

AMERICANS ARRIVE AT EXCHANGE PORT

Teia Maru Docks at Mormugao —Most Passengers Appear 'Bronzed but Strained'

GRIPSHOLM IS AWAITED

Allied Repatriates to Stay on Japanese Vessel Till Actual Transfer Begins

By TILLMAN DURDIN
By wireless to the New York Times

MORMUCAO, Portuguese India, Oct. 15—The Japanese ship Teia Maru arrived here this morning carrying roughly 1,500 American, Canadian and Latin-American citizens from Japanese-occupied territories in the Far East.

Most of the American passengers will be exchanged at this neutral little Portuguese Indian port for an equal number of Japanese who have been interned in the United States since the outbreak of war with Japan. The Japanese are due here on the Swedish ship Gripsholm, which had not arrived this morning.

This exchange is the second of its kind since the Pacific war began, the first having taken place last year at the Portuguese African port of Lourenco Marques. The Teia Maru steamed slowly into this jungle-girt little port at 10:30 this morning. The 1,200 Americans, 250 Canadians and eighty-odd Latin-Americans aboard were almost all on deck, crowding the rail, swarming over the booms or hanging on to the lines as the ship was manoeuvred into dock. Shabbily dressed, their faces bronzed from weeks of sailing in tropical seas the passengers were mostly silent.

All of them had been caught in China, the Philippines, Hong Kong or Japan by the Japanese since the attack on Pearl Harbor and have been interned since December, 1941.

The American Consul General at Goa, Austin R. Preston, and his consular aides: Paul Ekstrom, chancellor of the Swedish Consulate at Bombay who is representing the Japanese in the exchange: Paul Sykes, Canadian trade commission in India, who is representing the Canadian Government here, and International Red Cross officials were the first to go aboard the Japanese ship.

They went aboard prepared to attend to many welfare cases. Many of the Americans aboard are aged persons who will require special medical attention. Many loads of Red Cross supplies have been brought in by rail here for the Teia Maru.

The Gripsholm also is loaded with fifteen hundred tons of medical supplies, food and clothing that will be taken back to enemy controlled territories for Americans and Britons and others by the the Teia Maru.

Portuguese police and soldiers formed a cordon around several acres of ground flanking the wharf and permitted only authorized persons inside.

The American, Portuguese and Swedish officials handling the exchange have been working out details for weeks.

During the period of their stay here of the Teia Maru and the Gripsholm the repatriates will not receive leave but will be allowed on the dock within the restricted area. Enclosures and lanes between the two ships have been arranged for so that there will be virtually no contact between the Japanese and Americans as they come onto the docks or pass between the two ships.

The Americans from the Teia Maru will not be transferred to the Gripsholm until the berthing assignments have been completed on the latter.

Capt. Almeida Pinheiro, Portuguese naval officer and director of Murmugao Port, who is acting as delegate or "umpire" for exchange, went aboard with Mr. Preston. Many of the Americans on board were stripped to the waist and wore only khaki shorts. Many had long beards. The women wore faded slacks and dresses. Everyone was bronzed but looked strained.