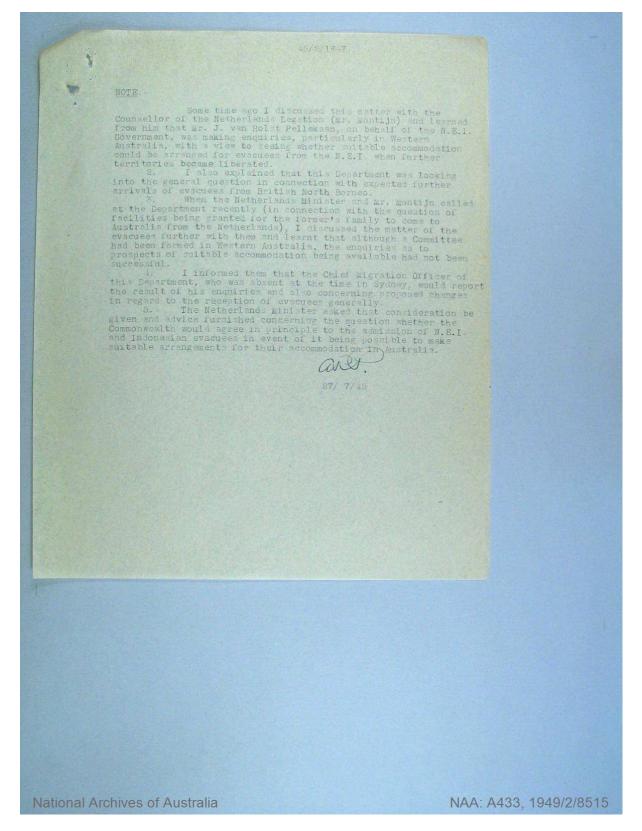








Same letters as NAA File 189323 where the NEI government ask the Australian Gov. whether they could accommodate approximately 2-3k evacuees:



45/2/1647.

MEMORANDUM:

## AUMISSION 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.

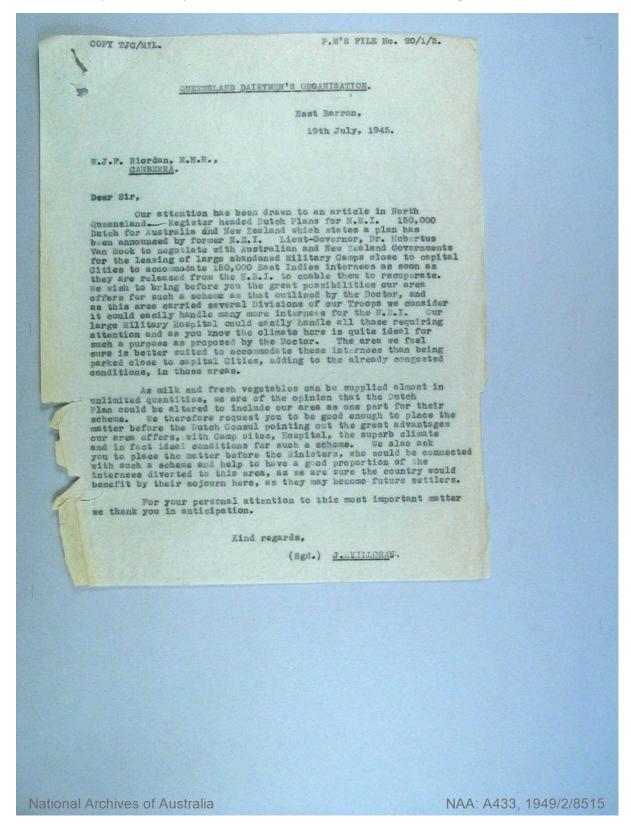
- 2. He states that when the liberation of Netherlands East Indias makes further progress it will be desired to send greater numbers of Netherlands subjects and Indonesians to Australia temporarily for recuperation purposes.
- 3. He asks whether the Commonwealth Government will agree in principle to accommonate 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 aumission 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 #112 be given for futch nationals of Auropean 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 Metherlands Indies Government will be responsible for their maintenance whilst in Australia and for their ultimate return to the Wetherlands Indies, and will supply personnel for looking after them where such care is necessary;

/ (ii)

(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

Letter from Queensland's Dairymen Organisation suggesting internees and Dutch East Indies evacuees recuperate in camps in northern Queensland in the Tableland region



## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COM

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE A.C.T.

25th July, 1945.

Dear Mr. Chifley,

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

Mr. Killoren 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. RIORDAH.

ACTING SECRETARY: For preparation of a reply for the Minister's signaturplease. Asst. Pt 17/8/

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

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

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

28th August, 19:5.

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.

Netherlands winister 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 -

- 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 cars 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 of be used for accommodation purposes, and if so, in what localities a matter for the Netherlands Indies Government authorities take up with the Department of the Army.

Col

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR A. GALWELL

(Arthur A. Calwell) Minister for Immigration.

ial Services.

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

The Director-General,
Department of Social Services.

4 Row thouse ene

(i.R. Peters) Acting Secretary, Department of Immigration. 51/8/45

whis ward very and

National Archives of Australia

NAA: A433, 1949/2/8515

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

10th September, 1945.

### MEMORANDUM TO:

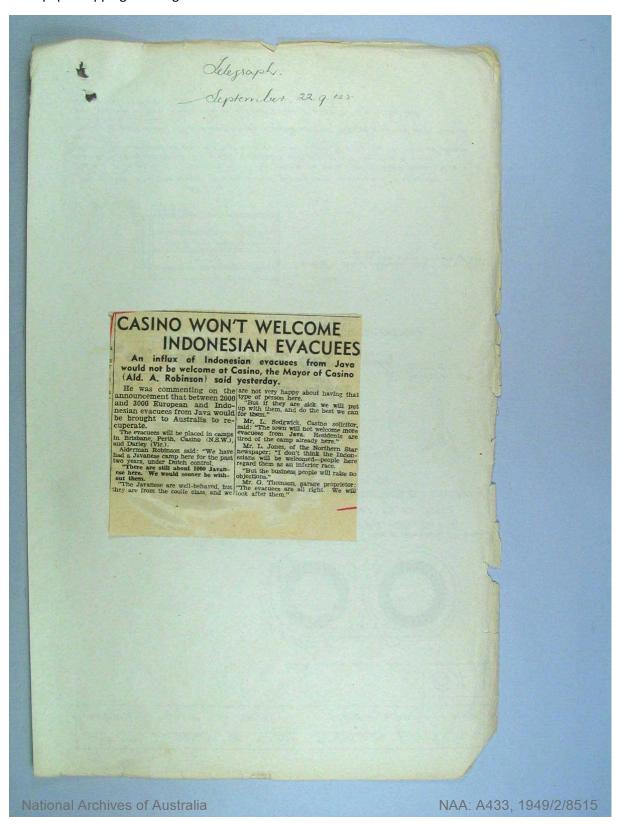
The Collector of Customs, BRISBANE, SYDNEY, FREMANTLE. The Immigration and Passports Officer, MELBOURNE.

