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HQ, 198th Inf Bde
Chu Lai (BT538073), RVN
290830 Nov 1970

OPLAN 12-70 (REPATRIATION OF US PRISONERS OF WAR) ("EGRESS RECAP") (U)

REFERENCE: XXIV Corps OPLAN 190-70, Repatriation of US Prisoners of War (U) (EGRESS RECAP), date 10 July 1970.

23d Infantry Division OPLAN 8-70, Repatriation of US Prisoners of War (U) ("EGRESS RECAP"), dated 12 Nov 1970.

1. (C) SITUATION:

a. Enemy forces: Current INTSUMS.

b. Friendly forces:

(1) 23d Infantry Division designated teams will receive repatriated US PW's and provide assistance to GWN/FW as required.

(2) 11th & 196th Infantry Brigades continue current operations; conduct repatriation operations if required.

(3) 6th ARVN Regiment and other ARVN forces will continue current operations and are prepared to provide maximum assistance with repatriation of GWN/FW personnel.

c. Attachments and Detachments: Task Organization.

d. Assumptions:

(1) Specific details as to place and time of release will be provided prior to repatriation.

(2) Reception points will be designated at remote sites in the 23d Infantry Division TAOI.

(3) Responsibilities for a situation involving a third country will be as directed by higher authority.

(4) The repatriation may be monitored by an impartial international group.

(5) That the enemy will act in good faith once initial contact and basic requirements for discussion are established.

2. (C) MISSION: 198th Infantry Brigade will receive, process, and further evacuate US PW's, civilians, and third country nationals repatriated within the 23d Infantry Division TAOI.

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3. (C) EXECUTION:

a. Concept of Operations: This plan provides for large and small scale repatriations to include personnel who return to US military control as a result of escapes and evasion. Upon notification, up to three (3) Prisoner Reception Teams (PRT) will be airlifted to designated reception points to receive, process, and administer to the returnees. Emphasis at the reception point will be on immediate personal needs of the returnee and medical determination of physical conditions. Returnees will be air evacuated from the reception point to a Service Control Center (SCC) at the 91st Evacuation Hospital. Returnees will be further evacuated to a designated Central Processing Center (CPC) or component service processing center.

b. 1-6, 5-46 and 1-52 Infantry Battalions:

(1) Plan for and be prepared to provide one Prisoner Reception Team (PRT) prepared to receive and administer to US PW's who are repatriated within the 23d Infantry Division TAOI.

(2) Be prepared to provide additional PRT's during large scale repatriations.

(3) Be prepared to secure reception point established anywhere within Brigade TAOI.

c. H/17 Cavalry: Be prepared to secure reception point established within assigned AO.

d. B/26 Engineers: Be prepared to construct LZ at reception point.

e. Coordinating Instructions:

(1) Continue current operations.

(2) This plan is effective for planning on receipt and execution on order. At the time of execution, this plan and supporting plans will be evaluated so that modification can be immediately initiated, if required, to conform to provision of any agreement, negotiated or tacit, for repatriation of US PW's.

(3) All plans, instructions, message traffic, correspondence and operational activities pertaining to processing of US Military personnel who may be recovered from PW, MIA, Evader, or Detainee status will be identified with the unclassified nickname "EGRESS RECAP".

4. (U) SERVICE SUP. QRT: See Annex A and C.

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5. (C) COMMAND AND SIGNAL:

- a. Current SOI/SSI in effect.
- b. Command: 198th Infantry Brigade CP, CHU LAI.

Acknowledge:

OFFICIAL:

RICHARDSON
COL

VICARIO

83

- ANNEXES:
- A - Large and Small Scale Repatriation of US PW's
 - B - Reception of Civilians
 - C - Reception and Processing Procedures.
 - Z - Distribution

Annex Z - Distribution

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ANNEX A (LARGE AND SMALL-SCALE REPATRIATION OF US PW's) to OPLAN 12-70
(Repatriation of US Prisoners of War) ("EGRESS RECAP") (U)

1. (C) SITUATION:

a. General

(1) This annex provides general information concerning the types and method of repatriation for US PW's. In addition, the instructions contained in the annex are applicable to the recovery of US personnel that may return to US control as a result of escape or evasion from capture by enemy forces.

