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HEADQUARTERS U. S. MARINE CORPS
WASHINGTON 25

14 July 1944.

LETTER OF INSTRUCTION NO. 801

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps.
To: Commanding Officers of All Marine Aircraft Units.
Subject: Combat Intelligence in Marine Corps Aviation.
Enclosure: (A) List of reference material.

1. The importance of Air Combat Intelligence to the conduct of modern warfare has been demonstrated, both in active war theaters and in the training of units for combat. It is essential that Intelligence services be developed and utilized to the fullest extent in Marine Corps Aviation.

2. Intelligence sections shall be established and maintained in all Marine Aircraft Wings, Groups, and Squadrons.

3. Information and instructions for the guidance of commanding officers in supervising Intelligence activities in their respective organizations are outlined herein.

Missions and Tasks

4. The primary mission of Air Combat Intelligence is to provide commanders and appropriate personnel with adequate, accurate, and timely information concerning the war situation, enemy positions and capabilities, aerial warfare, enemy tactics, natural conditions, and with such other information as will be helpful in carrying out assigned tasks.

5. The principal functions of Intelligence sections in tactical Marine Aircraft units are:

a. While in training:

- (1) To acquire the necessary Intelligence equipment, supplies, maps, and reference manuals.
- (2) To train Intelligence personnel in the performance of their duties and to develop efficient Intelligence procedure in the units.

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- (3) To instruct all personnel in such subjects as will assist in preparing them for duty in the combat area.
- (4) To obtain and supply to commanders and operating personnel useful publications, Intelligence reports, and the latest available air combat information.

b. While in combat:

- (1) To collect, evaluate, and disseminate all available military intelligence and air combat information.
- (2) To continue the instruction of personnel.
- (3) To impart to flight crews all necessary information prior to their take-offs on operational missions.
- (4) To obtain from flight crews, immediately upon their return from operational missions, complete information relative to their observations and participation in the missions.
- (5) To prepare the required routine reports and special reports on subjects of interest to Marine Corps Aviation.

Standards of Performance
For Intelligence Personnel

6. In order to develop an efficient system of collecting, evaluating, and disseminating adequate Combat Intelligence within all tactical Marine Aircraft organizations, Intelligence sections should be staffed with competent and specially trained personnel who can meet the requirements set forth herein.

7. All officers assigned to Intelligence duty shall be familiar with the following: (See Enclosure (A) for references.)

- a. The Principles of Land Warfare and Amphibious Operations.
- b. Military Staff Organization and Operation.
- c. Organization of Marine Corps Aviation.
- d. Communications.

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- e. Elementary Principles of Flying, Aircraft Engines and Structure, Aerial Navigation, and Aerology.
- f. The Characteristics, Performance, and Recognition of United States, British, and Japanese Aircraft.
- g. Aerial Warfare, including the Employment of Aviation, Friendly and Enemy Tactics, Aircraft Armament, Ammunition and Bombs, and Anti-Aircraft.
- h. Recognition of United States, British, and Japanese Naval Vessels and Armored Vehicles.
- i. The Racial Background and Characteristics of the Japanese Enemy; and the Organization and Weapons of the Japanese Army, Navy, and Air Forces.
- j. The Use and Interpretation of Aerial Photographs, Maps and Target Charts.
- k. The Pacific War Theaters.
- l. Survival Intelligence.
- m. Proper Handling of Prisoners of War and Captured Enemy Materiel.
- n. Security, Counter-Intelligence, Censorship, and Public Relations.
- o. Approved Methods of Instruction and Training Aids.
- p. Combat Intelligence Procedure.

It is assumed that officers who have successfully completed the Marine Aviation Ground Officers' School and either the Army or Navy Air Combat Intelligence School will have received instruction in the subjects listed above and will, therefore, have sufficient basic knowledge of the required subjects to enable them to undertake the duties of Air Combat Intelligence officers. However, to acquire proficiency in the performance of such duties, actual experience is necessary.