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

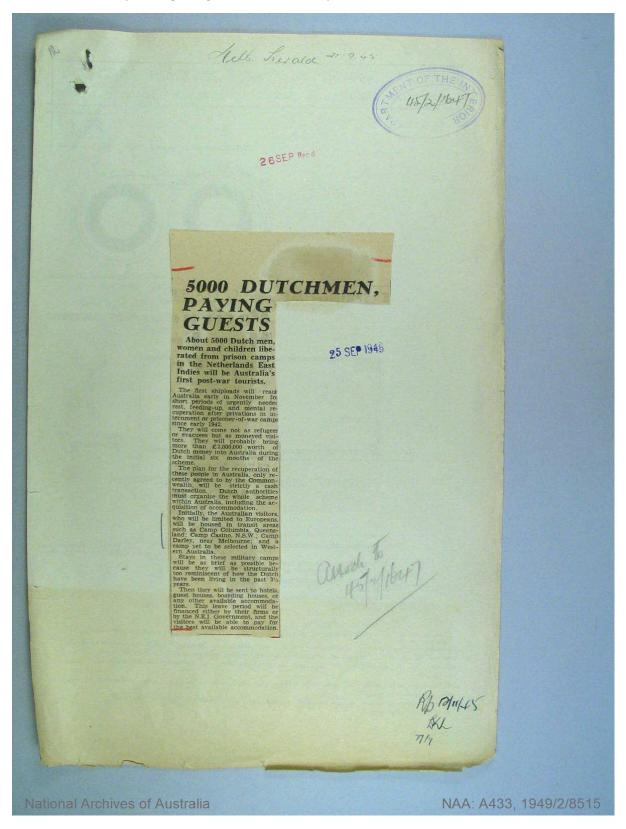
In response to representations by the Netherlands
Minister in Australia, the Government approved of his being advised
that Netherlands subjects from the liberated Netherlands Indies
could be sent to Australia for recuperative purposes for any period
up to six menths, provided satisfactory arrangements 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 ery
- 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 arreare made to send any of them to your State.
- 3. It is not expected that many, if any, Indor will be sent to Australia under this arrangement, but if to 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 Hetherlands subjects who are not suffering from dangerour communicable diseases except to report their arrival ar record of their names. If any are found to be suffering communicable diseases they should be placed under ceriexemption and their arrival specially reported.

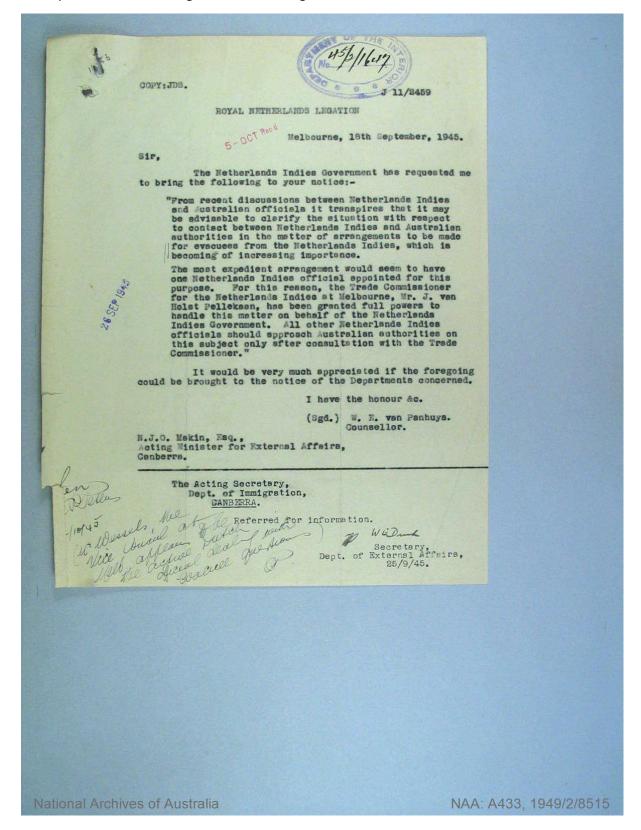
(A.R. Peters) Acting Secretary.

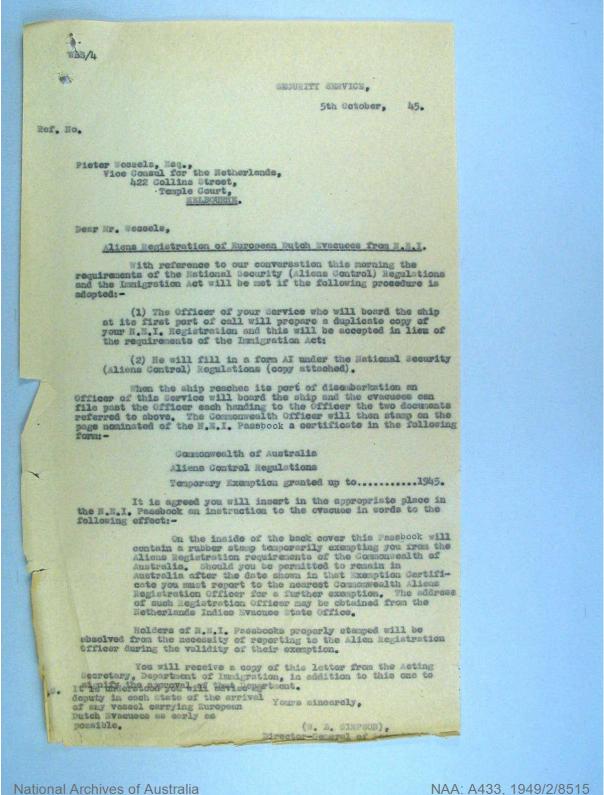


Dutch citizens coming in as 'tourists' and not evacuees - the promise of putting money into the Australian economy while getting much needed recuperation

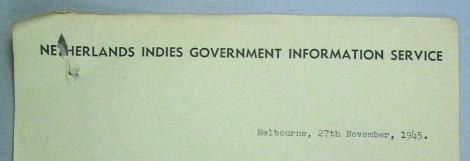


Mr van Holst Pellekaan (Trade Commissioner for the NEI at Melbourne) is granted full power of making arrangements for NEI evacuees in Australia around 16th September 1945, and all correspondence surrounding this matter must go around him first





About telegrams from ex-POW in NEI pleading to the Netherlands Prime Minister to evacuate the women and children as quickly as possible



XO1 PRESS:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

"Dutch ex-prisoners of war in Fast 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

