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COMBAT INTELLIGENCE CENTER
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE

ITEM #1063
(S-3843)

TRANSLATION OF CAPTURED JAPANESE DOCUMENT

Source: Taken on ARUNDEL IS, Nov 1943.

Binder of General Information
4th Co (TN: TOMONARI Det)

Dec 1942

(TN: Trans of extracts from above)

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GO MP Guard Unit Bulletin #41.

Report (Notification) on an investigation of the situation with respect to men's fighting spirit.

June 11, 1943 - Satoru KIKUCHI, Comdr, 6th Fd MP Unit (TN: YASEN KEMPEITAI)

TO: NOGEI (TN: TANOURA) Sector Guard Unit Comdr.

The following report (notification) is issued as regards the subject matter:

1. General Situation

Recently there has been a gradual rise of morale on the part of all units stationed in this area (管内駐屯各部隊)

because of the presence of fresh troops in the rear, and because of the steps taken by the various unit Comdrs for the building of morale, in accordance with the address made by the Army Comdr. In addition to this, the news of the death of Adm YAMAMOTO and the heroic defeat of the ATTU Garrison Unit (TN: 守備部隊) have further increased our

hatred for the enemy. It can be perceived that the ebullient fighting spirit, traditional with the Imp Army, is taking hold.

However, there are not a few among the men who have returned from GUADALCANAL, and NEW GUINEA and who, with extensive military service, have been transferred from MANCHURIA and CHINA that express their dislike for war in speech and behavior, and long to be returned to JAPAN. There are hospitalized officers and men, who have experienced hardships, that lack the spirit to fight for their country again. They are fervently hoping to be evacuated and there are even those who beg the hospital to make some arrangements to be sent back.

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Authority NND 94973

In regard to these items which require attention, a method must be devised to raise morale, with the aim of increasing fighting spirit.

II. Special matters pertaining to fighting spirit.

1. Examples of high morale.

Recently, in accordance with the principles laid down in the address made by the Army Comdr, the various units have been taking advantage of the periods of morning and evening roll call to carry out assault drills (TN: TOTSUGEKI ENSHU), command exercises (TN: GOREI CHOSEI), singing practice, etc. This has brought about a sudden display of vigor in speech, attitude and action.

2. In a survey of manuscripts contributed to the "Field Newspaper" since May, it is revealed that 22 poems, 51 songs, 143-17 syllable verses (TN: HAIKU), and 15 others have been published, which fact shows that the morale is not in a depressed state, but, on the contrary, it is high and the men are overflowing with fighting spirit, as shown by the following examples:

HAIKU (TN: equals HOKKU, or "17 syllable verse"; this one actually has 30 syllables):

"In the South Seas a titan has passed away. His heart was high and as he passed, even the grass worshipped him."

Except for about 5% during May, morale is excellent according to the mail censor.

Examples of good morale are as follows:

1. Our morale is high and we are striving for the destruction of AMERICA.
2. Because of the fall of ATTU, we are working even harder to annihilate AMERICA and BRITAIN.
3. We received Imperial gifts of tobacco today and wept with joy. We vowed to do our utmost to destroy AMERICA.
4. We are struggling every day and burning with hatred toward the enemy.
(There were many sentences like the above.)

Examples of lowered morale. (There were no special examples but the following were found as the result of censorship.)

1. My mind is deeply impressed with the thought of the one child I have not seen for a long time. I am moved to tears and I cannot avoid

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CONFIDENTIAL

ITEM #1063

thinking of my aged mother.

2. I cannot feel at ease lately because I am not at home. There are many nights I cannot sleep because of that thought. It seems that I shall have nervous prostration. I want to go home. I want to go home. I yearn for you very often. I only pray that I may return safely.

Special items in speech and behavior

1. Speech and behavior indicating rise in morale.

a. I am deeply moved by the defeat of ATTU I. Revenge of the North must be wrought in the South.

b. The recent action of our fighter planes is remarkably brilliant; this is because they are fighting to avenge the death of Admiral YAMAMOTO; they have a definite superiority lately.

c. We are determined that we shall not return to JAPAN until we march into AUSTRALIA in revenge for Fleet Admiral YAMAMOTO and ATTU. (Written by a private.)