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8. Officers in charge of Intelligence sections shall be capable of performing the following duties:

- a. Organizing and directing the "2" Section.
 - (1) Setting up the Intelligence office with available equipment and supplies.
 - (2) Maintaining an Intelligence library, filing system, maps and charts.
 - (3) Keeping the necessary records.
 - (4) Administration and training of enlisted personnel assigned to the section.
- b. Arranging to obtain a steady flow of information from all available intelligence collecting agencies and other useful sources.
- c. Collating, evaluating, and disseminating information which has been collected.
 - (1) Maintaining Intelligence journal, Intelligence work sheet, and subject files.
 - (2) Objective folders and target charts.
 - (3) Maintaining situation maps and preparing overlays and diagrams.
 - (4) Reports, verbal and written, to C.O. and higher echelons.
 - (5) Meetings with flight personnel.
 - (6) Issuing bulletins and maintaining bulletin board.
 - (7) Displays and reading matter for flight personnel.
- d. Instructing personnel, with the aid of reports, films, and lectures in pertinent subjects.
 - (1) All personnel: Recognition of ships and planes, the Japanese Enemy, Security, Familiarization with the Pacific War Theaters, and in the importance of reporting information.
 - (2) Flight personnel: Characteristics and Performance of Japanese Aircraft, Enemy and Allied Tactics, Target Analysis, and Survival and Capture Intelligence.
- e. Briefing of flight personnel for specific missions.

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f. Interrogating flight personnel after operational missions.

g. Preparing reports.

- (1) Flash reports to commander and next higher echelon.
- (2) Routine mission reports - written.
- (3) Air Combat Action Reports (ACA-1 Form).
- (4) War Diaries (In compliance with CMC Ltr of Instr #731).
- (5) Special reports on tactics or operations of interest to
Marine Corps Aviation.

9. Officers in charge of Intelligence sections of higher echelons shall be capable of performing the following duties in addition to those listed in paragraph 8 above:

- a. Advising the commanding officer relative to assignments of Air Combat Intelligence officers.
- b. Supervising Intelligence procedure and the performance of duties of Intelligence officers in their own and lower echelons of the command.
- c. Supplying the Intelligence sections of lower echelons with adequate military intelligence, reports, publications, and maps.
- d. Preparing Intelligence Standard Operating Procedure for the organization.
- e. Preparing an Intelligence plan.
- f. Making an estimate of the situation, enemy capabilities and probable air reaction.
- g. Keeping the enemy Order of Battle.
- h. Writing dispatches.
- i. Preparing Intelligence summaries and periodic reports.
- j. Assisting in the planning of operations.

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10. Enlisted personnel assigned to Intelligence sections shall be capable of:

- a. Preparing and processing military correspondence.
- b. Safeguarding military information in accordance with Articles 75-1/2 and 76, U. S. Navy Regulations.
- c. Basic map reading with a knowledge of conventional map signs and military symbols.
- d. Interpreting standard Navy abbreviations.
- e. Posting, tracing, copying, and maintaining situation maps.
- f. Maintaining Intelligence journals.
- g. Maintaining Intelligence files.
- h. Operating Intelligence equipment, projectors, etc.
- i. Operating typewriters.
- j. Operating motor vehicles.
- k. Operating a field telephone.

Policy Regarding the Assignment Of
Officers to Intelligence Duty

11. For the purpose of providing officers who can quickly attain the proficiencies established in paragraph 8 above, specially selected Marine officers are receiving eight to ten weeks' courses of instruction in Air Combat Intelligence at Army or Navy Schools. Although the total number trained to date has been insufficient to meet the requirements of Marine Corps Aviation, the program has been greatly accelerated, with the object of providing, by December 1944, all tactical Marine Aircraft units with trained Intelligence officers up to the strength authorized in the revised Tables of Organization. In the meantime, assignments to units should be made on the basis of most urgent needs.

