

7-9-1943

Notes re second American evacuation

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NOTES RE SECOND AMERICAN EVACUATION

The Department of State in Washington has issued new instructions for the forthcoming Second Evacuation of U.S. Nationals from Occupied China, which to some extent modify the regulations of the Priority Scheme hitherto applied. It is the wish of the Department of State that for humanitarian reasons the selection of passengers for the Second Evacuation be made in accordance with a new priority scheme which consists of 11 (eleven) classes. There is no need to go into details, the main points being that the following persons are to be given priority:

- 1) persons who at any time since December 8th 1941 have been held under close arrest.
- 2) women and children, including males up to 21 years.
- 3) seriously ill men [including their American dependents who cannot evacuate under 2)].
- 4) persons who were 65 years of age or over on December 31st 1942, who do not qualify for inclusion in 1), 2) or 3) [including their American dependents who cannot evacuate under 2)]. Priority within this category to be according to age.
- 5) Men who repatriated their families in accordance with pre-war advice of the Department of State.

It will be seen from the above that the most important change is that women and children hitherto listed for evacuation in company of their husband/father may be evacuated in the forthcoming exchange if the husband/father agrees that they evacuate without him. Any family wishing to take advantage of this Priority Scheme is requested to fill in Form A - see (2) of Questionnaire.

Any women and children declining to evacuate without the husband/father must take the status of the husband/father and await his turn for evacuation. In this case it is necessary to complete Form B - see (2) of Questionnaire.

Mixed families comprising of U.S. Nationals and Aliens will, in any event, be held over for the following or so-called final exchange.

New applications for evacuation can only be accepted for a subsequent exchange of U.S. Nationals.

From information to hand, it appears that it is the hope of the Department of State that negotiations for further exchanges will be successful and that all Americans desiring to return to the States who cannot be brought out on the forthcoming Second Exchange will be repatriated in the not too distant future.

It is requested that the attached questionnaire be completed and handed in immediately.

Questionnaire
attached

Forms A, B, C & D
obtainable from
Committee.

O. Joerg
CONSUL FOR SWITZERLAND
is charge of American interests

TIENTSIN, July 9th 1943.

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