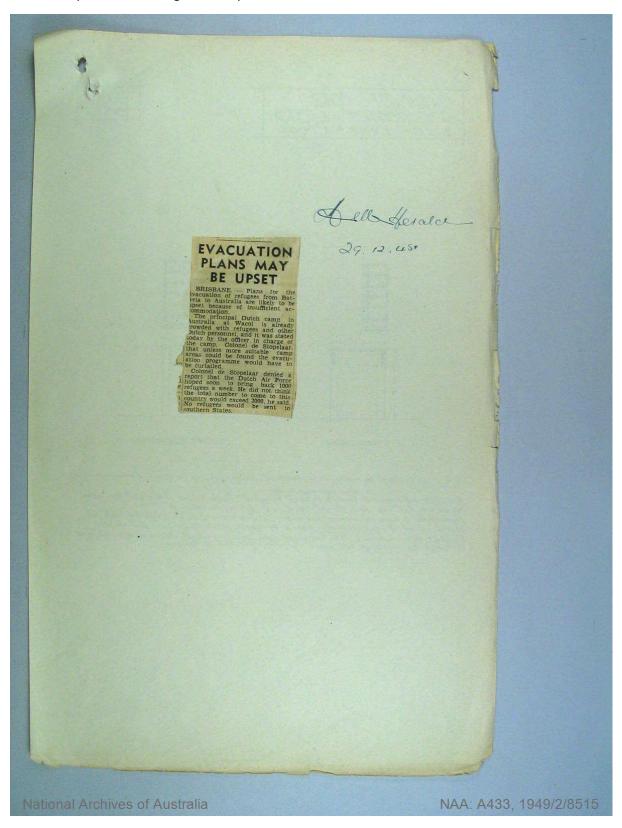
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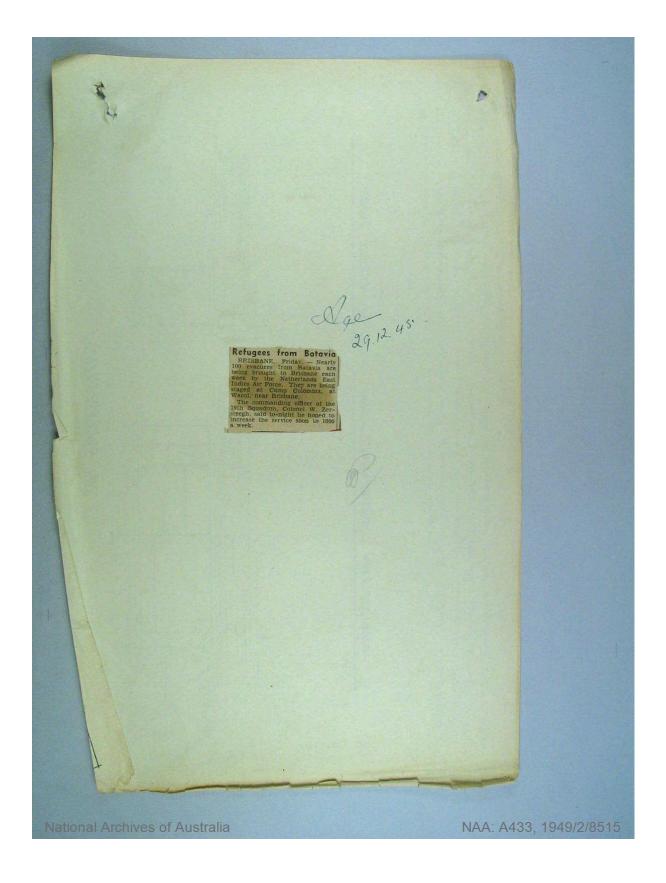
A. Schuurman

(Head Publicity Department)

NIG-2018

About Camp Columbia being too cramped





Herning

5 12 45!

Kellouine Sterald:

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.

e high-ranking officers present.

Demands Moderated

The "Premier" of the Nationalist Government, "Sutan Sjahrir, said toup that he did not think intervention by America or the United Nations as the only way to achieve a peacea settlement of the Indonesian probment the Indonesian still did not be and the Indonesian still did not be and the Indonesian still did not

# INDURNOSPRICHT

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 polical ronto hinder the evacuation of the
suffering people.

Mr Gutwirth was received all by the Minister the evacuation of the suffering people.

Mr Gutwirth was received all by the Minister the evacuation of the suffering people.

Mr Gutwirth was received all by the Minister the rade unionists reput all polical ronto hinder the evacuation of the suffering people.

Mr Gutwirth was received all by the Minister the rade unionists relucts the rade unionists relucts to hinder the evacues to be innited only by the Minister the recommodation.

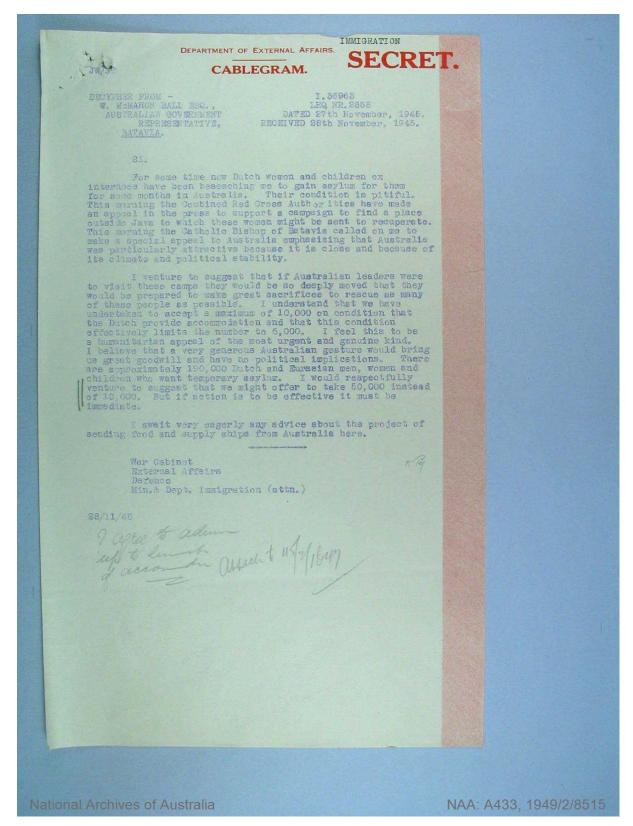
L saying that Australian very the Minister to be limited only by the Minister to the disposal he evacues to supplement accommodation, the Dutch clitics to arrange transport.

Gutwirth said he was most would be better the minister to the supplementation of the supplemen

## BRITAIN INQUIRING



An appeal to the Australian government about accepting more than 10,000 evacuees, which was the decision as of 27th November 1945



COPY.

Ref. 2/173. IMMEDIATE. OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANEERRA. 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.

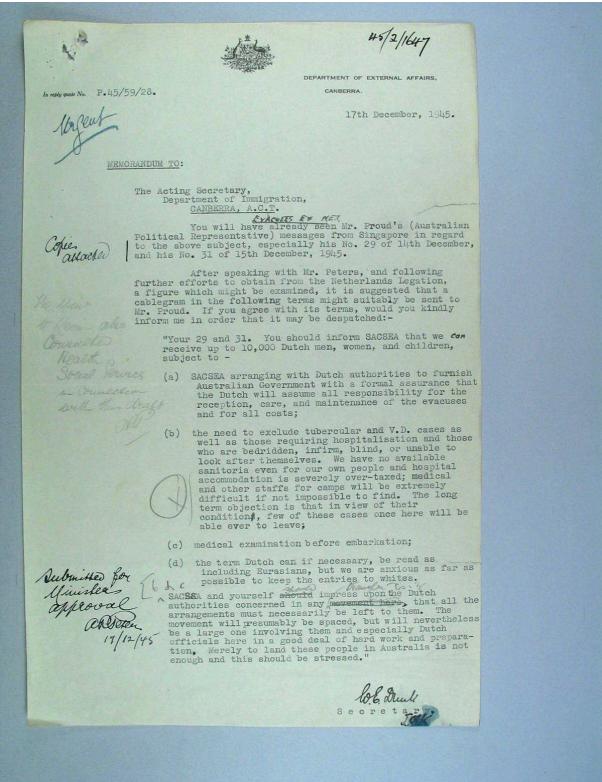
Yours sincerely,

(SGD.) W.C. HANKINSON.