2. Types of speech and behavior which should be cautioned against

(I) Statements of men with extensive service in the army.

a. I should like to be replaced since I have served in the South for two years. (Officer)

b. It is now full five years, including MANCHURIA and CHINA and my time here. It is about time I was receiving a discharge.

c. It is only reasonable that a unit which has once tasted the bitterness of defeat should have no fighting spirit. Replacement by fresh troops is necessary.

d. I am becoming debilitated by doing the same old things, as the farmers do, day after day. The evenings in MANCHURIA were much more enjoyable than in this place. (NCO)

e. It is four years since we left CHINA to conquer (TN: ?) but they still do not allow me to return. Lately I've been loafing around doing nothing.

f. I wonder when they will allow me to return. I've been living in the combat zone for five years.

g. Two officers left for home today. Next will be the NCOs and then we, I guess. I'm tired of the South. (Private)

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Authority NND 54973

(II) Statements of officers and men who have returned from GUADALCANAL and NEW GUINEA areas.

a. We forced the enemy up the Stanley Mountains in NEW GUINEA with 10,000 men but we retreated because of the shortage of rations and the air raids. When we arrived at LAE there were less than 800 men. NEW GUINEA is no place to go twice. (Officer)

b. It was only natural for all officers and men at GUADALCANAL to discuss daily, wanting to withdraw quickly and go home.

c. My body is ruined now because of my hardships in NEW GUINEA. I cannot stand it unless they discharge me or transfer me next time to JAVA.

d. Enemy planes attacked us during the advance to NEW GUINEA and I was narrowly saved, but I must go out again. I feel as if I am jumping into the land of death, and my feet drag. (Pvt)

(III) Statements of hospitalized patients

a. I was surprised at the poor quality of hospital food. My body will gradually weaken at this rate. I want to be evacuated immediately to some place near MANILA where there is plenty of everything. (NCO)

b. Enemy planes attacked us during the advance to NEW GUINEA so we returned and I became sick, while we were waiting. I was hospitalized so it was a good thing that I got sick, for I was exempted from going to NEW GUINEA.

c. I was hospitalized after going through hardships, so now I want to be evacuated. (Pvt)

(IV) Other statements

Medical NCO's statements:

a. NCOs and men are hoping to be evacuated but they keep it to themselves because of their low rank. However, there are some officers who are requesting to be evacuated.

b. A feces examination is always given before evacuation and the patients spirits rise immediately when they are given the feces test container.

Opinions:

There are among the officers and men some who still need attention, as seen by the foregoing. Therefore, some positive measures must be undertaken in the case of such officers and men in order to raise their fighting spirit. At the same time, it will be necessary to keep a strict surveillance on their speech and behavior.

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

ITEM #1063

Distribution: Commander of 8th Area Army
Provost Marshal (TN: 憲司)

NOGEI, KOKOPO and Harbor Sector Guard Unit Districts
Other units dispatched from this command.
RABAU L of C Comdr (TN: 三兵站司)

GO (測) Military Police Guard Unit. Bulletin #36

(TN: Rubber stamp showing receipt at 1st Inf Bn Hq, 15 June 43)

REPORT OF MAIL CENSORSHIP, June 8, 1943
Satoru KIKUCHI, Comdr of 6th Fd MP Unit.
To The NOGEI Sector Guard Unit Comdr.

Report for May on the subject is as follows:

I. General Situation.

No one wrote about the late Fleet Admiral YAMAMOTO during this period. In general, morale was good and the mail censorship in each unit was thorough. Restricted matters were closely watched and stricken out. However there are still some who write about being homesick and their dislike for war and others whose writings require attention. Such traces still remain. The general situation is shown in the following chart.

Total number of MP censors: 8

Remarks: Mail matter for the six days from May 26 to 31.

Volume of mail censored: 30,000 pieces of 4th class mail.

- a. Mention of low morale, dislike for war and hope of going back: 16 cases.
- b. Mention of matters that require special precautions from counterintelligence viewpoint: 4 cases.
- c. Mention of shortages in materials: 2 cases.
- d. Others (such as lack of censor's stamp): 73.

Total: 95 cases.

Disposition of the above:

Burned: 1

Partly erased: 20

Returned: 5

Reported: 2

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II. Detrimental correspondence. Matters requiring special care are shown in the following chart.