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12. Commanding officers of all Marine Aircraft units are requested to conform to the policy outlined below.

- a. Henceforth, all officers who have received special training in Air Combat Intelligence shall be assigned to Intelligence duty.
- b. Such officers are not to be transferred to other duties so long as the performance of their Intelligence duties is satisfactory.
- c. Additional duties shall be assigned only when such duties will not interfere with the satisfactory performance of Air Combat Intelligence work.
- d. Officers without school or field training in Air Combat Intelligence are to be assigned to Intelligence duty only when it is necessary to fill billets for which no trained Intelligence officers are available.
- e. Officers who are deemed incompetent to perform Intelligence duty should be reclassified and assigned to other duty.

13. Officers who have not successfully completed courses of instruction in Air Combat Intelligence School will be classified as "Air Combat Intelligence Officers" only when they have demonstrated their ability to meet all the requirements established in paragraphs 7 and 8 above.

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REFERENCE MATERIAL

1. The references listed herein contain information on the subjects outlined in paragraph 7 of the accompanying Letter of Instruction No. 801.

2. Many of these publications should be available in Marine Aviation units. Instructions for ordering publications desired and not available locally are outlined in paragraph 3 below.

3. a. Request Army Field Manuals and Technical Manuals required through the unit quartermaster.

b. Request other publications from the next higher echelon; viz., squadron from group, group from wing.

c. Higher echelons should attempt to obtain from the nearest source such publications as are requested. If the material is not available at any of the Naval Air Intelligence Centers or other sources in the area, requests should be made to the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

d. Units should not write direct to publishing agencies, and are requested to comply with paragraph 3 of Letter of Instruction No. 375, dated 13 March 1943, which states, "All inquiries in connection with Intelligence publications, regardless of the publishing agency, should be addressed to the Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps."

4. Films should be requested through the proper chain of command from the nearest film library. Central libraries have been established at U. S. Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina; Marine Fleet Air, West Coast, U. S. Naval Air Station, San Diego, 35, California; U. S. Marine Corps Air Station, Navy #61, C/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California; ComAirCenter, Navy #140, C/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California; and Fourth Marine Base Defense Aircraft Wing, C/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California. Sub-libraries have been established at practically all Marine Corps Air Stations.

ENCLOSURE (A)

LIST OF REFERENCES

a. Principles of Land Warfare and Amphibious Operations.

FM 100-5, Field Service Regulations - Operations - (War Dept.)
FTP 167, Landing Operations Doctrine. (U.S. Navy) (Confidential).
Military Principles. (Marine Corps Schools) 1943.
NAVMC 3118, Reference Data. MCS 1944.
Camouflage for Marines. USMC 1Jan44.

b. Military Staff Organization and Operation.

NAVMC 3253, Staff Manual. MCS 1944.
Chapter I and Appendix "O", Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed.
Mar. 1944.

c. Organization of Marine Corps Aviation.

NAVMC 3045, Marine Corps Aviation. MCS 1944 (Revised).
Tables of Organization, Marine Corps Aviation Units.

d. Communications.

NAVMC 3017, Message Writing and Use of the Message Book. MCS 1943.
Appendix I, Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.
NAVMC 3150, Squadron Communications. MCS 18Nov43.
NAVPERS 10313, Aircraft Communications. Navy Training Courses,
1944.

e. Aviation Subjects.

Principles of Flying. Flight Preparation Training Series, McGraw-Hill
Book Co., Inc., 1943.
NAVPERS 10303, Introduction to Airplanes. Navy Training Courses,
1944.
Air Navigation - Parts I, II, III, IV, and V. Flight Preparation Train-
ing Series, McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1944.
Aerology for Pilots. Flight Preparation Training Series, McGraw-Hill
Book Co., Inc., 1943.
Glossary of Aviation Terms for NACI Officers. OpNav-35, ATAD #S16,
1Jan44.
Jordanoff's Illustrated Aviation Dictionary. Harper & Bros.
Parachute Sense. Aviation Training Division, Office of the CNO, USN.
Motion Picture Navy 3111a, Weather at War.

