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MACJ214

SUBJECT: TRANSLATION REPORT

LOG No, 09-1746-66

1. Attached is a full English translation of a captured enemy document,
2. Capture data:
 - a. Date: 26-27 August 66
 - b. Location: YS 540860-538803-570860
 - c. Unit: US 173rd Abn Bde,
3. Date document received at Combined Document Exploitation Center (CDEC): 3 September 1966.
4. In the event the attached translation report is declassified, the "KIN" marking and this cover letter will be removed,

Henry Ajima
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LTC, AIS
Dir, US ELM, CDEC~~GROUP-1~~
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MAR 29 1967

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FULL TRANSLATION

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LIBERATION ARMY SVN
CÔNG TRƯỜNG 5
POLITICAL STAFF
-***-GUIDANCE FOR HANDLING OF THE ENEMY
SURRENDERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR
-*****-

Our military victories have been becoming greater day by day. On the battlefield, enemy battalions and groups have been completely destroyed one by one. These facts have caused the enemy ranks to disintegrate more and more. The morale of the enemy troops is very low.

Defection is widespread among the enemy ranks. Our past activity phase, has shown that more of the enemy have been captured than killed. For instance in the Binh-Son battle there were only 4 enemy killed but 21 were captured.

In order to help cadre fully understand the practical points of the policy concerning prisoners of war and surrenders. To strictly execute it, the following practical points have been outlined by the political staff,

1.- Realization of the policy:

The sense of the policy concerns attacking the enemy morale.

Efficient execution of the policy is to energetically participate in destroying the enemy resistance, in creating defection among them. Inefficient execution of policy is to reduce oneself and distort the prestige of the policy.

The policy consist of two sides: clement and stern. In general, on the clement side the enemy surrenders and prisoners of war should not be shot, beaten or insulted. They should be indoctrinated, propagandized and given food, to prevent them from working as servants, fighting for the US troops and Thieu-Ky's henchmen.

Our clemency does not mean that we have to pity, caress, or threat them fairly. That should only cause them to defy our populace and soldiers.

Enemy prisoners who have repented, revealed and declared the truth, may be released sooner and helped by us for their means of livelihood. On the contrary, enemy obstinate prisoners who have purposely made false statements protested orders, or attempted to organize the escape etc. would be punished by putting them in an underground cell or starving by reducing their food to $\frac{1}{2}$ ration; furthermore they could be executed by shooting.

While taking punishment measures towards prisoners we have to show reasonable punishments to make other prisoners agree with our judgments

2.- Classification of prisoners of war:

It is needed to classify enemy captured in order to know who are prisoners of war, surrenders, officers, intelligence and security

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agents, psywar cadre etc.

Surrenders are elements who have surrendered early or perhaps at the beginning of the fighting, they were properly controlled by their officers. They surrendered when the opportunity arose. They have revealed and pointed out the enemy positions, weapons depots, storages, underground defensive positions. Regarding these elements who are considered as surrenders, they have to be treated kindly, given enough food, untied etc.

Towards commanding Staff, intelligence, psywar, security officers, all of them must be tightly tied up separately, and properly changed over,

3.- Tightly tie up, carefully blind fold:

All soldiers must always carry cord with them to tie up prisoners of war, this is also a way to show our permanent will to destroy the enemy. Our decision is that whenever we engage the enemy troops we will always destroy them completely.

So, whenever we attack the enemy that means we must take prisoners thus we must have cord (5 meters of cord for one comrade) to tie them up. Each prisoner has to be tied tightly, each of our soldier must know how to tie, and use the model number 8. Tie them by hanging the hands over the neck. Do not pity them, tie them tightly although they complain; blindfold their eyes using their own scarfs or

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shirts. Do not let them see our withdrawal formation particularly our KIA, WIA, weapons and equipments. Always beware of them listening to our conversation, and our Unit activities.

Cadre should be assigned to take charge of keeping and controlling enemy officers and stubborn soldiers. For example on the Bàu-Bàn battle, we did not pay attention to control; an enemy lieutenant colonel named Tù escaped from us by hiding under a heap of KIA, furthermore on the Phước-Binh battle, two enemy captains also escaped from us while they were escorted to the local area.

4.- On the Spot investigation of the enemy prisoners of war in order to swiftly support the battle;

When enemy soldiers are captured during a battle. They should be taken to the Political officer for immediate interrogation under this circumstance we can gain useful information on the enemy situation. Thus, we can act accordingly.

For instance during a battle on route number 2 in Bàu-Ria on 3 February 1966, if we would have interrogated the enemy prisoners of war on the spot we could have learned of the enemy situation and quickly made an attack on them. At a rubber plantation, the enemy positioned 4 mortars guarded by a company consisting of 60 members. Instead of investigating them on the spot we escorted to the staging area then investigated them thus we had missed an opportunity to attack and seize their mortars. Furthermore, on the Phước-Lang battle if we had swiftly interrogated the enemy prisoners of wars, we could have seized 4 equipment depots, and a great deal of tools and instruments.

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5.- Escorting of prisoners of war:

Unit commanders must indoctrinate their members to realize that they are the victors, and the enemy prisoners of war are vanquished, they must obey us, not be proposed. All of their previous actions must be allowed by us.

Before escorting prisoners of war, they must be properly searched, tied and blindfolded. Insure them that they will be secure while moving to our camps that they must obey our commanders' orders, while encountering air and artillery they must not run away, but obey orders. In the event prisoners see our friendly troops moving, they must be led by another way, or they must wait for the friendly troops to be completely out of sight, do not let them see our troops.

