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I. DEFINITIONS OF PURPOSE

A. Possibility of Capture

Under modern conditions of highly mobile warfare, casualties consist of a higher proportion of prisoners than killed or wounded.

As this fluid war of movement progresses, each side will become more anxious to secure up to the minute information and will take desperate measures to obtain it. As war becomes more critical, need for information becomes more acute; therefore, both sides will risk much to obtain enemy personnel for interrogation.

Even rear areas are accessible...paratroop raids on the British Isles are quite as possible as British raids on the Continent. The Dieppe raid, among other things, was a reconnaissance in force for the purpose of bringing back some prisoners for questioning. All American fliers captured in North Africa were flown immediately to the special interrogation centers in Germany for questioning.

The process of questioning is called Interrogation, and it automatically implies that you are in the hands of the enemy.

B. Why Interrogation?

As a P.O.W. you represent not only a temporary loss of manpower, but you have become a potential danger to your country. The Germans attach so much importance to interrogation that they have ordered their personnel not to shoot Allied airmen parachuting to earth over Axis Territory. It is not humanity which leads the Nazi to adopt this policy, but his desire not to kill the talking goose that might lay some golden eggs.

There are only three sources through which the enemy can obtain information from YOU:

1. Your (aircraft) equipment
2. Your papers . . either official or personal:

(The British captured a German officer carrying 17 letters addressed to him and signed "Your dearest darling Paula." These letters were really "hot and bothered," and the British discovered from his identity papers that his wife's name was not Paula.

The officer was carrying them on his person because of his fear that if he were killed, his barracks luggage would be sent to his wife.

The British thereupon threatened to send them to his wife. Net result: They "sold" the letters back to him on the basis of - one letter, one item of information. In this way they got 17 items of military information which they had long sought.)

Moral: Always go into action without carrying incriminating evidence, either personal or military.

3. Your TALK:

The Germans boast that 15% of their information comes from

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prisoners who talk too much. Handing the enemy a weapon with which he can kill off your own personnel is both stupid and criminal, and must be eliminated. The Germans are forceful interrogators, and hard to resist...15% of the time. Why not cut them down to zero?

"A booby trap is an instrument of sudden death. It is planted by a clever and unscrupulous enemy. It depends for its success on a variety of unknown or unpredictable disguises. It always seems quite natural before it happens, but comes as quite a surprise when it goes off."

Interrogation is a Nazi booby trap which appears harmless but is actually an instrument of sudden death to your own comrades if YOU TALK.

How to recognize and how to avoid the destruction which follows talking is explained in detail herein.

Forewarned is Forearmed: - The obvious countermeasure to interrogation is for you to know what to do if YOU should ever find yourself being interrogated.

C. Procedure

The simplest way to accomplish this is to trace your progress from the hour of your (presumed) capture.

Remember certain basic factors which condition this subject:

No matter in what form you encounter it, interrogation exists for the sole purpose of obtaining useful military information - it is a weapon designed to produce results. The enemy can and does use every scrap of information. If he succeeds in piecing it together until the chain of evidence is complete, he has fulfilled his purpose in capturing you. But until he can get you talking - either a little or a lot - his intense interest in you never lets up. Pressure will be increased and new approaches tried.

Your comfort in a prison camp will NOT be increased if you give away information. No matter how insinuating and friendly the enemy interrogators may be before you talk, they invariably despise you afterwards. A prisoner who, in the face of threats, bribes, and cajolery refuses to open his mouth, earns the respect of his captors and always fares better than the weakling.

