



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
Di 763.72114/5606

April 14, 1921.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Morrow, United States Army,
Adjutant General's Office,
Frankfort, Kentucky.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your letter of April 1, 1921, asking that you be furnished with an official copy of the open letter published in the press of Austria and Hungary from Lieutenant-Colonel Ferdinand Reder of the former Austro-Hungarian Army expressing thanks, on behalf of himself and his comrades, for the treatment which they received while prisoners of war in eastern Siberia from the officers of the 27th United States Infantry, commended by you.

You also ask that copies of the letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Reder be sent to First Lieutenant

John

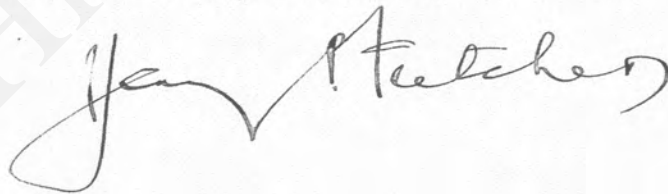
James, 27th Infantry, and Captain Benjamin B. Burdette, Medical Corps, since the letter refers to the services of those officers in conducting the prison camp for Austro-Hungarian prisoners in Siberia.

In reply you are informed that three copies of the letter of Lieutenant-Colonel Reder have been sent to the Secretary of War for his information and for transmission to you and Lieutenant James and Captain Burdette, if the War Department deems proper.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James H. Stetson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Under Secretary".

Under Secretary.

LEGATION OF SWEDEN
Washington, D.C.

Department of
Austro-Hungarian Interests

Washington, April 15, 1921.

No. 1048

Excellency:

According to a statement made on his return from Siberia by Lieutenant Colonel Ferdinand Reder of the former Austro-Hungarian Army, the most unfavorable and pernicious conditions which up to October 1918 prevailed in the camp of Krassnaja-Rjetschka, his last place of internment, were within a very short time after aforementioned date removed by the energetic interference of American officers who devoting themselves with great zeal, efficiency and foresight to their task, not only saved the life of many war prisoners but also rendered the life in said camp tolerable and worthy for human beings. The hitherto desperate hygienical conditions in the camp were remedied by the American officers who in no lesser degree took care of the spiritual welfare of the war prisoners, by giving them inspiration and suitable occupation.

Colonel C. H. Morrow, Captain F. Larkins, Commander of Co.
"E" of the 27. Inf. Rgt., Captain Med. Corps

His Excellency

Mr. Charles E. Hughes,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

incl.

Dr. Burrdett and First Lieutenant James, Adjutant of Colonel Morrow distinguished themselves foremost in this charitable action towards the forsaken prisoners of war.

The Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs having through Lieutenant Colonel Reder's report only recently gained knowledge of the benevolent attitude shown by the said American officers is anxious to have the expression of its deepest felt gratitude for these acts of humanity and charity on behalf of the Austrian prisoners of war conveyed to the Government of the United States and in particular to the United States officers named above, and solicited my intervention for this purpose.

In compliance with this desire expressed by the Austrian Government I have the honor to bring above facts to Your Excellency's kind attention and avail myself at the same time of this occasion to renew the assurance of my highest consideration.

A. WALLENBERG.

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY
REFER TO

A.G.201.2

April 18, 1921.

To: Lieut. Col. Charles H. Morrow, Inf.,
Insp.-Instr. Ky. N.G., Frankfort, Ky.

Subject: Letter for file with Efficiency Reports.

1. Inclosed herewith is a copy of an open letter published in the press of Austria and Hungary, from Lieut. Col. Ferdinand Reder, of the former Austro-Hungarian Army, expressing thanks, on behalf of himself and his comrades, for the treatment which they received while prisoners of war in Eastern Siberia, from officers of the 27th Infantry.

2. Copy of this letter has been filed with your Efficiency Reports in this office.

1 Incl.

D. P. Scobey
Adjutant General.

A.G.201.2

April 18, 1921.

