



File

CCC/3627/C-12-C.

28th October, 1947.

My dear

Reference our conversation about the case of Mr. E. Driberg, M.P.,  
I attach the report which I have received from General McCreevy.

I think that there can be no doubt that Mr. Driberg behaved  
in a manner unworthy of his position as a Member of Parliament. An  
M.P. is quite entitled to disagree with an order which has been issued  
by myself or the Army Commander; but he has no right whatsoever to  
'bully rag' unfortunate junior officers who are doing their best to carry  
out our orders, nor to hold them up to contempt in front of the German  
Staff.

As I explained to you, the reason why this matter has been  
raised by the Army Commander is because Transit Hotels are at present run  
by B.A.O.B., except in the case of 'T' Force hotels. It is anticipated  
that C.C.C. will gradually take over the Transit Hotels from the Army,  
but for this purpose additional personnel on the C.C.C. establishment would  
be required.

You will see that the footnote to the Savoy Hotel Information  
Sheet, which is attached to General McCreevy's report, reads as follows -

"The Savoy Hotel is a Military Establishment, and in accordance  
with C.C.C. the entertainment of Germans in the Hotel is  
STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. Guests are particularly requested to observe  
this order, and thereby avoid any embarrassment to themselves or the  
staff by its enforcement."

This instruction has been given by B.A.O.B. chiefly because of the undesirability  
of providing meals for casual German visitors out of British rations,  
i.e. out of the British taxpayer's pocket. Moreover the Transit Hotels are  
set up for the use of the British officials and officers travelling on  
duty, as well as British and other foreign visitors from abroad. It would  
be a matter of serious complaint if the limited amount of food and

/accommodation.....

The Rt. Hon. Lord Selkirk

accommodation available were used up for the entertainment of casual German visitors who were brought in without notice, as in this case.

This does not mean of course that Germans cannot be entertained in British Messes or Clubs. I attach at Appendix 'A' rules on this subject which I have issued for the C.C.C., and at Appendix 'B' the somewhat stricter rules that have been issued by the three Service Commanders for the uniformed services. In the light of the shortage of food in Britain, I do not think that these rules are unreasonable at the present time, although they will no doubt be further relaxed when times become easier and food more plentiful.

I hope that this letter will give you all the information that you want.

Yours

SD

Copy to Deputy Military Governor.  
Army Commander.