1. Tactical Examination

Prisoners are searched, but not questioned, by the capturing troops. The first attempt at interrogation will take place as soon as possible after your capture. This preliminary grilling will normally be conducted by the Intelligence Officer of the capturing unit, or by the Divisional Intelligence Officer, or by a Specialist in your branch. Only items of immediate tactical value will be sought here.

a. During the Tactical "Squeeze" you will be pumped for:-

Unit identifications
Number, strength and
location of bases

Reserves
Characteristics, performance
and armament

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Time of takeoff

Type of aircraft

Size of formation

Targets and scope of action

Having obtained - if he does obtain it - these details, every bit of shrewdness will later be adopted to discover whether you know of any subsequent or intended operations to be carried out by units from your base or adjoining bases.

WARNING

The vital information the Germans always try to get is the date and place of future raids.

2. Strategic Interrogation

All information which will be of use in the near future, as opposed to the immediate present, will be sought during this sustained and, if necessary prolonged, series of interrogations. These are conducted at Special Processing Centers.

- a. During the Strategic - or long range interrogations - all items of general value will be sought:

Morale	Food
Conditions at home	Your age
Production	Amount of training and where received
Size of Air Force	Facts about R.A.F., A.A.F. and Allied Air Forces
Ground troops in given sectors	Defenses and their organization
Latest tactics used and those contemplated on future bombing missions.	

This questioning usually conducted by trained psychologists in officers' uniforms, after they have studied any documents found on you.

3. Type of Information Wanted

The American Air Forces are an increasingly important factor in the war, so the enemy continually tries to ascertain its Strength, Disposition and Capabilities.

The enemy will be particularly interested in knowing:

- a. The number, strength, and location of your unit;
- b. The location of other squadrons and units;
- c. The length of time you have been in the theatre;
- d. How you travelled from America;
- e. The training you have received;
- f. The size of the American Air Force;
- g. New types of aircraft in production;
- h. Performance and characteristics of new types of aircraft;
- i. Objectives and Targets;
- j. Objectives and operations of ground forces;
- k. Disposition and Order of Battle of Ground Forces;
- l. Communications and supply lines;
- m. New weapons being utilized by any branch of the service;
- n. Also, anything and everything concerning the ground and naval forces of the United Nations.

The foregoing is not a complete analysis of the information sought, but rather serves to illustrate some of the things with which the enemy is vitally concerned.

It is well to reiterate time and again that in a total war, all information -- regardless of how trivial it may seem, -- is military information and must be guarded as such.

4. Duration of Questioning

You are a potential source of information to the enemy as long as you remain in his hands. If he considers you well informed on military matters, he will never cease in his attempts to try to pry it out of you, even if you remain his prisoner for the duration.

At the Special Interrogation Centers, the enemy's aim is to make prisoners talk, and the highest degree of skill is shown in the methods employed to exploit any given set of circumstances.

II. TREATMENT

There are two important stops along the highway of interrogation:- Dulag (Durchgangslager) a reception and softening-up center where the grilling is expert, intense, concentrated, and handled by specialists. (A German Major who worked at Roosevelt Field, and a German Captain who worked for Pennsylvania Airlines before the war ... are Interrrogation Officers at Dulag Luft. Several American flyers who knew these men before the war have been interrogated by them in Dulag Luft).

Assuming you don't talk and they give up for lack of more time to spend on you, you will be sent to Stalag (Stammlager) a permanent prison camp where there will be no more systematic interrogation, but still plenty of microphones and stool pigeons. Officer Ps/W will be sent to an Oflag, or Offizierlager; Flying personnel to Dulag (Luft) and Stalag (Luft).

A. Dulag Luft

This is the Air Forces version of the Durchgangslager, or transition camp. It is a Processing Center, maintained for the express purpose of extracting information from personnel believed to possess military knowledge of particular value. Most airmen, paratroopers, naval personnel, and others on special operations are sent to such centers.

SECURITY

No one in this camp is to be trusted, (including - initially - the Senior Officer.) The place is bulging with microphones and assorted stool pigeons. The mikes even hang in the branches of the trees in the recreation ground.

The R. A. F. instructs its aircrews that if the enemy can obtain NO information from them at Dulag Luft, their normal stay should not exceed one week. To stay more than two weeks implies that you are useful to the enemy, or that the Hun expects to find you useful.

