



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
 HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

E

IN REPLY REFER TO

AO-2-a.jp
 (02K24250)
 5 Sep 1950

R.S.# N-7739

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
 To: Distribution List

Subj: Security measures to guard against Sabotage, Espionage and Subversion

1. The present international situation requires a tightening of security measures against the increased threat of sabotage, espionage and subversion. The Communist ideology has been accepted by certain individuals in all classes of society in most countries of the world. This world-wide Communist movement has developed into a highly disciplined, fanatical organization, and contains members especially trained in the techniques of sabotage, espionage and subversion. The armed forces of the United States are one of the principal targets of Communist penetration. Although it is believed that this penetration has had little, if any success against the U.S. Marine Corps, the danger of sabotage, espionage and subversion on the part of uniformed personnel, and civilian employees, as well as from external sources is always present. This danger will become greater as the armed forces expand and if the international situation becomes more tense. It is generally believed that an attempt at large scale sabotage will precede or coincide with the outbreak of war. Isolated attempts at sabotage against units being deployed to troubled areas is a constant threat. Espionage and subversion are constant threats in peace as well as war.

2. The trained saboteur employs many ingenious devices and techniques which are under constant improvement. These devices and techniques fall into several general categories. Equipment and installations may be damaged or destroyed as follows:

a. Organic Equipment of Marine Corps Organizations

(1) Fire.

Thermite is very effective in initiating destruction by fire. It is readily obtainable commercially, is easily ignited and has the added advantage of safety to the saboteur and comparative silence, which gives the saboteur an advantage in leaving the scene. Thermite is also most effective in rendering mechanical equipment unfit for service by fusing working parts such as the breech blocks of field pieces, pulleys on cranes, tank sprockets and tracks.

Copy destroyed

(2) Explosives.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority *MWD 73643*

Reproduced from the Unclassified / Declassified Holdings of the National Archives

CONFIDENTIAL

Subj: Security measures to guard against Sabotage, Espionage and Subversion

(3) Mechanical devices.

(a) Introduction of abrasives and other foreign matter into the crankcase of motor vehicle, tank and aircraft engines.

(b) Introduction of metal filings into wet cell batteries.

(c) Introduction of foreign matter into the POL stocks used in various engines.

(4) Chemicals.

(a) Introduction of corrosive agents such as sulphuric acid into POL stocks.

(b) Introduction of corrosive agents into close-tolerance machinery such as pumps, generators, motors and all weapons.

(c) Acidifying of steel cables.

(5) Manual destruction.

(a) Partial or complete severance of fuel and lubrication lines of tanks, trucks, aircraft and all diesel and internal combustion engines.

(b) Short-circuiting of electrical systems in trucks, aircraft, tanks, radios, radars, and fire control equipment.

(6) Manual removal of critical parts.

(a) Removal of rotor arm from the distributor of internal combustion engines.

(b) Removal of injector nozzles from diesel engines.

(c) Removal of crystals from radios.

(7) Loosening of critical units.

Carburetors, intake manifolds, exhaust manifolds, and rocker box covers of aircraft engines.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subj: Security measures to guard against Sabotage, Espionage and Subversion

(8) Aircraft.

Of all military equipment, an aircraft is, perhaps, the most vulnerable to sabotage. In addition to methods enumerated under sabotage agents, there are various other methods employed to impair or destroy aircraft while in flight, some of these are:

(a) Partial severance of control cables.

(b) Closing of pitot static tube.

(c) Interference with gyro instruments.

(d) Pollution of the oxygen equipment.

(e) Weakening of structural parts of aircraft by partial severance or corrosive agents.

b. Installations which Marine Corps personnel may be charged with protecting.

(1) Thermal-electric Power Plants.

Destruction of turbines, condensers and boilers. Turbines and boilers may be made to destroy themselves through manipulation of controls. Condensers may be destroyed by modest amount of explosives.

(2) Hydro-electric Power Plants.

Bursting of the penstock, by manipulation of controls, damage to turbine wheel shafts by thermite, shorting of generators by introduction of metal particles and damaging of generator bearings by acid or thermite.

(3) Diesel Power Plants.

Destruction of engine cylinder blocks by use of explosives.

(4) Harbor facilities.

Destruction of cargo handling gear by demolitions and destruction of warehouses by fire.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AWD 73643

CONFIDENTIAL

Subj: Security measures to guard against Sabotage, Espionage and Subversion

(5) Oil refineries.

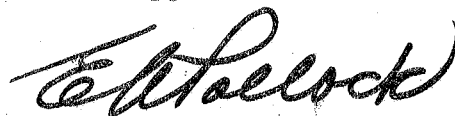
Destruction of oil storage tanks by thermite and fractionating towers by explosives.

c. Particular attention must be given to the numerous ruses employed to bring destructive agents into the areas where they are to be used. Incendiary, explosive and chemical agents have been made to look like harmless objects such as pencils and chunks of coal, and as such may be smuggled with ease past sentries not alert to such ruses.

3. The information needed by the enemy to sabotage equipment or installations is obtained frequently by subversion of personnel. Subversion usually starts as disaffection. Disaffection is a state of mind in which the individual's morale is undermined through lack of confidence in his superior officers, doubt in the justice of our cause, or any of the fancied injustices to which some individuals in the service are easy prey. Some persons become disaffected and gradually proceed to subversion through their own mental processes; others are aided by individuals whose mission is subversion. When finally subverted, a person is ready to take active steps harmful to the United States. Subversion of personnel may best be combatted by a high standard of leadership and discipline at all levels of command, and by a continued and sincere interest in the welfare of all personnel.

4. Commanding Officers are directed to take the necessary measures to assure that all personnel are thoroughly indoctrinated in security regulations and alerted to the methods used by agents whose intentions are sabotage, espionage or subversion. It is particularly important that personnel be impressed with the responsibility of preventing and reporting such activity regardless of their duty status at the time they became cognizant of it.

5. Commanding Officers of Marine Corps activities will report promptly all instances of successful, attempted, or suspected sabotage, espionage or subversion direct to the Naval District Intelligence Officer with a copy to this Headquarters.



E. A. POLLOCK

By direction

CONFIDENTIAL