(2) In a large-scale situation there are more than 20 returnees from any single service or more than 50 aggregate, or there are indications of a continuous flow of released PW's. In event of a large-scale repatriation, released PW's will be evacuated from the SCC to a CPC at Cam Ranh Bay.

(3) A small-scale situation is one in which there is not a continuous flow of returnees, and in which the total number of US returnees does not warrant the establishment of a CPC. In this situation returnees will be evacuated from the SCC to parent service processing centers.

b. Enemy Forces: Current INTSUMS.

c. Friendly Forces:

(1) CG, 23d Infantry Division: Provides detailed instructions for PRT's and general guidance for processing of returnees.

(2) CG, 91st Evacuation Hospital: Provides for patient care, as required, of returnees.

(3) 6th ARVN REGIMENT: Assists in reception and evacuation of any GVN citizens repatriated by the enemy in the 23d Infantry Division TAOI.

2. (C) MISSION: To receive and process returnees in the 23d Infantry Division TAOI in accordance with the basic plan and this annex, and to assist in the repatriation of RWN and FWMLF PW's, if requested.

3. (C) EXECUTION:

a. Concept of Operation.

(1) Reception Points: Until agreement is reached with the enemy of repatriation, initial planning must include provisions for the establishment of one or more reception points anywhere within the 23d Infantry Division TAOI.

(2) Service Control Center (SCC): In large or small-scale repatriations returnees will be air evacuated, if possible, from the reception point to the SCC at the 91st Evacuation Hospital.

(3) Processing Center: In a large-scale repatriation, returnees will be air evacuated from the SCC to the MACV CPC at Cam Ranh Bay. In a small-scale repatriation, returnees will be air evacuated from the SCC to the below designated

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center:

- (a) Army - 26th Evacuation Hospital, Long Binh.
- (b) Navy and USAF - Hospital, Cam Ranh Bay.
- (c) Marines - 1st Med Bn, 1st Marine Div, Da Nang.

(4) Processing of Returnees: The processing at reception points and SCC will be conducted as delineated in Annex C (Reception and Processing Procedures).

b. Brigade headquarters will designate 3 PRT's as specified in Appendix 1, this Annex. OG, 23d Infantry Division will be immediately notified of any information concerning release or recovery of returnees within the 23d Infantry Division TAOI. The following information, if available, will be included:

- (1) Number of personnel recovered and nationality.
- (2) Name, rank, and SSAN in the case of US PW's; name, rank, and service number of Free World Military personnel; name, company, agency, or group of affiliation of civilian returnees.
- (3) Date, coordinates, and circumstances of recovery.
- (4) Estimated physical condition of returnees.
- (5) Interim disposition of returnees.
- (6) ETD Reception Point.
- (7) ETD SCC.

c. CO's 1-6 Inf Bn, 5-46 Inf Bn, 1-52 Inf Bn will:

- (1) Provide PRT as specified in Appendix 1, this annex.
- (2) Immediately provide CO 198th Infantry Brigade information concerning release or recovery of returnees as outlined in paragraph 3b above.

d. Coordinating Instructions:

(1) The welfare and morale of US returnees is of prime importance. All reasonable efforts will be made at all stages of processing to provide for their personal, psychological, and spiritual needs.

(2) Full cooperation will be extended to any International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) or third-country representatives who may be present to observe the processing and repatriation of US returnees.

- APPENDIXES:
- 1. Organization of Prisoner Reception Teams (PRT) (U)
 - 2. Prisoner Receipt Form (U)
 - 3. Prisoner Identification Form (U)

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APPENDIX 1 (ORGANIZATION OF PRISONER RECEPTION TEAMS) (PRT) (U) to ANNEX A
(Large and Small-Scale Repatriation of US PW's) to OPLAN 12-70

1. (C) Organization of PRT's

a. PRT's will be designated as follows:

1-6 Inf Bn	1 PRT
5-46 Inf Bn	1 PRT
1-52 Inf Bn	1 PRT

b. Battalion PRT's will consist of a team chief (O4), escort officer (C3) interpreter/intelligence specialist, medical officer, communications officer, and an information officer.

c. PRT will not become involved in any issue other than the specific point of prisoner release, i.e., "We are here to discuss the release of prisoners and that is all." "We are glad to have these men returned and hope others will be released soon."

d. Team members will be explicit in whom they represent, i.e., The Commanding General, 23d Infantry Division.