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SECURITY (Continued)

A caution should be added against careless fraternization with your own personnel. Some one may have been "broken". Occasionally, one is suspected of actually assisting the enemy---in return for "Privileges".

SPECIAL NOTE:-

Broadcasts

American personnel are prohibited by a War Department General Order from using enemy radio for broadcasting, transmitting messages, or for any purpose whatever while a prisoner of war in enemy hands.

"...One of our enemies' favorite media of propaganda is radio broadcasting by captured military personnel. To deny him this weapon, the War Department has issued a General Order absolutely prohibiting all members of our armed Forces from using the enemy radio for broadcasting, transmitting messages or for any other purpose whatsoever so long as they shall be prisoners of war. One of the reasons the enemy uses POW broadcasts is to increase the size of audiences listening to his propaganda newscasts. If our captured personnel were permitted to broadcast, then the families of all men reported missing would continually tune in on the German and Jap radio and would thus be available as an audience for enemy propaganda."

Flying Personnel - Special note: - All flying personnel must be made to realize the absolute necessity of maintaining security concerning technical information...despite the methods employed by the G.I.O.

The Germans have adopted the practice at Dulag Luft, WHENEVER THEY GREATLY DESIRE TECHNICAL OR OPERATIONAL INFORMATION, of keeping the aircrews in solitary confinement for 15 to 30 days.

Tobacco and books and other items are forbidden in solitary confinement, in order to cause flying personnel to break down and be easier marks for their questioners.

Treatment and accommodations at special interrogation centers are somewhat better than at ordinary prison camps. The food is slightly better, there is a certain amount of entertainment and you may be invited to parties with real liquor - for special reasons.

It is essential to remember that the Nazi is not being so charming to you because he likes the color of your big blue eyes. As a matter of cold fact, he hates your guts. He is not interested in arranging harmless social chats. He is after only one thing:- INFORMATION...

B. Stalag Luft

Let us assume that you have NOT talked. E.M. and N.C.O. will then be sent on to a permanent prison camp known as a Stammlager (Stalag); officers are sent to an Oflag. Here there will be no more systematic interrogation, but concealed microphones and stool pigeons are still employed to catch you in careless talk. Your conduct here will be governed by the International Organization (covered in "P/W Camps.")

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III. TRICKS OF THE TRADE

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A. Ways and Means

The Nazi, in his efforts to obtain information of military value, uses all possible means short of actual violence to make you talk. He has a high regard for the intelligence of our personnel, in that he knows they will not consciously answer his questions. So he resorts to various tricks of the trade.

You will encounter skilled interrogators, men and women with a perfect command of our language, and a surprising amount of information on our Services and Equipment. They are experts in a twisted form or psychological approach and follow-through...they even go after information you yourself don't know you know.

B. Classification

To begin with, you will be psychologically classified...without being aware of the fact. The strain of being a P/W, the newness of it all, will accentuate your type:- sullen, vain, comedian, tough, meek, careless, etc. Air Crews are interrogated separately, commencing with the highest rank. Lately, the tendency has been to by-pass Captains and concentrate more thoroughly on the NCO's of the crew.

The methods of questioning will vary with the type of person you exhibit yourself to be. The best way to avoid being classified into a special sucker category, is to maintain a strict, polite, military bearing. The Germans are a military people, even in defeat...and they will respect you if you are as military as they. A correct military bearing makes psychological "Typing" difficult if not impossible.

IV. METHODS OF QUESTIONING

There are actually only 3 methods, or types of Questioning:

A. Direct Interrogation

Continues for hours or days in the hope of wearing you down. Sometimes renewed long after capture.