LIST OF REFERENCES (Cont'd)

- f. The Characteristics, Performance, and Recognition of United States, British, and Japanese Aircraft.

Identification Charts. Division of Naval Intelligence. Identification and Characteristics Section.
ONI 232, Japanese Military Aircraft. Division of Naval Intelligence.
Recognition Pictorial Manual. War Dept. FM 30-30. Navy Dept. BuAer 3.
Recognition Journal. (Monthly) U. S. War and Navy Depts.
Performance and Characteristics Data, Japanese Aircraft. ATAD #T-1, Oct. 1943, OpNav-16-V, Office of the CNO, Navy Dept., Washington, D. C.
Technical Air Intelligence - Comparative Performance and Characteristics Representative Enemy and Allied Aircraft. OpNav-16-V, T-46, July 1944.
Operational U. S. Aircraft South Pacific Area, Characteristics and Performance. Reprinted by the Air Information Branch of the Bureau of Aeronautics, 1Aug43.

- g. Aerial Warfare.

NAVMC 3045, Marine Corps Aviation, MCS, 1944. (Revised).
"C.I.C."--Shore Based Fighter Control, Air Warning and Radar Notes. OpNav 30-37, Mar. 1944, and subsequent issues.
Air Battle Notes from the South Pacific. NACI ComSoPac; Reissued by OpNav-35, Feb. 1944.
Air Operations Memoranda. NACI-ComAirPac; Reprinted by OpNav-16-V. (Air Intelligence Group, Division of Naval Intelligence, Office of The Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Dept., Wash., D. C.--Formerly OpNav-35, Air Technical Analysis Division, Chief of Naval Operations.)
"Impact." Published monthly by Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Intelligence, U. S. Army Air Forces.
Air Forces General Information Bulletin. Published monthly by Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Intelligence, U. S. Army Air Forces.
Appendices B, C, D, and E, Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.
Informational Intelligence Summaries. Published every ten days by Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Intelligence, USAAF.
Fixed Gunnery and Combat Tactics Series, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. Aviation Training Division, Office of the CNO, USN.
Anti-Aircraft Information for Naval Air Combat Information Officers. OpNav-16-V, #S72, May 1944.

- h. Recognition of United States, British, and Japanese Naval Vessels and Armored Vehicles.

LIST OF REFERENCES (Cont'd)

ONI 54-R, U. S. Naval Ships and Aircraft, with Supplements.
ONI 201, Warships of the British Commonwealth, with Supplement.
ONI 41-42, Japanese Naval Vessels, with Supplement No. 1 - Recco.
ONI 225-J, Japanese Landing Operations and Equipment.
ONI 208-J, Japanese Merchant Ships Recognition Manual.
ONI 220-M, Axis Submarine Manual.
ONI 223, Ship Shapes.
ONI 223-K, Warships in Code.
ONI 221, Salient Visible Characteristics of Fighting Ships.
Appendix L, Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.
Recognition Pictorial Manual on Armored Forces. War Dept., FM 30-40

i. The Japanese Enemy.

Chapter XX, Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.
Know Your Enemy: Japan. Distributed by Educational Services, BuPers.
TM 30-480, Handbook of Japanese Military Forces. War Dept.
Japanese Warfare - A Summary. MIS Info. Bul. No. 16, War Dept.,
Wash., D.C.
A Pictorial Guide to Japanese Air and Ground Forces. MIS Info. Bul.
No. 14.
Japanese Infantry Weapons. Special Series, No. 19, MID, War Dept.
Motion Picture Navy 149a, The Enemy - Japan the Land.
Motion Picture Navy 149b, The Enemy - Japan the People.
Motion Picture Navy 149c, The Enemy - Dream of Empire.
Slide Film Navy 1538i, The Jap - His Honorable Self.
Slide Film Navy 1538h, The Jap - His Home Field.

j. Use and Interpretation of Aerial Photographs, Maps and Target Charts.