2. (C) The following items will accompany each PRT:

- (1) 5 chairs, folding
- (2) 1 table, folding
- (3) 2 sets of binoculars
- (4) 2 5-gallon cans of ice water
- (5) Hot and cold drinking cups
- (6) AN/PRC - 25 radio
- (7) RC 292 antenna
- (8) Release receipt forms
- (9) Maps of prisoner release site.
- (10) 2 litters
- (11) 6 blankets

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- (12) 12 grenades, smoke
- (13) 5-gallon thermos of hot coffee
- (14) 2 cartons cigarettes
- (15) Returnee identification forms with carbon paper

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APPENDIX 2 (PRISONER RECEIPT FORM) (U) to ANNEX A (Large and Small-Scale Repatriation of US PW's) to OPLAN 12-70 (Repatriation of US Prisoners of War) ("EGRESS RECAP")

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters, 23d Infantry Division
APO San Francisco 96374

SUBJECT: Receipt of Returned US PW(s)

Receipt is hereby acknowledged for the following returned United States personnel:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SSAN</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
-------------	-------------	-------------	----------------

(Name)

MAJ
Officer-in-Charge
Prisoner Reception Team

APPENDIX 3 (PRISONER IDENTIFICATION FORM) (U) to ANNEX A (Large and Small-Scale
Repatriation of US PW's) to OFLAN 12-70 (Repatriation of US Prisoners of War)
("EGRESS RECAP")

IDENTIFICATION OF RETURNEE

NAME:

RANK:

SSAN:

NATIONALITY:

AGENCY AFFILIATION (CIVILIANS):

PHYSICAL CONDITION:

TIME OF RELEASE:

(Name)
MAJ
Officer-in-Charge
Prisoner Reception Team

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1. (C) SITUATION:

a. General

(1) This annex provides general information on reception and processing of US civilians, RVN civilians, and civilian third-country nationals (TCN) which may be released by the enemy, separately or in conjunction with the release of US PW's.

(2) No civilian will undergo the processing described herein unless he consents to such processing.

b. Enemy Forces: Current INTSUMS.

c. Friendly Forces: GVN, with required US assistance will receive and process any RVN civilians released from enemy captivity.

d. Assumptions: Basic plan.

2. (C) EXECUTION:

a. Concept of Operations

(1) US civilian returnees and TCN's will be received at a reception point by a PRT, evacuated to the SCC, and processed at the SCC using the same procedures as for US Military returnees. If large-scale repatriation of US military PW's is in progress, all civilians will be further evacuated to the CPC at Cam Ranh Bay. During small-scale repatriation, DOD civilian returnees will be further evacuated to parent service processing centers listed in paragraph 3a (3), Annex A. In the latter situation, non-DOD US civilian returnees and TCN's will be further evacuated to the USARV PW Processing Center at Long Binh.

(2) RVN citizens received by PRT's will be transferred to control of GVN authorities as quickly as possible. While awaiting transfer to GVN officials, RVN civilians may be evacuated to the SCC and provided emergency medical treatment, subsistence, and appropriate personal services requested by the returnees.

(3) US Civilian returnees not under military jurisdiction, and TCN's will not be debriefed at the reception point or at the SCC.

(4) CO, 198th INF BDE will be notified by message of any information concerning the release or recovery of civilian TCN returnees within the Brigade TAOI. Information to be included in the notification message is contained in paragraph 3b, Annex A.

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ANNEX C (RECEPTION AND PROCESSING PROCEDURES) to OPLAN 12-70 (Repatriation of US prisoners of War ("EYES RECAP") (U)

1. (C) GENERAL:

a. This annex provides guidance for reception and processing of returnees at reception points.

b. Treatment afforded each returnee will be as uniform and as standardized as possible consistent with the needs of the individual.

c. To minimize propaganda benefits for the enemy and exposure to press representatives, returnees will be air evacuated from the reception point as soon as possible following release.