If you successfully resist the direct method the enemy will resort to:-

B. Indirect Interrogation

This consists of a series of casual conversations about the war in general - shop talk - in the hope you will let something apparently innocent slip. If you don't:-

C. Traps

He will endeavor to trap your speech, when spoken under circumstances you believe safe. Traps consist of various devices calculated to take you off your guard on the occasions when you are not actually being formally interrogated.

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Both Direct and Indirect Questioning will be either:

1. Very friendly (attempting to win your confidence)
2. Very antagonistic (seeking to break you by intimidation)
3. A clever combination of the two (seeking to find a weakness in your defense.)

It is the purpose of this briefing to prepare your defense to the point where it cannot be broken. This can be done by a fairly complete exploration of formal interrogations.

V. TYPICAL TECHNIQUES

Both the Allies and the Germans have developed interrogation techniques to the point of a fine art. Here are 16 examples of typical German interrogation techniques. They are used either separately or in combination, with varying degrees of success. The business of getting a man to talk, and picking up what he says and getting him to expand his remarks, has become a fine art. You might find yourself up against one or all of these techniques some day.

A. Direct Interrogation

1. The "Despair" Approach

During your preliminary examination, you may be worn with fatigue, or wounded, or suffering from shock. This is the first factor of which the German Interrogation Officer (G.I.O.) will take advantage.

During this earliest interrogation he will try to instill in you a feeling of black despair. He wants you to feel that all is lost, your unit has been wiped out, American Troops have suffered a crushing reverse, nothing matters any more, so you might just as well relax and talk. It might be easy, under the circumstances of your capture, for you to agree with his reasoning.

But the war is not over, for either of you. This is just the beginning of another combat, of a new phase for you.

Therefore, don't despair. Don't play into his hands by saying: "Okay...what's the use, I'm stuck; nothing I say can have any importance now." Never believe anything you are told from enemy sources. Everything you say has importance to the Nazi. So don't say it. Like all other forms of resistance, this calls for self-control, for hanging on tight to your faith.

Remember to:- "Remain always, even in captivity, the enemy of the enemy."

2. The Friendly Approach

This is a personal and intimate method of interrogation. The G.I.O. will be friendly and well disposed toward you in his questions... "How do you feel?"...where is your home?...what was your civil

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DIRECT (Continued)

occupation?...etc. He will talk about American cities, customs, people he claims to know, your hobbies and your fields of interest.

He will patiently continue to use any and every casual method to get you in a talkative mood. If the G.I.O. can get you to engage in "harmless conversational topics", he will have accomplished an opening. If he doesn't succeed, he will retire in favor of another interrogator...

Nazi number Two has been listening all the while by microphone, after studying whatever papers were found on you. There is nothing obvious about him, however...he just happens to wander in, causing the first man to depart. The new interrogator will be the good-fellow type:--

He admires the Americans and American Political Institutions. He isn't really in sympathy with Nazism. He is spiritually an old guard German, whose only interest is to save the Vaterland. He wants sympathy and understanding... and also a tiny morsel of harmless information.

As a matter of established fact, the building-up and piecing together of seemingly innocent bits of information is one of the most effective methods of enemy intelligence operation.

3. Ridicule and Provocation

Using the weapon of ridicule, this G.I.O. will try to arouse you to angry protest by pooh-poohing the "smooth" war efforts of the Allies, the production figures of the United States, the convoy system which is at the mercy of his submarines, the American political structure, the Italian campaign, etc.

This is the bad-man approach. Our friend hates Americans, he is contemptuous of the American Air Force and compares it unfavorably with the R.A.F.; he boasts about his own pilots who invariably operate with secret weapons. His game is to wear you down, and anger you to the point of losing your temper. Don't lose it.

Never allow yourself to be drawn into an argument; don't get mad; don't lose your temper.

4. Threats vs. Rescue

This is another example of teamwork out of the stock bag of tricks. First a tough interrogator will threaten you and adopt a generally bullying attitude. As props for the melodrama, there will be a revolver and a whip on the table. If you are in uniform he will pull his rank to intimidate you.