When reaching rest stations, whether night or day, all of them must lie down, if they want to sit up, they have to be given permission allow only one at a time to sit up. When they have a bowel movement, they must be led one at a time 2 or 3 prisoners are not allowed to have a bowel movement at the same time.

Under the circumstances we could not yet change prisoners over to other friendly groups, we have to keep them far from the bivouac areas, beware of them listening to our conversations, others comrades who have no function, are not allowed to visit the prisoners place.

- Forbid prisoners talking together
- Before escorting prisoners to other places, it is needed to beat down the prestige of officers, do not let them control their soldiers, Tell them that all of them are our prisoners, not officers. The higher an officers grade the more crimes he has committed, they must be made aware of this.
- None of them have the right to wear shoes,
- While prisoners are moving, we must suspect, their purposed escapes, and warn them on the spot.

6.- Operating procedures to seize temporarily keep and change over enemy documents,

Before prisoners are escorted, we must search them one by one, record their belongings in a notebook then let know that, All important document concerning military field must be seized, all their belongings such as wrist watches, fountain pens golden finger rings, money,...will be temporarily kept by us, when they are released, they will be given back,

Properly search for sharp tools such as knives and lighters hidden on them. Their documents belongings must be escorted with themselves to be use in investigating and indoctrinating them later on,

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All valuable documents concerning the enemy situation must be submitted to the Political Staff to support battles, Documents of US troops written in English must also be sent, to the Political Staff for study and translation,

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- Take good care of enemy film and send it to the Political Staff, do not open movie cameras without asking for permission, because the film could be ruined.

7.- Handling of enemy KIA and WIA:

Enemy wounded soldiers are also considered as prisoners of war, they must be concentrated in one place. If convenient, dress their wounds; there after explain to them the clemency policy of the Front and give them our leaflets, give back their belongings, but seize their weapons and equipment and then release them.

Wounded intelligence, Staff, psywar security officers must be concentrated in a place and escorted to our base area.

- Enemy killed, if possible, we should arrange them so the enemy can come and police up their dead.

- Put leaflets into the pockets of deads ones.

- Put all belongings documents of deads into our booties,

- Absolutely do not to stab their faces shoot their bodies or seize their Uniforms,

8.- Handling of American and their country prisoners.

Do not allow American and third country prisoners to broadcast on radio stations or have press interview.,

- American and third country prisoners are war criminals and should not be treated as prisoners of war, their Government has caused the war and did not declare war.

But, the more we capture them the more we have a great effect on the political field,

- So, we must overcome all hardships to escort them to the fixed place,

- They are afraid of dying, and try to flee. Therefore we have to absolutely heighten our vigilance, tie them up tightly, use the model number 8 to tie them, by hanging the hands on the neck, undo their shoes; do not care if their feet hurt, blindfold their eyes,

- While resting do not allow them to put on shoes,

- While moving do not permit them to talk to each other; string them to each other, While resting tie each of them at each of a foot tree, do not carry weapons while tying them up.

They may be untied to permit them to have a bowel movement, it is required one untie them and one guard them, I guards must be absolutely attentive with a firing position. Let us show an example for vigilance: 4 comrades of the Unit.

While escorting American prisoners, heard one of the Americans say that " The Americans are very bad, the Vietnamese are very good ",

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Our comrade heard that, they thought that this American had a conscience so they paid attention to him and allowed him to wear shoes. They did not tie him up tightly, nor blindfold his eyes. Because of that, he grabbed a weapon of one comrade and ran away. As a result we failed in carrying out stipulated operating procedures.

On the contrary, some of our comrades have purposely allowed the enemy to escape, then shot at them. Therefore they did not have to escort the enemy. This happened because comrades were afraid of hardships. Comrades must overcome their fear of hardships. Prisoners must be escorted to fixed places to gain effects in the political field. Their rations were not favored.

They should be treated as RVN prisoners, give them cooked rice, even if they do not want to eat, when starving they will eat it. Do not give them any milk, or bread; when they get sick, give them medical treatment and ride gruel. Some Units gave them milk and bread, that is wrong.

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Stubborn prisoners should be punished by standing in the sun tied under the foot of a tree, kept in a cell underground or starving.

The following are a number of experiences in calling and capturing the enemy prisoners,

- While appealing to the enemy, our positions were exposed, causing the enemy to shoot at us. Next time, when fighting do not call the enemy defeated this is also wrong. We only appeal to the enemy when we can dominate the situation, or encircle them. We have to shout as follows to oppress the enemy morale: "Do not resist any longer, it is hopeless because you are besieged" "Surrender or you will be killed"; "Shoot at your officers and leave your ranks, you all will be kindly treated"; or "Already surrender, you will be sooner released".

When calling the enemy you should have a secure position.

When assaulting you have to remind each other do not be afraid of being revealed but directly attack to press the enemy. When the enemy surrenders it is needed to properly prepare, assign comrades in charge of capturing, supporting. Do not rush at the same time to capture them.

Beware of enemy grenade throwing when capturing, we must order them to put down their arms, move to our indicated place.

- Classify enemy officers, and tie them up carefully control, and guard them.

Suppose we captured hundreds of prisoners and have no operating procedure. In this case we should meet many difficulties. So we need to anticipate and know the procedures in capturing prisoners.

Based on this document, the political section will guide all Units carrying out.

POLITICAL SECTION
GROUP 94

END OF TRANSLATION

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