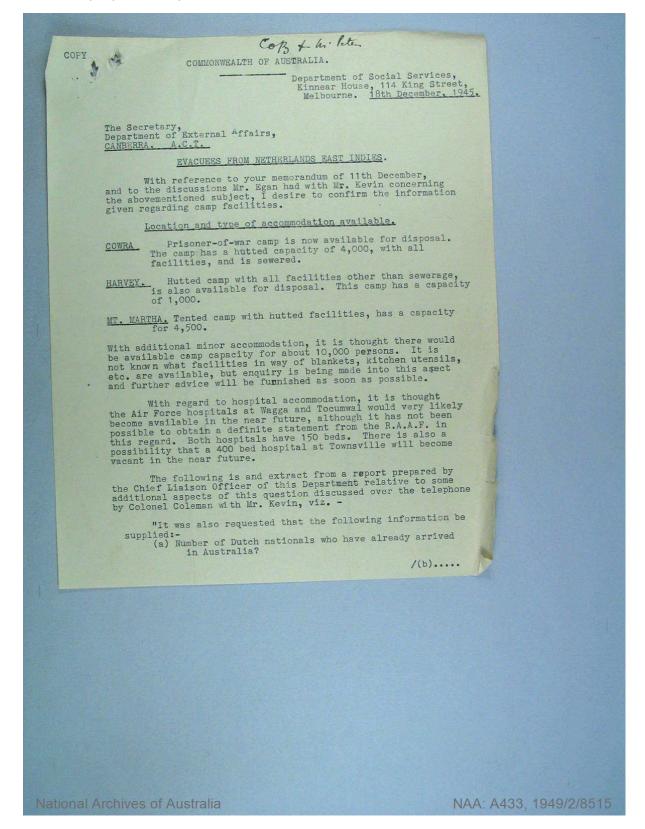
The Right Honourable J.B. Chifley, M.P.

Number of Dutch nationals present in Australia as of 17th November 1945

COPY. 1 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, KINNEAR HOUSE, 1130. 114 KING STREET, MELBOURNE. 11th December, 1945. 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. National Archives of Australia NAA: A433, 1949/2/8515



Letter on the 18th December 1945 detailing camps available to take evacuees. Includes Cowra (can host 4,000 people), Harvey (1,000), and Mt Martha (4,500)



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

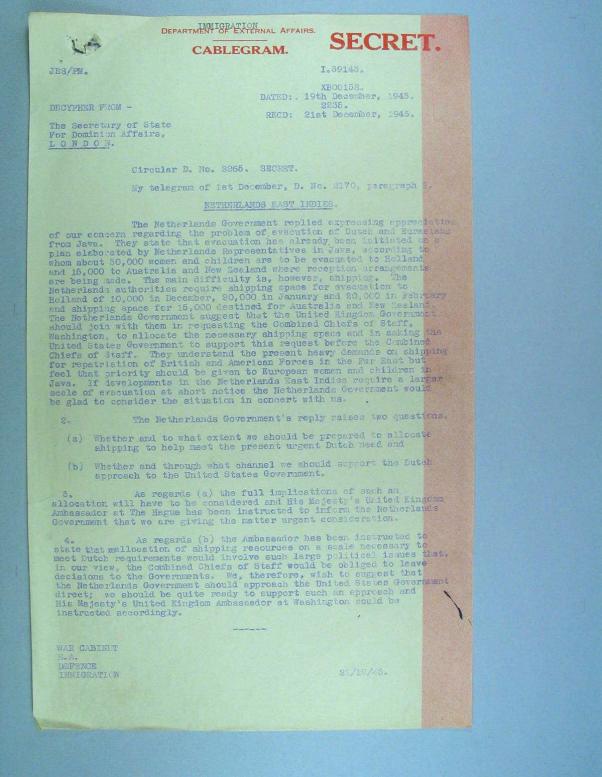
On 7th December, I interviewed Mr. Wessels, Vice Consul of the Netherlands and discussed the question referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 above. Regarding paragraph 5 (a.b.c.) the following information is submitted -

(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, n 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 s 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



## CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

MP.

I. 39487. XPO15. Dated 24th December, 1945. 1946. Rec'd 25th December, 1945.

Decypher from:

The Australian Government Representative,

55. From Proud.

At a meeting called at S.A.C.S.E.A. today the Motherlands Representative, Ceneral Weyeiman 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 know he must take it that the Dutch would have to supply all staff for camps.
- 2. Would the Australian Covernment 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.
- 5. 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 Anstralia 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 Covernments final answers to these four points as it is possible that a ship will be made available to carry civilien R.A.P.W.I. to Australian 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 hutted 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. & Dopt. Immigration.

26th December, 1945.



## CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

DBB: NO'N

I.39563

DECYPHER FROM:

Dated 27th December, 1945 2140 Recd. 28th December, 1945 IVE,

R.J.C. FROUD ESQ., Rec AUST. GOVERNMENT REPRESE TATIVE, S.I.N.G.A.P.O.F.E.

56. S.E.A.C. Lisison Staff have advised SACSBA 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;

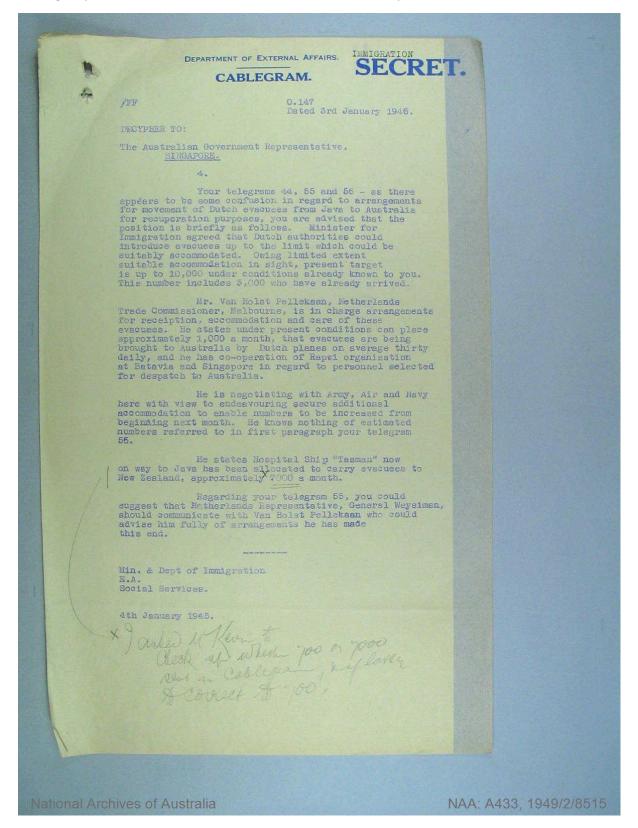
Suggest you should contact Brigadier Benoy and Holst Pelekaan and after consultation advise me as suggested in paragraphs (A), (B) and (C).

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

3rd January 1946, approximately 1,000 evacuees are entering a month and Mr van Holst pellekaan is making enquiries into more accommodation outside of the camps



NIWOE starting to get involved in accommodation

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NETHERLANDS INDIES GOVERNMENT
NETHERLANDS INDIES WELFARE ORGANIZATION FOR EVACUEES
FOR THE

VHP/JH

STATE OF XVICTORIA

TEMPLE COURT, 422 COLLINS STREET TELEPHONE, MU 9681-96 (6 LINES)

MELBOURNE, C 1 7th January, 1046.

Attention: Mr. A. R. Peters

Dear Sir,

EVACULES 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 evacues 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 evacues 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

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 wokeep.