If you are in civilian clothing he will threaten to treat you as a saboteur or as a spy and have you turned over to the Gestapo for trial, or threaten to send you to a really "bad" camp, or put you in a heated cell, or withhold cigarettes and mail and food from you, or throw you into 30 days of solitary confinement. At this point he changes his attitude and suddenly appeals to your common sense:..."Why make it hard for yourself?...just routine questions..."

Don't let it phase you: The answer to this one, as to all the others, is scrupulous politeness and a quiet but firm refusal to answer his bullying questions.

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DIRECT (Continued)

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NOTE:

GESTAPO... ("Geheim-Staats-Polizei")
(Secret State Police)

The Gestapo is a civil police agency, and has no connection with, or jurisdiction over, prisoners of war. Therefore - any threat to turn you over to the Gestapo is sheer bluff.

Thereupon, he will pull an unexpected switch....

Another "official" will come in and rescue you from your tormenter. This one will be kind and friendly...you will be glad he showed up at the strategic moment...you will like him. That's it... that's what he wants...to be your buddy. Your "buddy" will explain that he has a job to do and would appreciate - in return for his kindness - even a few lies to fill out his form.

Don't tell any friendly lies to help him out. One lie will lead to more complicated untruths: these will be thrown back at you and trip you up so badly you'll really talk in self-defense.

Don't try to match wits: as a P/W you are a definite psychological disadvantage. All you accomplish by giving false answers instead of no answers is to compromise the security of your position. Furthermore, you subject yourself to legitimate disciplinary punishment.

5. The "Disgrace" Method

This is a fairly new invention, based on the element of long range fear. They will threaten to send out word that you have committed some criminal act and that, unless you talk, they will disgrace you with your family back home....and, in addition, with the War Department.

B. Indirect Interrogation1. The Technical Argument

This normally does not take place until the more direct types of interrogation have failed. Presumably you have defeated the formal questioners and they intend to leave you alone. You are given the freedom of the camp, and almost invariably wind up at the PX or canteen, where you may buy certain small articles for your personal comfort. Over a relaxing beer you will be invited (by fellow prisoners in a discussion) - to settle an argument. All they want is an authoritative opinion, let us say, on the respective technical merits of Allied equipment versus German equipment, or ships, or weapons, or aircraft, or radios, or tactics. "You too can be the life of the party"....if you want to get a few opinions off your chest. Of course, you may be putting a tombstone on somebody else's chest.

2. The Hour of Charm

This was known as the "Champagne and Cigars" Method. It consisted

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INDIRECT (Continued)

of being invited to a party with enemy airmen of great prominence. You were flattered with special attentions and given a good meal. A spirit of sportsmanship prevailed and liquor flowed. There was plenty of shop talk...which became more intense and heated and specific and technical. Why do you suppose they suddenly liked your company so much?

If you should be taken to a party of any kind, you must realize that:

A special danger inherent in parties lies in the fact that the newcomer may well be led to think that where other, and perhaps senior officers talk freely, he may do the same. It is unfortunately a fact that P/W who have been in Dulag Luft over two weeks are kept there BECAUSE they are not security-minded.

Recent indications are that the Nazi is now failing to obtain information by the "Champagne and Cigars" method. He has been forced to more severe measures, such as refusing medical treatment, threatening to shoot you as a spy, etc. These are all sheer bluff, but a good sign: - as the enemy continues to lose, his methods will get tougher and less fancy.

3. Appeal to Vanity

Some individuals crave popularity and wish to make a good impression no matter where they are - even in captivity. Such popularity can be yours...but is short lived. Enemy promises of preferential treatment are never fulfilled; after the informant has been squeezed dry, his usefulness has ended - to everybody.

