

"HANG THE MIKADO," SAYS AMERICAN SENATOR

U.S. Reaction To Jap Atrocities

WASHINGTON, Sat.: Congress shock over the disclosures regarding Japanese atrocities is reflected in the demand by Democrat Senator Clark that the United Nations should bomb Japan out of existence and hang the Mikado in retaliation, while Democrat leader Senator Barkley said treatment meted out to prisoners put the Japanese beyond the pale of civilisation.

"The United States is gathering all possible information about the treatment of American prisoners held by the Japanese so that war criminals may be punished when hostilities end," said Secretary of State Cordell Hull, at a Press Conference today when asked whether the Government was taking action regarding Japanese officers responsible for the atrocities in the Philippines.

"The United States will persevere in pursuit of its righteous undertaking to continue to exchange prisoners and internees with Japan," he added. "No one here has any idea whether there is still a chance of doing this. I have not received any reply regarding the relief supplies for Allied prisoners which were delivered by the liner Gripsholm to a Japanese vessel two months ago."

Mr. Hull added that Washington had so far failed to discover whether the supplies had actually been delivered to the prisoners.

Emphasising that he wanted a direct quotation of his views on the atrocities, Mr. Hull said: "It would be necessary to assemble together all the demons available anywhere and combine their fiendishness in order to describe the conduct of those who inflicted these unthinkable tortures on defenceless people."

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It is stated that the facts concerning what happened to American and Filipino troops in the Philippines were published after the majority of experts on Japan had decided that an official statement might bring an improvement in the Japanese attitude towards their prisoners.

White House Secretary Early told a Press Conference that the facts of the report had been carefully investigated and authenticated before they had been released.

The Chairman of the House Military Committee declared that if the brutal torture of American prisoners did not stimulate the people of America to a war spirit and to action nothing under heaven would do it.

"Fooling around the island outposts should be stopped," he added. "We should steam straight into Tokio and blow it to Hades."