

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

ACTION: NOE

INFO:

S LEM-1077-K

1945 SEP 12 AM 9 OELAIN

ESC

LE-2

EUR-3

DC/L-C

SWP-2

FC-14

OPI

PL

INI-2 Secretary of State,

A-M

A-Mc/W Washington.

SPA

SA

SA/GN 525, Eleventh

SA/M-2

Helsinki

DC/L
LANSON

Dated September 11, 1945

Rec'd 9:20 a.m.

All papers eleventh Allied Control Commission in Finland declares statements Finnish Supreme Court and Diet Constitutional Law Committee contending armistice agreements Article 13 refers only to persons transgressing laws and customs of war and not to "chief war criminals" and that Finnish Government's War Responsibility Bill could not therefore rest on armistice agreement are formally and factually wrong. It is formally wrong because it is not within scope those bodies to interpret armistice agreements Thirteenth or other articles. It is factually wrong because it interprets Thirteenth Article arbitrarily and incorrectly. Article 13 gives Finland rights and possibilities to detain and bring to justice persons accused of war crimes
irrespective

PLAIN

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAM SECTION

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF
STATE

PLAIN

-2- #525 Eleventh, from Helsinki

irrespective of whether these persons are petty secondary or chief war criminals. Article 13 also provides Finland with bases necessary for making its internal legislation conform to duties Finland has undertaken under Article 13.

HELSINGIN SANOMAT War Responsibility Bill for third reading in Diet today. If bill declared urgent as expected and Diet approves and President signs law without delay Diet electors will elect members War Responsibility Court this week.

HULLEY

EDA

PLAIN