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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

February 11, 1948

Honorable Amon Carter  
THE FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM  
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Carter:

In the temporary absence of Senator Connally, I am acknowledging your night letter of February 9 relative to H. R. 4044, which has just passed the House of Representatives.

I have conferred with the staff experts of the Senate Judiciary Committee, who are now studying this measure for the benefit of the Committee, and have brought your telegram to the Committee's attention. It seems there are three measures pending before the Committee bearing on this general subject, S. 1261, S. 172 and H. R. 4044. I am having copies of these measures forwarded to you under separate cover.

A Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee, composed of Senator Cooper of Kentucky and Senator Magnuson of Washington, is scheduled to hold hearings on all three of these bills on February 17, 19, and 21, at which time it is expected to receive testimony from Federal officials respecting the possible claims and the assets which may be available to apply to such claims. This Subcommittee has already held two hearings on relief for prisoners of war as provided for in S. 172.

With regard to H. R. 4044, it is explained that the commission proposed to be established would hear military personnel who suffered inhuman treatment, as well as others, and would make a report as to such claims.

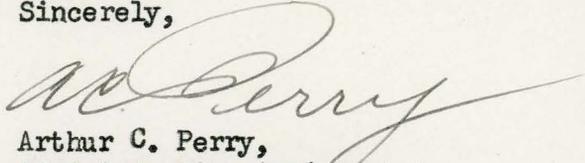
Because there is no definite knowledge as to the extent of all claims that would be made or the extent of enemy assets that may be available to satisfy such claims, the whole problem is quite complex. I am assured there is no disposition to exclude military prisoners of war. Since military prisoners have already received some treatment and benefits through hospitalization, pay and up-keep at the hands of the Government, and since many of the civilians who were interned have received no assistance of any kind, some even having to pay their return passage home, it is proposed in the pending bill, H. R. 4044, to give this latter

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group some emergency relief. It is emphasized, however, that this does not mean that military prisoners of war are to be excluded from relief after their claims and enemy assets are established. It is entirely likely that the Committee, after its study of all the proposals, will report a new bill incorporating principles of the pending bills as well as others.

Your telegram has been laid before the Committee and I hardly feel it necessary to assure you of the Senator's interest. He is not a member of the Judiciary Committee but I know he will keep in close touch with developments and that your recommendations in the matter will be helpful to him.

Sincerely,



Arthur C. Perry,  
Administrative Assistant to  
Senator Tom Connally

ACP/nh