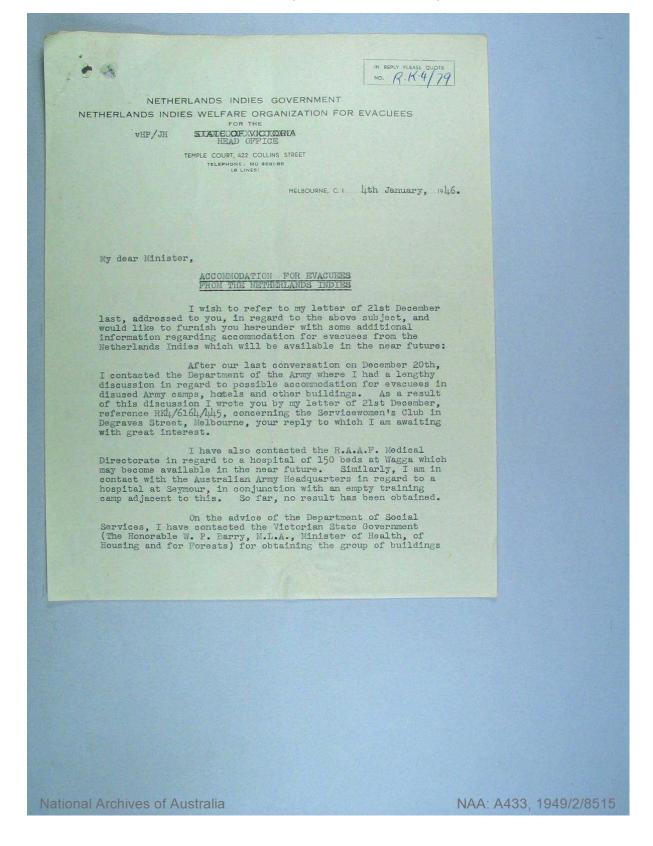
If, for any unforeseen reason, this sponsorship by private persons in Australia might prove to be impossible upon arrival of the evacuee or after the evacuee has remained in Australia for some time, my organisation will assume full responsibility for such evacuee.

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.

A letter from van Holst Pellekaan, head for NIWOE, speaks of obtaining accommodation for at least 2,000 more evacuees -> describes more camps, hotels etc. which may be available for use



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 Farm (in the city of Brisbane) which might contain 300-600 evacuees.

White Cliff, ex-A.W.A.S. Camp-

Perry Park -

which might contain 100-200 evacuees.

which might contain 100-200 single men.

Coolangatta where we have taken over camps which might contain 200-300 people.

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 11,000 - 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.

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.

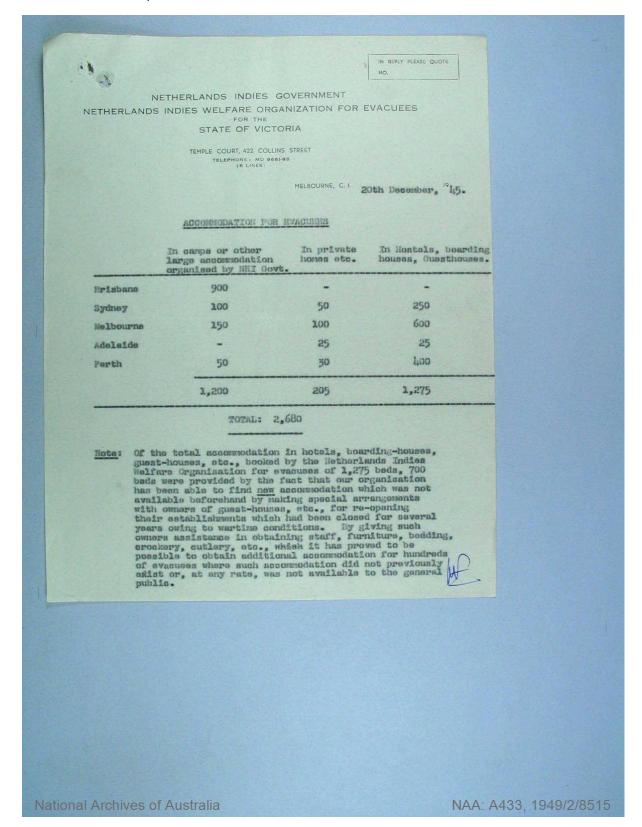
The Netherlands Minister (Baron van Aerssen Beyeren van Voshol) has requested me to forward to you the attached copy of his letter dated 28th December last to The Honorable N.J.O. Makin, Acting Minister of State for External Affairs, the contents of which are self-explanatory.

I am, dear Sir, with kind regards -

Yours very sincerely,

Head, N.I.W.O.E. for Commonwealth of

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



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

## CABLEGRAM.

JG/ML

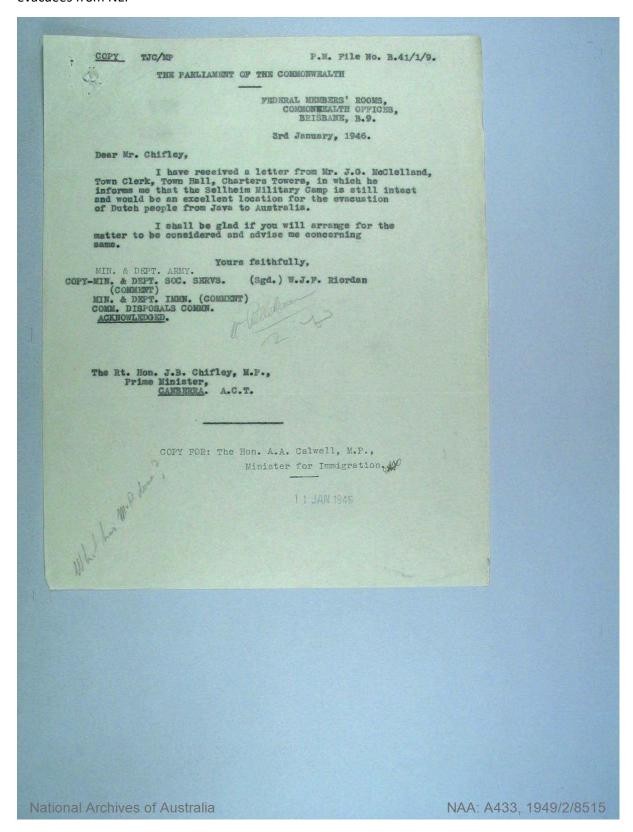
DECODE TO-THE AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE, SINGAPORE.

Sent 11th January, 1946.

