

**CIVILIANS ELIGIBLE
FOR P.O.W. BENEFITS**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 (AP) — Freed civilian prisoners of war are eligible for detention benefits under the War Hazards Compensation Act, the Labor Department reported yesterday.

Those eligible include 25 American civilians known to have been captured in Southeast Asia while employed by Government contractors. Another civilian P.O.W. is reported to have died in captivity and the department said his survivors may also be eligible for benefits.

Each beneficiary can receive a lump sum payment equal to the salary he would have earned had he not been captured.

The department's Office of Federal Employees' Compensation has stationed a representative at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, where released P.O.W.'s are being processed. The officials are helping the prisoners file claims for the compensation.