Such things as low morale, their dislike for war, and hopes for returning home.

<u>Unit to which sender is attached</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Steps taken</u>
NISHI 9820 BUTAI (TN: 21st Ind Mixed Brig)	I become lonesome when I think that we cannot meet again; my mind is becoming confused.	Erased and sent.
AKATSUKI 2953 BUTAI, MITSUI TAI, (TN: 102nd Anchorage Hq)	I go to sleep every night with sadness.	Erased and sent.
AKATSUKI 6433 BUTAI	When I think about the time when we shall meet again I become so sad.	Erased and sent.
MO 2616 BUTAI, KUBO TAI	I am becoming sentimental, thinking of OSAKA.	Erased and sent.
GO 2627 BUTAI (TN: 24th Water Purification Unit ?)	I become lonesome when I begin to think about home.	Erased and sent.
NISHI 9822 BUTAI (TN: Tank Unit 21st IMB ?)	Now, under a lamp, with a glance at the moon in the middle of the night, I think of all of you at home	Erased and sent.
MO 5169 BUTAI	It has been a year and a half since I parted with you dear. There is no chance of meeting you so the days pass in sadness.	Erased and sent
OKI 9812 BUTAI KASHIWARA (TN: or KASHI- WABARA TAI)	I am neglecting daily duties and letters from home are becoming fewer. I know it is hard for you (at home) but I am always lonesome.	Erased and sent.
GO BUTAI, SANO TAI (TN: torn)	I am disturbed in mind and body by the thought of my only child and aged mother.	Erased and sent.
MO 1244 BUTAI MATSUO TAI	I was awakened by an air raid. I looked at the full moon and the thought of home became dear to me.	Erased and sent.

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

ITEM #1063

OKI 9812 BUTAI, KASHI-
WARA (TN: or KASHIWABARA
TAI)Nothing can make me happy now.
I am sad when I think of you,
and because I think of you,
I am comforted -- dear me, this
sadness!Erased and
sent.

NADA (洋) 9307 BUTAI

I can't help thinking of my
absence from home and there are
many nights when I cannot sleep
for thinking of it. I shall
have a nervous prostration. I
want to go home! I want to go
home! I'm yearning for you,
dear. I only pray that I may
return safely.

Burned.

NADA 9941 BUTAI
TAKADA TAII am awaiting anxiously for a
letter from JAPAN, and fight-
ing in sadness. I shall con-
gratulate myself if and when
I return triumphantly.

Erased.

GO 3785 BUTAI
(TN: 31st Ind AA Co)When it gets like this, home
becomes very dear.

Erased

III. Items requiring attention from counterintelligence viewpoint.Unit to which sender
is attachedContentSteps takenGO 3778 BUTAI, YAGI TAI
(TN: 39th Fd AA Bn ?)My destination is as shown on
the chart. (Complete system of
squares shown) This is the
place. I'm showing you my des-
tination.Stopped,
reported.MOTO 2800 BUTAI (TN:
51st Div.) OTSUKA TAII am digging potatoes and also
gathering mangoes, containing
Vitamins B & C. Naturally I
subsist on seaweed everyday.Erased and
sent.IV. Shortages in materials and other hardships.MOTO 2807 BUTAI, ONOTAI
(TN: 14th Fd Arty Regt
51st Div)Smoke from kitchens must be
prevented because of the dan-
ger of enemy air raids. Rice
is cooked once and used for
many meals. There are diffi-
culties in supplying rations.

Erased.

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Authority NND 94973

MO 6017 BUTAI (TN: 7
is questionable) FURU-
YASU TAI

I think this will be my last
letter. The food is unimag-
inable. We are tasting the
bitterness /of the world/.

Erased.

GO 901? BUTAI, TOMONARI
TAI

One often contracts malaria
here and if it is serious,
death results.

Erased.

V. Conclusion.

As seen from the foregoing, there are still some officers and men whose morale is low and who are depressed because of their dislike for war. Raise the morale of all officers and men. Units must not leave to subordinates the responsibility for handling mail. Handle it with definiteness.

Distribution: GO Headquarters
Provost Marshal, NOGEI; KOKOPO and Harbor Sec Guard Units
RABAU Line of Communication Headquarters.

(END)