2. RECEPTION POINT PROCEDURES:

a. Reception points will be secured prior to dispatch of PRT from Chu Lai. Method of securing reception points and force requirements will be determined based on agreement with enemy negotiated by higher authority.

b. A minimum of one PRT will be dispatched to each designated reception point after it has been secured. Composition of PRT will be as specified in Appendix 1, Annex A.

c. Chief, PRT will be responsible for processing of returnees as follows:

(1) Medical processing will be the minimum required to assure the well being of the returnee. A determination will be made as to the requirement for emergency medical treatment and mode of evacuation.

(a) Ambulatory returnees will be evacuated by UH-1H.

(b) Nonambulatory returnees and those in need of emergency medical aid will be evacuated by a medevac helicopter.

(2) Intelligence debriefing will not be conducted at the reception point.

(3) News media will be afforded an opportunity to observe and photograph the turn-over and reception of returnees. Under no circumstance, however, will there be direct contact allowed between the returnees and the news media. Photographing of seriously wounded or ill personnel will not be permitted. News media will be advised of this restriction in advance.

(4) Insure that an escort officer accompanies each group of returnees from the reception point to the SCC.

(5) Be prepared to receipt for each returnee. Format for receipt is at Appendix 2, Annex A.

(6) Complete prisoner identification form (Appendix 3, Annex A) in duplicate at the reception point to include the following information on each returnee:

(a) Name, rank, and SSAN in the case of PW's; name, rank, and ser-

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vice number of Free World military personnel; name, nationality, company, agency, or group of affiliation of civilian returnees.

(b) Estimated physical condition of returnees.

(c) Time of arrival at reception point.

(d) Time and mode of departure from reception point.

(7) Report above information to CO, 198th Infantry Brigade, 23d Infantry Division by radio upon departure of returnees from reception point or as soon as feasible if departure from reception point is delayed for any reason. The escort officer for each group will deliver one copy of the completed form for each returnee to the SCC. The original copy will be retained by the Chief PRT.

(8) When more than one PRT is committed at a reception point, the senior officer present will assume responsibility for all processing.

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ANNEX Z (DISTRIBUTION) to OFLAN (Repatriation of US Prisoners of War) ("EGRESS
RECAP") (U)

<u>Copy No.</u>	<u>Unit</u>
1	Record
2	Reference
3-5	Division
6	CO, 11th Bde
7	CO, 196th Bde
8-9	CO, 1-6 Inf
10-11	CO, 5-46 Inf
12-13	CO, 1-52 Inf
14	CO, H/17 Cav
15-16	S-3, 198th Bde
17	CO, 16th CAG
18	CO, 1-14 Arty
19	CO, 6th ARVN Regt
20	CO, 8/26 Engr

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DETACHMENT OF THE ARVN
Headquarters, 198th Infantry Brigade, 23d Infantry Division
APO San Francisco 96374

AVDF-BCC

29 November 1970

SUBJECT: Promulgation of 198th Infantry Brigade OPLAN 12-70 (Repatriation of US Prisoners of War) (U) (EGRESS RECAP)

SEE DISTRIBUTION:

1. (C) 23d Infantry Division OPLAN 8-70 provides for the recovery, processing and evacuation of US prisoners of war, US civilians, GW/FW personnel, and third country nationals.
2. (U) Reproduction of this document without permission of the issuing office is prohibited except that authority is granted to make extracts of the plan for the preparation of supporting plans.
3. (U) This plan and subordinate plans are to be reviewed semiannually. Recommended changes are to be submitted to this headquarters, ATTN: AVDF-BCC by 25 May and 25 October.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Fletcher B. Joslin
FLETCHER B. JOSLIN
1LT, IN
Assistant Adjutant

2-08

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Chu Lai (BT538073), RW
290830 Nov 1970

OPPLAN 12-70 (REPATRIATION OF US PRISONERS OF WAR, "EGRESS RECAP") (U)

RECORD OF CHANGES