To: Lieut. Col. Charles H. Morrow, Inf.,
Insp.-Instr. Ky. N.G., Frankfort, Ky.

Subject: Letter for file with Efficiency Reports.

1. Inclosed herewith is a copy of an open letter published in the press of Austria and Hungary, from Lieut. Col. Ferdinand Reder, of the former Austro-Hungarian Army, expressing thanks, in behalf of himself and his comrades, for the treatment which they received while prisoners of war in Eastern Siberia, from officers of the 27th Infantry.

2. Copy of this letter has been filed with your Efficiency Reports in this office.

1 Incl.

Adjutant General.

WAR DEPARTMENT

BMM 2-211

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

IN REPLY
REFER TO

AG-201 Morrow, Charles H (WA)

WASHINGTON

August 19, 1921.

SUBJECT:

To: Lt. Col. Charles H. Morrow,
Instructor, Kentucky National Guard,
Frankfort, Ky.

1. There is forwarded to you herewith by registered mail, a decoration, Order of the Sacred Treasure (3rd Class), awarded to you by the Japanese Government.

2. It is requested that the inclosed receipt blank be executed and returned to this office.

By order of the Secretary of War:

2 Incls.

J. Brown
Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD DIVISION & CAMP LEWIS
Camp Lewis, Washington.

October 25, 1921.

Lieut.-Col. G. D. Herron, U.S.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Herron:

Your letter of October 19, with inclosure, came yesterday. I have always been convinced that Lieut. Col. Charles H. Morrow, formerly Colonel in command of 27th Infantry during the operations of American Troops in Siberia, is entitled to the Distinguished Service Medal. He commanded the American sector of the Siberian railroad from Verkhnie-Udinsk to Misovaya, having about 2000 men to cover and guard a stretch of 100 miles of railroad. The nearest supporting American troops were over 1500 miles away and communication was very unreliable. Colonel Morrow was in consequence thrown absolutely upon his own resources, having the general policy of the War Department, regarding Siberian occupation, as his only guide. In my capacity as Inspector of the A. E. F. Siberia, I inspected his sector in the month of June, 1919, and became familiar with the difficulties and dangers of the situation.

I was much impressed with the courage, resolution, and skill displayed by Colonel Morrow in dealing with Japanese and Kolchaks. Due to these qualities of Colonel Morrow many threatening clashes were averted, and the dignity and honor of the Army of the United States was upheld in a most creditable way by this officer in a position of great responsibility and difficulty.

You are authorized to use this letter if you consider it of any value in obtaining the medal for Colonel Morrow.

JDL/s

A true copy

G. D. Herron

Lt. Col. G. S.

J. D. LEITCH,
Colonel, General Staff.

621119

(COPY)

Camp Dix, N. J.
Oct. 4th, 1921.

Dear Col. Herron:-

Your letter relative to Distinguished Service Medal for Colonel Morrow has been received - Col. Morrow did excellent service in Siberia, especially in the Baikal Sector. He was naturally and necessarily thrown upon his own resources and had to cope with a situation fraught with serious possibilities, due to misrepresentations of people who were supposed to be our friends, and due to the constant effort on the part of our supposed friends to get Col. Morrow in a position inconsistent with the announced policy of the United States for the government of the Military in Siberia. Col. Morrow handled the situation with great energy, tact and force. I was very much pleased at the way Col. Morrow handled Semionoff. My conception of the intent of Congress in authorizing the Distinguished Service Medal has resulted in a discrimination against some of the men who served under me in Siberia which I sincerely regret. I would be very glad to see Col. Morrow get the D. S. M., but do not feel justified in initiating the request. Col. Morrow's service in handling a difficult situation in TransBaikal was very creditable and I, personally, would like to see him given some consideration for this service.

Very sincerely,

(Signed) Wm. S. Graves.

A true copy

to ~~Mr~~ Herron

Lt. Col. G. S.

621219