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EXTRACT FROM FMF PAC GENERAL ORDER NO. 2 20 October, 1950

SOP - INTELLIGENCE

14. PRISONERS OF WAR:

a. For purposes of this SOP the term "Prisoners of War"

includes personnel of any enemy state, civilians bearing

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Comdr S. C. BARTLETT, OP 322Y4E

DATE: 10 October, 1951

FROM : Lt Col H.D. PRATT, USMC

50714

SUBJECT: Document, transmittal of.

SAm,

This is a very rough copy of that portion of the FMF PAC Intelligence SOP pertaining to the handling of POW's. It is the latest thing we have from the field on this subject. Please note by the date that it was prepared subsequent to the outbreak of hostilities in Korea and thus reflects some of the problems that have arisen out there.

*[Handwritten initials]*

*Harry*

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obtained from POW's/

d. Division or brigade headquarters shall, unless otherwise directed, be responsible for the handling of POW's <sup>a</sup>shore. Such commands will construct, maintain and administer stockades for unwounded POW's, and will designate hospitals or aid stations for wounded POW's. Wounded POW's shall be given adequate medical

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SOP - INTELLIGENCE

14. PRISONERS OF WAR:

a. For purposes of this SOP the term "Prisoners of War" shall include military personnel of any enemy state, civilians bearing arms against the United States or against allies of the United States in time of war, and all others in the employ of the enemy military forces, or serving their interests. While operations are in progress all non-US (or non-allied) personnel, with only such exceptions as may be expressly designated by this Headquarters or higher authority, and regardless of connection with the military, shall be treated as POW's until examination by competent authority determines their exact status, or until otherwise directed by the highest tactical commander present in the combat area.

b. POW's are one of the most valuable and lucrative sources of enemy information available. Every effort must be made to capture prisoners during hostilities. All personnel must be carefully instructed as to the importance of taking as many prisoners as possible.

c. Unit intelligence officers will keep interrogators constantly informed of essential elements of information to be obtained from POW's/

d. Division or brigade headquarters shall, unless otherwise directed, be responsible for the handling of POW's <sup>a</sup>shore. Such commands will construct, maintain and administer stockades for unwounded POW's, and will designate hospitals or aid stations for wounded POW's. Wounded POW's shall be given adequate medical

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treatment. Attending medical officers and personnel shall report to their unit intelligence officer information obtained from wounded POW's.

e. Attention is invited to the fact that unnecessary questioning of prisoners by subordinate units frequently reduces the effectiveness of interrogation in higher headquarters. Accordingly, questioning of prisoners by subordinate units must be reduced to a minimum. Prisoners shall be sent to the rear as rapidly as possible so they may be questioned at the earliest possible time by intelligence personnel of higher echelons. POW's will be interrogated by lower echelons only for information of immediate tactical value to those echelons. POW's will be forwarded, under guard, to division or brigade stockades as soon as practicable. Wounded POW's shall be evacuated, under guard, if necessary, through medical channels.

f. Immediately after capture all POW's shall be searched for weapons, documents and material having intelligence value; disarmed and segregated by rank and status (officers, NCO's, privates, deserters, and civilians). No communication of any kind between groups will be permitted. POW's will be permitted to keep helmets, clothing, gas masks, identification tags, and insignia of rank. At the POW stockade, civilians who have not borne arms against the United States or allies of the United States in wartime, and who are not charged with sabotage, espionage, or otherwise aiding the enemy, shall be disposed of as prescribed by Civil Affairs/Military Government.

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g. To facilitate handling of POW's and to minimize repetition in interrogating them, envelopes will be provided by this Headquarters for the use of intelligence officers. These will have a printed form on the outside, with spaces to enter essential information regarding the POW; they will be so made that they can be suspended around the POW's neck as a tag; inside them data gained from the POW at lower echelon command posts shall be placed for transmission to CP's of higher echelons. Papers and other intelligence material found on POW's shall be placed in a separate bundle, marked with the POW's name and sent to the rear with accompanying guards to be delivered to the unit intelligence section.

h. POW's considered by division or brigade headquarters to have information of value to higher echelons shall be sent to the CP's of such echelons for further interrogation. Higher echelons may also direct that certain POW's be ordered to their CP's for such interrogation as their intelligence officers may direct, or, when POW's can profitably render voluntary assistance in language work, normal custodians of POW's will be so informed. After such interrogation, POW's will be returned to stockade of origin.

i. POW's shall be evacuated to designated prison ships or POW camps, or turned over to regularly organized POW escort detachments, as may be appropriate, on order of Commander Landing Forces or of the Area Commander, but may be held at division or brigade stockades for extended interrogation when deemed advisable by the intelligence officer of any such command, in which case notification shall be made to the Commander Landing Force or the Area Commander.

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j. POW's shall be delivered to prison ships, POW camps or escort detachments under guard furnished by ground forces. Guard details shall include at least one (1) enlisted interpreter (if not available, one (1) officer interpreter). Upon delivery of POW's, guard details from division or brigade shall return immediately to their regular duties.

k. (1) Responsibility of the Commander of the Landing Force for POW's terminates when they are delivered to a designated prison ship.

(2) Responsibility of the Area Commander for POW's terminate when they are delivered by guard details under his command to prison ships, POW camps, or POW escort detachments, under direct command of an echelon not under his jurisdiction.

l. The personnel of U. S. Forces are expressly forbidden to kill, injure, or mistreat in any fashion any person who endeavors to give himself up as a POW or is in fact a POW.

m. The officer in charge of stockades and hospitals shall insure that humane treatment is accorded all POW's as prescribed in FM 27-10 (Rules of Land Warfare).

n. Detailed instructions as to the treatment and handling of POW's shall be issued to all personnel of Fleet Marine Force, Pacific forces in the field before D-Day for any operation. Officers will be responsible for the observance of such instruction by all personnel under their command.

o. Enemy Dead. Where circumstances permit, the unit locating enemy dead will obtain identification and remove documents from the bodies. These papers shall be turned in to intelligence sections. Unit commanders shall ascertain as accurately as possible the number of enemy dead in their sector and report daily to next higher echelon.

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