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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS August 29. 1944

ROBERT V. SHIRLEY, CLERK

Honorable Amon G. Carter Fort Worth Star-Telegram Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Amon:

This will acknowledge your letter of the sixteenth instant with respect to S. 1374.

You may be assured that I am heartily in favor of legislation authorizing the promotion of officers who have been captured by the enemy. This should apply, regardless of the area in which they are captured. The bill of Senator Chavez seems to apply only to those captured by the Japanese. I am calling on Senator Chavez personally and by letter, suggesting that his bill be amended so as to include those captured by the Germans in the European theatre. I shall do all I possibly can to bring this result about and to aid in the passage of the bill.

Amon, Jr., by his education and experience, richly deserves a commission after the hardships he has undergone in a German prison camp.

I have been made aware of the errors of the High Command in North Africa which resulted in the capture of Amon and others. There was a defect either in the intelligence service or in the High Command in not being advised of the imminence of the attack by the enemy in that particular area.

It is also giving me pleasure to take up with the Secretary of War this matter in an effort to secure the approval of the War Department rather than its disapproval of the bill in question. You may rely upon my doing everything within my power to bring about the enactment of the legislation.

Let me express the hope that Amon, Jr. is receiving adequate food, etc. The American Red Cross in many areas is sending foodallotments to the prisoners. If it is failing to do so in the prison where Amon is confined, I shall be glad to take the matter up with the Red Cross and see what can be done to correct the situation.

Of course, I realize your great concern and distress in regard to Amon's situation. However, it must be some consolation to know that he has served with so much bravery and honor and gallantry.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

TC/1h

