

"I am pleased to inform you that the Government of the United States agrees to the Canadian Government imposing a liability to military service on United States citizens residing in Canada, and that the proposed arrangement as outlined in your note under acknowledgment is satisfactory to this Government."

3. Fettering of Canadian prisoners of war by German authorities, press statements of October 9 and October 15, 1942

October 9, 1942

The Canadian Government communicated this evening to the Swiss Consul General in Charge of German interests a protest, in the strongest terms, against the fettering of Canadian prisoners of war by the German authorities, a measure of reprisal in violation of the Geneva Convention for the Protection of Prisoners of War of which the Canadian Government and people have learned with amazement and regret. The Canadian Government, which has been acting in consultation with the Government of the United Kingdom, will reluctantly take immediate counter action if the order for the fettering of Canadian prisoners of war is not rescinded before noon Saturday, October 10th. If such action has not been taken by the German Government by that time, an equivalent number of German prisoners of war, including both officers and men, will be put into chains.

The Swiss Consul General was informed that the Canadian Government would be very glad to cancel this order immediately on receipt of information that the German order for chaining the Dieppe prisoners has been cancelled.

October 15, 1942

When the Canadian Government's protest against the action of the German Government in chaining Canadian prisoners--of-war captured at Dieppe was made to the Swiss Consul General on Friday last, the Swiss Consul General was also informed that the Canadian Government would welcome the services of the Government of Switzerland as the Protecting Power for both belligerents with a view to securing an early settlement of the dispute and the freeing of the prisoners. The Canadian Government are now informed that the Swiss Government, in conformity with this request, have made an approach to the German Government.

The International Committee of the Red Cross at Geneva also offered their services, and the United Kingdom Government in consultation with the Canadian Government have informed the Committee that they have already invited the Swiss Government to take the matter up with the German Government. The British Government, in expressing their appreciation of the offer of the International Red Cross Committee, added that they must therefore leave it to the Committee in consultation if necessary with the Swiss Government to decide in what way their services can be made most effective.