If the G.I.O. has classified you as vain and chatty, he will play on your ego and give you the impression that he believes in your importance. Of course, he will require military proof to substantiate his belief. The more important you lead the enemy to think you are, the more persistent he will be in his interrogations. He will cleverly appeal to your vanity by revealing all sorts of facts and figures. This is to make you feel inferior if you don't reveal something equally bright in return, thereby showing how much you know.

Avoid the tendency and weakness of "Batting the breeze" for the purpose of impressing the enemy with your great knowledge - military or otherwise. Act like a dope no matter how much it hurts. In some cases, it won't hurt at all. The Germans are adept at appealing to a prisoner's conceit. By outright or subtle flattery of the ego, (depending on their opinion of the P/W mentality and temperament). They often coax a man into talking.

The German is a born militarist, and proud of it. He despises anyone who speaks against the interest of his own country. Therefore, if you conduct yourself in a formal manner and adhere strictly to International Law, he will respect both you and your military rights and accord you superior treatment.

4. Medical Personnel

Beware of all medical personnel who are overly-solicitous of your welfare. This constitutes the beneficent approach. With a clear brain instead of a roving eye, watch out for good-looking

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INDIRECT (Continued)

nurses who hold your hand and stroke your brow. They're only looking for a soft spot in your skull. The same applies to doctors or orderlies who get very sympathetic while changing dressings. It applies equally to nurses of obvious appeal, who offer help in writing your letters. Either write your own letters or don't write at all. All this kindness may seem too good to be true, whereas it is actually too true to be good.

Remember - all personnel of official capacity - plus a lot of unofficial ones - with whom you come in contact, are working for the enemy and against you. The practice of using doctors and nurses from conquered territory who are Nazi sympathizers has become so prevalent that the British have warned their flyers that they must assume that every medico with whom they come in contact in POW Camps is a German I. O. in disguise. Therefore, be suspicious of too-kind treatment; always beware of enemy hospitality.

If you are feeling lonely in an enemy hospital, the easiest way to get company is to discuss military matters with medical personnel. The place will be filled with your comrades before sundown.

Use of Drugs...As a means of obtaining information, the enemy may resort to the use of drugs of the EVIPAN type. Such drugs are mainly used as an anaesthetic for surgical and dental operations of short duration. Firmness under these conditions will frustrate the interrogator.

Expert medical advice has been obtained and it is considered impossible to extract information by this means provided the subject is determined not to talk about secret matters.

5. Show-of-knowledge

This is a very clever and fairly subtle approach because it makes you feel powerless right from the start. The interrogator begins by putting you at "ease" with the statement - and frequently proof - that everything about you is already well known.

He will impress you with this knowledge about yourself, your plane, equipment, objectives, personal history, etc. It is a favorite technique with the Germans, and much used for its reaction - effect on the prisoner. If the prisoner doesn't catch on to the flaws in this method, it will break down his will-to-resist by convincing him that as long as everything is already known, there is no harm in confirming the interrogator's statements.

Fact and guesswork will be skillfully blended to confuse you, to force you to make admissions or corrections. If you show by your facial reactions either concern or surprise, you only play into his hands by steering him along and charting his guesses for him.

Let's break it down and see what makes it click: - many of their factual statements will be correct, including where you went to kindergarten, but for the most part they are fishing for confirmation of items they suspect but of which they are not positively certain. You can be quite sure that the German I.O. wouldn't waste time telling you what he knows IF he were positive it was true or complete. The enemy needs confirmation of facts before basing positive action on any information obtained. This

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INDIRECT (Continued)

confirmation by you may be all that is needed. A nod of the head or the word "yes" may be all they want. Don't believe anything the enemy tells you - particularly that they already have the information they are trying to get from you. The enemy also has several other devices, or traps. They are not troublesome if you know about them.

C. Traps

1. The Red Cross Form

Upon first arrival at a prison camp, a bogus "Red Cross Official" will give you a "Red Cross Blank" to fill out. It is a fake because - in addition to name, rank, and serial number - it has blank spaces for unit identifications, locations and other military information. Leave this blank alone. Do not even fill in your name, rank and serial number, or put your name to it.