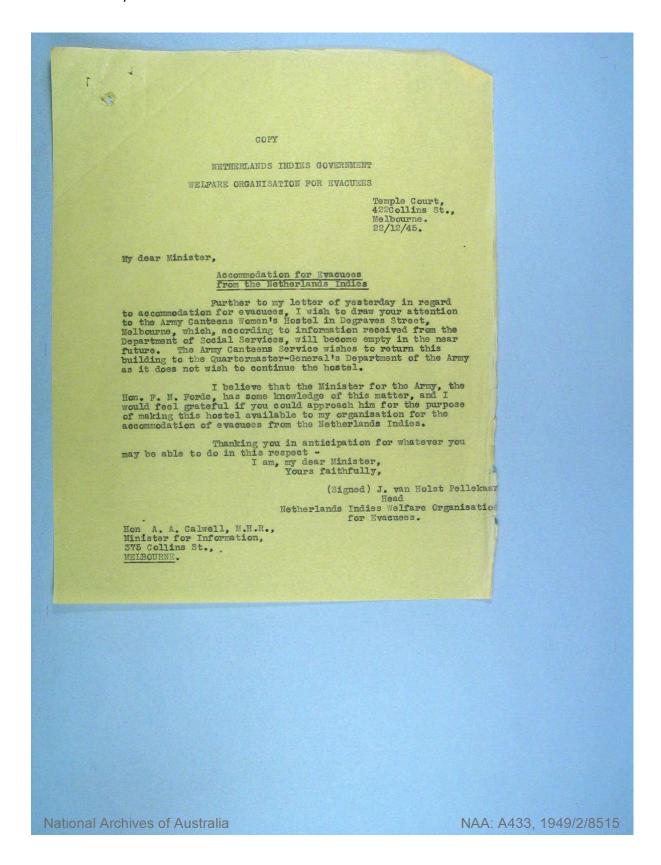
Apart from Dutch nationals who are being brought to Australia for recuperation purposes under full responsibility of Netherlands Indies authorities in Australia for maintenance and accommodation whilst here, there are many for whom guarentees for private accommodation and financial support have been obtained by the Netherlands Indies Weifare 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.

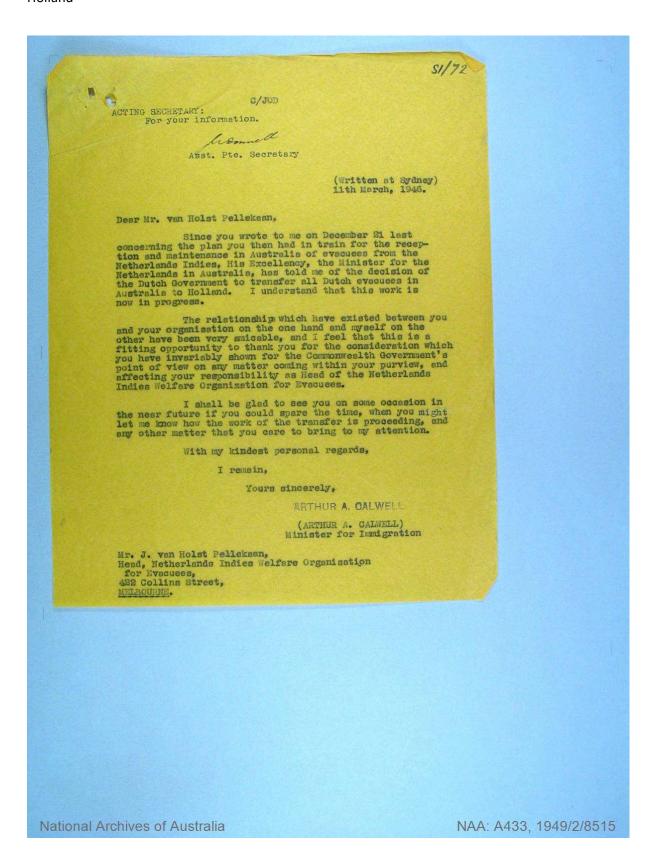
Suggestion of the use of Sellhein Military Camp, near Charters Towers, north Queensland to house evacuees from NEI

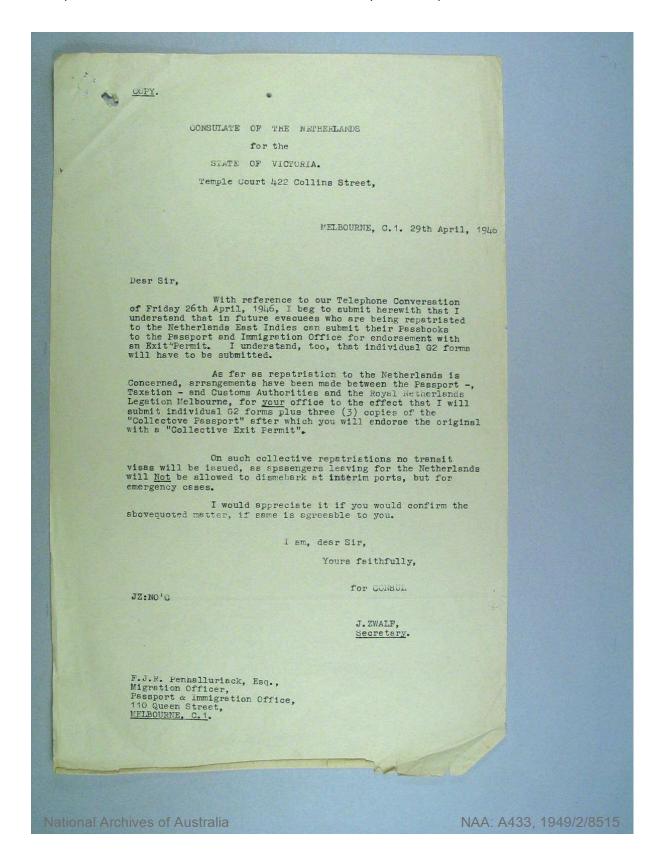


22/12/45. Mention of the Army Canteen Women's hostel in Degrave Street, Melbourne as a place for evacuees. By Pellekaan

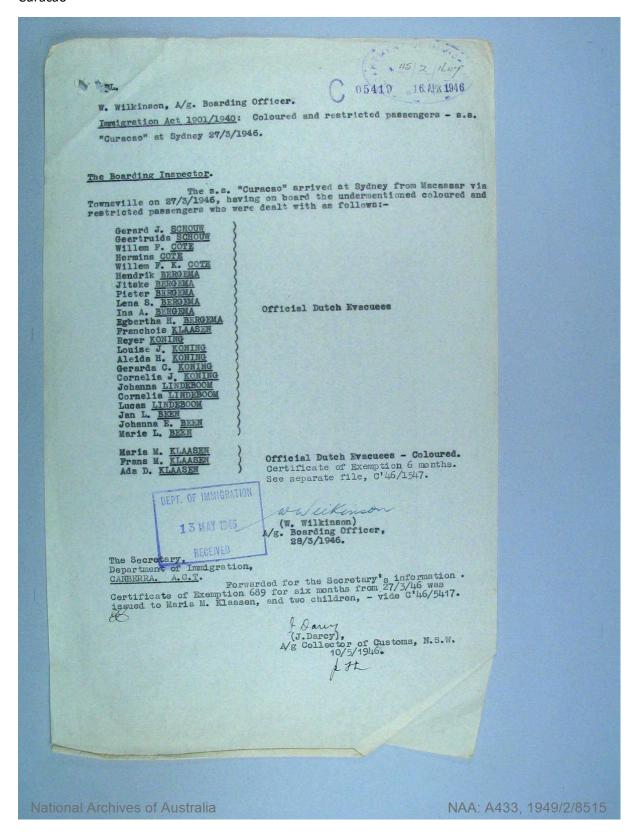


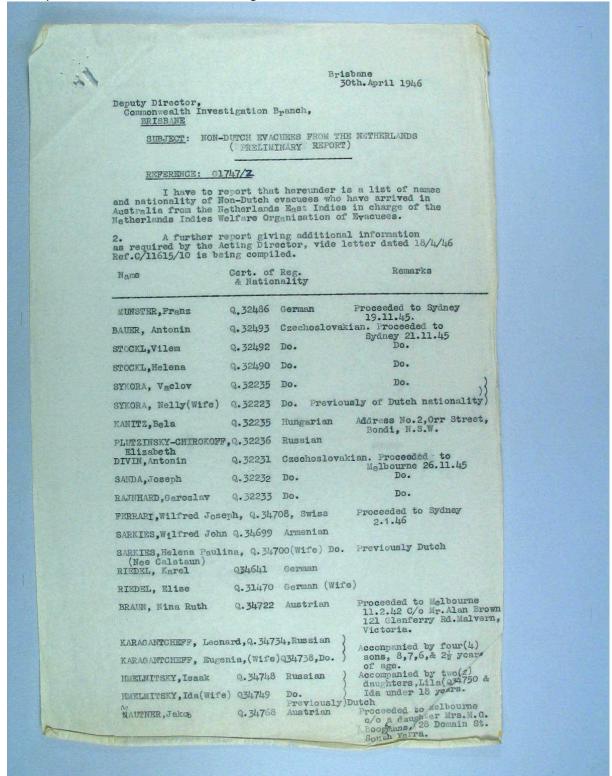
11th March 1946. On the Dutch decision that any Dutch evacuees in Australia should be sent to Holland





