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-----FULL TRANSLATION-----

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT
ENEMY PROSELYTING OFFICE

02/D

DIRECTIVE

SPECIFIC POINTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY TOWARD POW'S,
SURRENDERERS, WOUNDED AND KILLED ENEMY.

Recently, Region and Province main force units have made much progress in carrying out the policy toward POW's surrenderers, wounded and killed enemy. Party committee echelons and unit commanders have planned to indoctrinate and lead cadre and soldiers of the unit in properly carrying out the policy toward POW's and surrenderers during combat. Life of the surrenderers has been assured. The surrenderers have never been killed and were rarely beaten. POW's and surrenderers who stubbornly act against us and attempt to escape must be punished. In many battles, we also treated the wounded enemy and put enemy bodies in order, thus impressing the enemy troops who came to recover them.

Despite the above progress, there still are deficiencies in the implementation of the policy toward POW's and surrenderers, such as: lack of vigilance, thus enabling the enemy to steal and turn our weapons against us, execution of puppet and American POW's on the way to the detention camp, mutilation of enemy corpses, stripping off the clothes of a female prisoner in public after executing.

To improve the implementation of the policy toward POW's, surrenderers, wounded and killed enemy, the Enemy Proselyting Office brings up some additional specific points to help various units properly carry out the policy.

1/ Efforts should be made to overcome difficulties in distinguishing POW's from surrenderers.

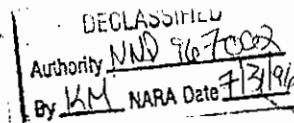
In view of encouraging the enemy troops to lay down their arms, it is our policy to discriminate POW's from surrenderers as follows:

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GROUP-4
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POW's Enemy enlisted men and officers who try to oppose us to the end in combat, attempt to escape and refuse to lay down their arms until they have no other choice.

Surrenderers: Enemy enlisted men and officers who surrender with their weapons at the beginning of the engagement, provide us with information on the enemy, appeal to their comrades-in-arms to surrender and show us enemy documents and weapons caches. Those who initially oppose us because they are forced to but later surrender to us are considered as surrenderers.

For this reason, our cadre and soldiers must overcome difficulties in distinguishing POW's from surrenderers in order to treat them as prescribed by the policy.

2/ Soldiers and officers who lay down their weapons and surrender should be well treated. Precautionary measures should be taken against the enemy who feign surrender. Those who resist us should be severely punished. Avoid cowardly actions that may cause the enemy to belittle us.

During evacuation prisoners' hands should be tied.

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The escorting personnel should be combat ready to take action against the prisoners' resistance and attempt to escape. Prisoners should be blindfolded when moving by areas whose secrecy must be preserved. Prisoners who are repentant of their past mistakes will be given clemency, released and sent back to their native area to earn their living. All their belongings (such as souvenirs, money, rings, watches, personal letters, family photographs, etc...) held during their captivity must be returned to them.

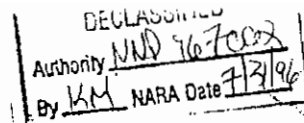
Although the capture, detention, evacuation and interrogation of US and satellite POW's encounters many difficulties, we should do our best to overcome the obstacles and capture as many prisoners as possible to serve the political struggle.

With regard to surrenderers:

As the enemy troops should be encouraged to surrender, we must treat the surrenderers differently than we do the prisoners. For example: they can be considered for release before the prisoners; during evacuation, their hands are not tied or if they are, they will be untied before the prisoners'; if the unit needs personnel replacements, the surrenderers will be considered first for selection.

With regard to the wounded enemy soldiers left behind on the battle ground, they should be considered as POW's and should not be executed. Seriously or slightly wounded enemy troops should be treated and liberated on the spot. Wounded prisoners holding an important position (such as staff officers, intelligence officers etc...), should be treated and evacuated to the rear for interrogation.

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During the treatment of the wounded prisoners, measures should be taken against those who stubbornly attempt to harm us.

Slightly wounded US and satellite prisoners should be immediately interrogated after treatment and evacuated to the rear for further exploitation to serve the political struggle. Healthy prisoners can be used to carry the wounded. Important prisoners should be closely watched and safely evacuated to the destination, with regard to the enemy avoid any physical harm on their bodies (such as beheading, disembowelment, strapping of grenades on their bodies). If the enemy is expected to return to the battle ground to recover the bodies, we should lay the bodies in order their KIA's belongings should be turned in to higher echelons. In case the enemy is not expected to come back and recover the bodies, we should bury them carefully. Whenever feasible we must identify the bodies and inform their families of their death. Bodies of US and satellite troops should be buried decently with their graves' location properly registered with names and ages but kept undisclosed. Their belongings should be turned in to higher echelons. It is hoped that this directive will be properly carried out by various units.

25 November 1965

R. Enemy Proselyting Office (VC)

S/MUOI TRAI

True copy to various units for study and execution class should be held for soldiers to study and properly carry out this directive

PROVINC E UNIT POLITICAL SECTION

-----END OF TRANSLATION-----

CERTIFIED CORRECT TRANSLATION:

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USMACV Document Exploitation Center

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