FM 1-35, Aerial Photography.
FM 21-25, Elementary Map and Aerial Photograph Reading.
NAVMC 3001, Map and Aerial Photograph Reading. MCS 1943.
NAVMC 3187, Military Symbols and Abbreviations. MCS 1944.
FM 21-35, Sketching.
Chapter XI, Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.
Photographic Interpretation Handbook, U. S. Forces.
Motion Picture Army 2680, Photo Intelligence in Bombardment Aviation.

k. The Pacific War Theaters.

Maps and Gazetteers.
Naval Air Pilots.

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Sailing Directions.

ONI Monographs.

Marine Corps or other studies of pertinent areas.

"So You Are Going to The South Pacific?" Reprinted by BuAer,
Aug. 1943.

Care of Personnel in the Wet Tropics. AAF Informational Bulletin No. 9.
Smithsonian Institution Studies - War Background Series.

JICPOA Information Bulletins.

NACI-HO 8"x8" Charts and Photos. OpNav-16-V.

Route Manual, Pacific Ocean Area. U.S. Pacific Fleet, ComFlAirWing 2,
Sept. 1943.

Air Pilot Manual of the Pacific Islands. Office of the Assistant Chief
of Air Staff, Intelligence, Headquarters, AAF.

Slide Films - Theaters of War (SN 1538 Series).

1. Survival Intelligence.

Survival - Jungle, Desert, Artic, Ocean. USAAF.

Survival on Land and Sea. ONI. (Revised 1944).

Castaway's Baedeker to the South Seas. Intelligence Center, Pacific
Ocean Area, 1942.

Motion Picture Navy 1329, Forced Down at Sea.

Motion Picture Navy 2306a, and 2306b, The Castaway.

Motion Picture Army 4206, Land and Live in the Jungle.

m. Proper Handling of Prisoners of War and Captured Enemy Materiel.

Chapter XII, Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed., Mar. 1944.

FM 30-15, Military Intelligence, Examination of Enemy Personnel,
Repatriates, Documents and Materiel.

NAVMC-3331, Elementary Combat Intelligence, Chapter III.

ST A-45, Prisoner of War Interrogation. AAFAIS.

Motion Picture Army 2702, Film Bul. No. 79 - Japanese Prisoners of
War. Collection and Interrogation, Guadalcanal, April 1943.

Motion Picture Army 3345, Interrogation of Enemy Airmen.

Motion Picture Army 3442, Technical Air Intelligence - Inspection of
Captured Enemy Air Equipment.

n. Security, Counter-Intelligence, Censorship, and Public Relations.

NAVMC-3331, Chapter V, Elementary Combat Intelligence.

Navy Regs. Articles 75-1/2 and 76.

Chapters XIII and XIV, Handbook for CAIO's. AAFAIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.

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Security Sense. Aviation Training Division, Office of the CNO, USN.
Prisoner Sense. Aviation Training Division, Office of the CNO, USN.
Motion Picture Army 553, Safeguarding and Proper Handling of Classified Material.
Army Training Film No. 1-3383, Resisting Enemy Interrogation.

o. Approved Methods of Instruction and Training Aids.

Instructors' Guide. MCS.
Study--And How! Aviation Training Division, Office of the CNO, USN.
More Learning in Less Time. Training Aids Manual. NavPers 1300.
Chapter XVI, Handbook for CAIO's. AAF AIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.
Intelligence Training Memorandum No. 2 - Army Air Forces.
Slide Film Navy 48 - Some Principles of Teaching.
Slide Film Navy 51 - The Teacher.

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Handbook for CAIO's. AAF AIS, 2d Ed. Mar. 1944.
NAVMC-3331, Elementary Combat Intelligence. MCS.
Motion Picture Army 1974 - Air Intelligence - Briefing and Interrogation of Combat Crews.