Group of Indonesian peoples arriving in Sydney from Macassar via Townsville aboard the S. S. Curacao





SCHMIDT, Hermine Marie Louise 934727 Swiss

ELIAS, Nordeccai British Jew Born Bombay ELIAS, Israel (Wife) British Jew BornBaghdad

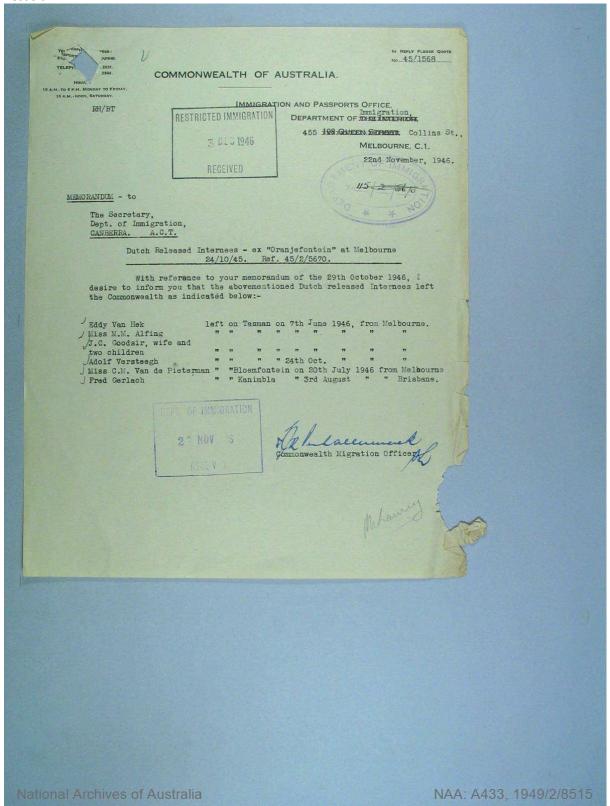
JUDAH, Meeda (Widow) British Jew Born Bombay Proceeded to Sydney c/o K.P.M., 255 George Street.

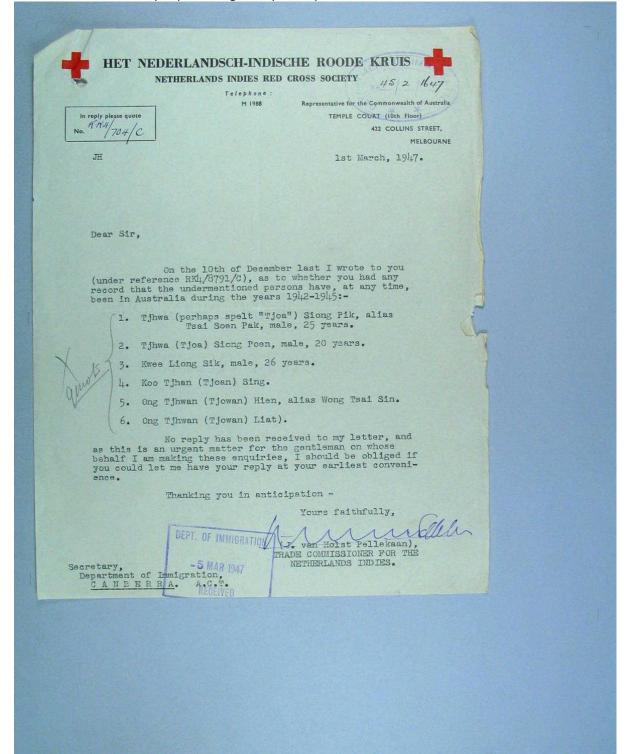
Accompanied by a faily of eleven (11) children between the ages of 22 and 5 years, all born in N.E.I.

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)
Investigator

22nd November 1946. List of Dutch leaving Commonwealth. Mention of Tasman and Bloemfontein vessels





National Archives of Australia

NAA: A433, 1949/2/8515

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 persona:-

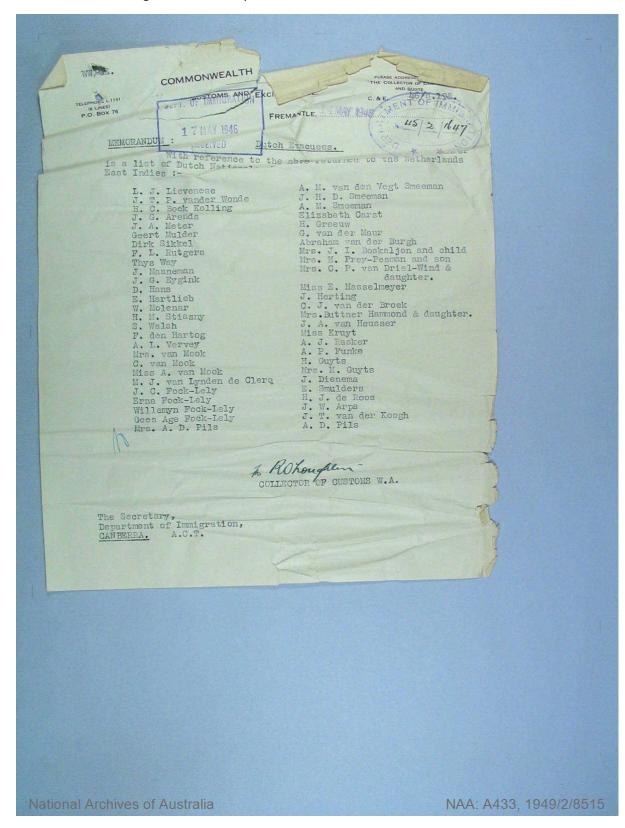
- 1. Tjhwa (perhaps spelt "Tjoa") Siong Pik, alias Tsai Soen Pak, male, 25 years.
- 2. Tjhwa (Tjoa) Siong Poen, male, 20 years.
- 3. Kwee Liong Sik, male, 26 years.
- 4. Koo Tjhan (Tjoan) Sing.
- 5. Ong Tjhwan (Tjowan) Hien, alias Wong Tsai Sin.
- 6. Ong Tjhwan (Tjowan) Liat).

