

Sumner Welles Papers
Box 92 Folder 3
Office Correspondence
State Dept. Memoranda, 1943

May 17, 1943

Eu
Mr. Atherton:

With regard to the last category of communications contained in this file, namely, the communications classified under the heading of "Release of political prisoners in North Africa", it seems to me that it is highly desirable for the State Department to reply to all of these communications giving the true facts. I request that you make the necessary arrangements so that communications of this kind be routed from now on to your Division for the purpose indicated.

I see nothing to be gained from the standpoint of the interest of this Government by having the Department of State permit the erroneous belief to continue that there are 25 to 50,000 political prisoners still locked up in jail in North Africa.

U:SW:DMK