

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
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The unfreezing of Netherlands blocked accounts was announced today by Secretary Vinson.

By amending General License No. 95 to include the Netherlands, the release of blocked Netherlands accounts is provided for through the certification procedure already in effect for French, Belgian, Norwegian and Finnish assets. The Netherlands Government has designated the Nederlandsche Bank as the certifying agent under the license.

Substantially all restrictions on current transactions with the Netherlands were removed early in December by General License No. 94. Accounts certified under the arrangement announced today will also be freely available for use under that license.

General License No. 95 was made available to the Netherlands after an exchange of letters between the Netherlands Minister of Finance and Secretary Vinson similar to those written in connection with the defrosting of the countries previously included in the license. Copies of the letters are available at the Federal Reserve Banks of New York, Chicago, and San Francisco.

The Netherlands Minister of Finance has informed Secretary Vinson that the sequestration measures imposed on property of United States nationals during the German occupation have been abrogated and that a procedure has been established under which absent owners can be reinstated in their rights. Treatment accorded to assets in the Netherlands of United States nationals will be as favorable as that accorded to assets of nationals of any other country. Transfers of funds from the Netherlands to the United States will be permitted to the fullest extent consistent with the Netherlands foreign exchange position.