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

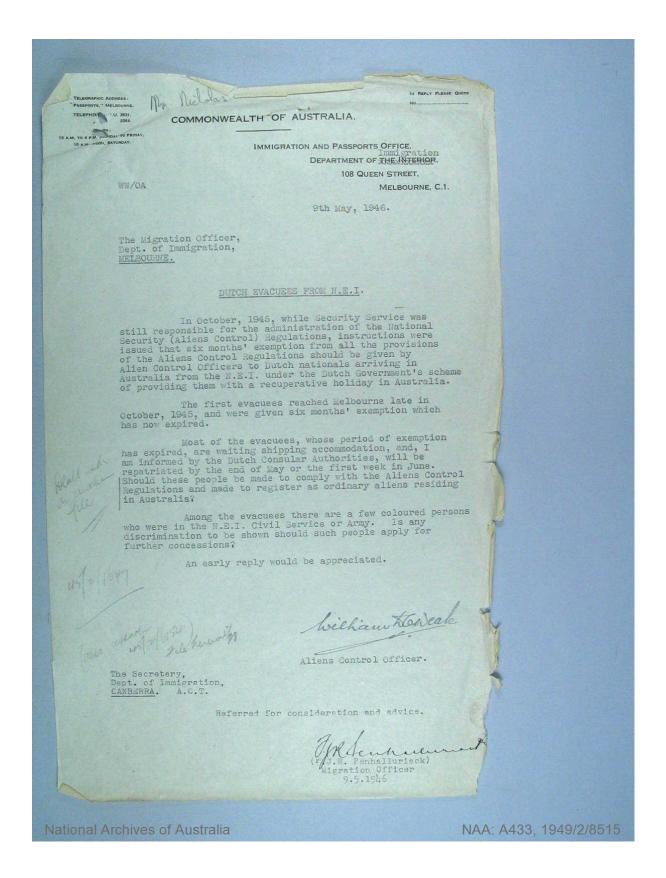
Yours faithfully,

T.H.E. Heyes, Secretary.

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



About after six months of recuperation is up - many Dutch from NEI waiting to return home. Last paragraph interesting about Coloured personnel, many of whom were servicemen



20th May 1946, NIWOE Queensland is now at New Farm, Brisbane COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. COMMONWEALTH INVESTIGATION BRANCH, CANBERRA, A.C.T., 17th May, DEPT. OF IMMIGNATION PLANE OVOTE NO. C/11615/10 The Secretary, Department of Immigration, 20 MAY 1945 CANEERRA. A.C.T. Referring to your file 45/2/1647 and this office memorandum of 15th May, 1946 I now attach detailed list of evacuess. "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 Mead 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. TRACER, 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 Benks 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. Leenex house

17th April 1946. Dutch Evacuee who arrived in Sydney from NEI

Personal Statement Forms (A.No.1): Furnished by European Dutel

NAME	DATE OF ARRIVAL
Marcel KUBBE	7th April, 1946
Constance KOS KOGIHAALDER	do.
Johanna Geranda M. VRIKMS	do.
Elizabeth A. VAN DE LAAR	do.
Elizabeth A. VAN DE LAAR Maria Hendrika LIMARN-Schouten	do.
Jacobus Wilhelm PLEVIER	do.
Maria Frederika van BEURDEN	do.
Eunice Lena BLOW	do.
Mertinus Johannes van NIEUNEUYE	do.
Annie Hancy van NIEUWKUXK	do.
Christine Yohanns LE LOREATE	do.
Kerel Adolf PADTBERG Iwan Semuel JANSZ	do.
Wels in themis inne were too	do.
Nels Anthonis Anna MULLER Japikje MULLER	do.
Theodora MUNG	do.
Karel Willem MUNS	do.
Dirk MULLER	do.
Merie Delma Phyllis BROERS	do.
Marinus Maris BROERS	do.
Adrianus Johannes KOMEN	do.
Rudolphine Elbertine CORONEL	do.
Rugenie Suzenna MERKELBACK	do.
Sylvein STOLZ	do.
Isidore Bernard STOLZ	do.
Rose STOLZ-Hamel	do.
Johannes AMAMA	do.
Johannes WARRA Johannes VERRAN Minse TJERRANA	do.
Minse TJEERDENA	do.
Gerardus Wilhelmus DEGEN	do.
Trijn Penins Johanna LANGHOUT	do.
Johan Pieter Camille MEYERS	do.
Lena Geertje van DIJK-Verspay	19th April, 1946.
THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	

DEPT. OF IMMIGRATION

14 MAY 1946

RECEIVED

A/g. Collector of Customs, N.S.W., 7/5/1946. Personal Statement Forms (A.No.1): Furnished by European Butch Eyacuees who arrived at Sydney from Metherlands East Indies.

	DATE OF ARRIVAL
NAME	
Ferdinand Smile CHATTELIN	7th April, 1946
Cornelia AARAE	do.
There ANDRE Cherles Edward LE LORRAIN	do.
Hendrikus DE VOS	do.
Rendrikus DE VOS Cornelia Sugenie DE VOS	do.
Francois Constant NULS	do. do.
	do.
Corry Mancy B. ECHOUTEN Mary Licenor Alice HANZER	do.
	do.
Blvire BUSCHMAN gel BATMAH Johan BUSCHMAN BEDUWER	do.
Johan BUSCHMAN	do.
ADRONATED PRINCES DESCRIPTION	do.
Marie Jose E. P. H. RENO Prans Jen BERG	do.
America 14 an wan KREVELEN-WILKINGOR	do.
Prederik Merinus van KRAVELON Hetty de Hochepted-Giraud Jacquee Edward de Hochepted	do.
Hetty de HOGHEPIED-Girand	do.
Jacques Edward de HOCHEDIED	do.
所以内内的内内的 经销售的图形 第1九十年四 公治: 1000 A2000	do.
Roelof Frederik Johan HEINS	do.
Cherlotte A.E. ROUM Dorothes Alide J. TYLAART-Ruyter Jennetje MASSEE-de Vries	do.
Jonnet to MASSER-de Vries	do.
	do.
Wante lester Corpolis Pilital Ph-Deckhall	do.
Tighte Presert h. d. Dully hote	do.
Robert Alired Fever Abithin	do.
Junette COSTERS	do.
Hens Louis ZEITLIN	do.
Abrahem DUETZ	do.
MANAGE Constance de BAAT DOLLMAN	do.
Walter Bertuld Frederik de BAAT DORLMAN	do.
interiorete Wilambeth Man	do.
Jen Siede KOORNWINDER Meartje Bioting	do.
Maartje BRMINK	do.
Bophia Wilhelmina DE GRAAF	do.
Johann Heinrich MONTI Agnite A. E. MONTI-Schmied	do.
Johan Marie van RAVENEWAAY-Classen	do.
Alide LE FEVER-Guys	do.
Andri Jarich LE FIVEE	60.
Andri Jarich La FIVRE Folkert Jen TEN GATE	
Hendrike Wilhelmine TEN GATE-Leonissen Andriens Peuline DE JOHGE Johannes DE JOH	IGE do.
Johanne VISSER-Venthart	
Johannes DE JONOK Anna HIKL-Boutkem	do.
Anna NIEL-Boutkem	do.
Maria V. J. KIEFS-Lembrechts Johan Andreas SCHIOTLING	do.
Johan Andreas Sunio Thios	do.
Meris LUITJES-Sikking Anton KIERS Cornelis AAPJES	do.
Cornelis AAPJES	do.
LOUISE ARREST II. ALEVAN	do.
Karel Frans VAN GRUNS	do.
Mertine Albertine WYNANDIS-Swart	
	./Marcel KUBBE