

**AIDE AUX PRISONNIERS
DE GUERRE**

— 316 —
SIÈGE : 52, Rue des Pâquis
GENÈVE
— 317 —

Alliance Universelle des Unions Chrétiennes
de Jeunes Gens (Y.M.C.A.)

— 11 —
DÉLÉGUÉ POUR L'AFRIQUE DU NORD :

G. DE REYNIER
Dar El Koudia, Parc Gatilff, ALGER
Téléphone : 678-05
— 11 —

Alger December 18th 1942.

*Commissaire de Jeunes Gens
Alliance Universelle*

Notice concerning the Interned prisoners and **CTED**.

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Monsieur de Reynier the author of the present notice is YMCA International Delegate for visiting the interned civilians and prisoners of war in North Africa.

Since his nomination on september 22nd 1942, the same having been notified to and agreed to by the french authorities, Mr. de Reynier has been fully acquainted with the situation in the camps. He has read the Reports of Mr. le Pasteur Toureille (Universal Church Delegate) of the French Red Cross, and of Mr. Wyss-Dunant (International Red Cross Delegate). He corresponds continually with the Internés and established personal contact during his visits to the camps.

In relation to the present political situation he has the Honour of drawing the attention of the Authorities to the following points

1o) In spite of the Political change in North Africa, foreign subjects interned for political motives are maintained in the said camps their condition being exceeded by present events.

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2.

Spanish, polish, German and Austrian subjects having joined the army at the beginning of the war to the purpose of fighting against Nazism and Fascism are asking and have already applied by every possible means for taking up active service against Germany and Italy.

In spite of this loyal attitude towards France, they continue to be deprived of their liberty, and in general no change has taken place in their practically penitential detention.

Their moral state of mind has in consequence grown worse.

20) Although it is quite comprehensible that elements menacing to trouble the Public Order should be prevented to harm, it seems natural that sound elements interned for their Republican ideas should have the possibility of changing their condition and joining the Fighting Army.

In case of physical inaptitude they ought to be able to take up useful occupation and lead a normal life. The discrimination between the dangerous elements and those loyal to France and useful to the Common Cause seems to be at the present moment devoluted to their

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former guardians, whose objectivity is no guarantee and who naturally have a tendency to maintain their previous attitude towards their charges.

Great injustice is being done towards interesting and retrievable elements.

3o) In view of guaranteeing impartial sorting, rendered necessary by the change in the Political Situation, of discriminating between criminal elements and those useful to the Common Cause, it might be advisable to appoint NEW MEN who would procede in relation to the actual political situation.

The majority of those interned having served in the "Foreign Legion" have no desire to re-enlist in the French Army, having served magnificently, they were afterwards interned, they therefore desire to serve in any Allied Force, either American, British, Polish, Dutch, Tchèque or Russian.

Enlistment in either of these Armies seems impossible in North Africa they desire to leave the country and ask permission to embark.

It seems inadmissible that men interned for their anti-

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4.

nazi conceptions should continue to be maintained in detention, very often
without any other seriously controlled motif.