You will be told failure to fill out this fake form will result in your capture not being reported to the Neutral Power, and thus you will get no mail or word from home. This is a lie. The Geneva Convention requires belligerents to notify each other of captures, and this rule is observed by Germany. Fake "clergymen" may intercede. Phoney War Department directives may be produced.

The legitimate Red Cross Blank, being used now in Germany, is shown below. Note this card calls for more than name, rank and serial number. It is not necessary to fill in the fifth and sixth lines. But signally obvious is the third line, asking for both rank and unit. Under no circumstances will the P/W give his unit on this form.

Kriegsgefangenenlager.....(Nur nummer).....Datum.....
Internment Camp or Hospital (Number only) Date

Name.....Vorname.....
Surname (Druckschrift) Christian name

Dienstgrad u. Truppenteil.....
Rank and Unit

Beschriftung u. Nummer der Erkennungsmarke.....
Particulars on Identity Disc

Geburtsdatum.....Geburtsort.....
Date of Birth Place of Birth

Name u. Adresse meiner Angehörigen.....
Home Address

Unverwundet - Leicht verwundet - In deutscher Kriegsgefangenschaft geraten
Unwounded Slightly wounded Prisoner of war in German hands.

Befinde mich wohl
In Good Health

(Nichtzutreffendes ist zu streichen).....
Delete what is inappropriate Signature

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TRAPS (Continued)

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2. The Stool Pigeon

Beware of all visitors and cell mates, regardless of the uniform they wear. Whether legitimate or fake, they all sooner or later reveal themselves to be violently "anti-Nazi", mercenaries, or political prisoners. They all "hate" Hitler and love the Democracies, but had to become "party" members and are caught in the system. In reality, they are of course stool pigeons, and they are everywhere.

The stool pigeon may appear in the guise of another P/W. He is likely to belong to another Service (in order that imperfections in his uniform can't be easily spotted.) He may be a "colonial" or he may be an "ally". He may speak English extremely well or not at all. In any case, always beware of the newcomer.

3. The Informal Chat

Beware of any German Agent, uniformed or not, who wishes to "brush up on his English and would appreciate your help" just to pass the time. Chances are he went to Oxford and speaks better English than you. Pass the time some other way, preferably by being silent on military matters.

A variant of this technique consists of having an artist request permission to sketch you. The sketching itself is always accompanied by a nice chatty conversation on apparently non-military matters.

Or, a friendly interpreter, and perhaps the Camp Commandant himself, will join a group of prisoners and initiate a discussion. He will leave as suddenly as he came, and a microphone does the rest.

4. Unit Identification

During the early stages of capture, sometime during the initial processing, you will be asked whether you know certain officers or men and want to join them for old times' sake. This is an old trick, an innocent looking device for establishing your unit identification. Don't fall into this simple trap, because you will thereby unwillingly give away your unit. In the beginning, don't know anybody, not even your own personnel. This two-edged sword cuts both ways:-

- (a) If you fall for it and are placed with a member (s) of your outfit whom you know, don't get talkative with your friend the moment you are left together in the same cell, because you are not alone:- A German Stenographer is writing down all the reunion conversation.
- (b) On the other hand, if you refuse to admit you know other captured personnel, the G.I.O. will suggest that your fellow captives have already told practically everything so your silence is no longer necessary. The Nazis always play both sides against the middle. Any seemingly unimportant scrap of information you give at this point will immediately be used to convince your fellow prisoners that YOU have talked and so there will be no harm in THEIR talking.

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RESISTING INTERROGATION

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TRAPS (Continued)

5. Microphones

Avoid discussing service matters at any time with your fellow prisoners. Talk to no one you haven't known before capture...and then only outdoors and away from trees (microphones planted in them). Your availability as a source of information exists even when you are not face to face with your captors. You may be out of their sight but you are rarely out of their hearing.

Microphones and stool pigeons are everywhere - especially where you least expect them to be. You are never alone, in the strict sense, so always maintain a careful guard. Microphones are concealed not only in prisoners' rooms, but in all rooms where prisoners are likely to go. Two prisoners are frequently put into a special cell and their conversation recorded. Records and/or stenographic notes are made of all conversations picked up. Therefore, never talk of service matters.

6. Solitary Confinement

A prisoner destined for interrogation may be kept in solitary confinement for as much as 30 days or until interrogation is completed. The cell may have frosted glass windows. Medical treatment may be refused; no books or writing materiel may be allowed and he may receive no mail or parcels. No cigarets may be permitted and rations may be low.

Strict isolation (solitary) is intended to arouse in the prisoner a feeling of abandonment and helplessness, in order to break down his resistance. If necessary, the pressure consists of as much as 30 days, which is the Geneva Convention limit. You will get no cigarettes and very poor food. When they let you out you will want to talk - to almost anyone, on almost anything.

While your silence is the answer to every single Nazi trick, it becomes, in "solitary", a weapon in the enemy's hand, to be used against you.

The "silent" treatment will tend to break down even the most self-controlled man. After 30 days he craves companionship; he wants to talk and be talked to; he will do anything to break the monotony of his loneliness. The ONE DEFENSE to this method is to adopt the offensive: talk...but confine yourself to complaints. Complain about anything and everything: about the food, your quarters, about the Nazi party, the Geneva Convention, etc. Your attack will not only throw the G.I.O. off his stride but, most important, will relieve the tension of your enforced silence.

VI. RESULTS OF TALKING

All the enemy wants to know is everything you know, and while that will make him very happy..it will also serve to kill a lot of your comrades, and maybe you too. Sometimes, the G.I.O. will settle for one item of information, one pertinent and important fact that is missing from his knowledge. A really skillful interrogation is frequently constructed around seemingly pointless questions, questions of no obvious value except that they provide a framework for the repeated insertion of the one particular item wanted. However, resisting interrogation is entirely possible. It can be done.

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VII. CONDUCT DURING INTERROGATION - How to Resist Successfully

- A. Be courteous and strictly military, as though reporting to a superior in your own army.
- B. Salute all ranking enemy personnel and stand at attention while being interrogated.
- C. Studied politeness is very annoying and puts the interrogator off his attack.
- D. Proper action or conduct will have some bearing on your further treatment and will tend to facilitate your escape, since it relaxes the enemy's vigilance over you.
- E. Never show the interrogator by your facial reactions that he knows more than he suspects, or that his guesses are dangerously accurate. Don't signal him that he's right or wrong in anything he's trying to prove.
- F. Never disclose your knowledge of the enemy's language, nor admit it in interrogation:-
 - 1. If an interpreter has to be used, the advantage is yours...you gain time for more consideration of your answers.
 - 2. Furthermore, if they do not realize your language ability, it can be of great assistance to you in obtaining information from them, since they will speak in your presence or within your hearing as if you were not there.
 - 3. Knowledge of the enemy's language will automatically increase your chances for escape.
- G. Don't be led astray by statements that your friends have talked so you might as well talk too. This is merely orthodox procedure to catch you off your guard by annoying you.
- H. On no account give answers to technical questions even when provoked to do so. Refuse to confirm or deny all technical statements.
- I. You can refuse to answer questions about your unit, strength, tactics, station, etc...by insisting that an answer to military questions is contrary to the International agreement (Geneva Convention) regarding treatment of prisoners.
- J. Remember that all threats are a bluff, inasmuch as we have more German prisoners than the Axis has Allied prisoners. Reprisal is like gangrene...it sets in awfully fast.
- K. Don't try to outsmart the Interrogation Officer by lying or matching "wits"...you're half licked at the start. He'll trip you up every time to your astonished embarrassment.

RESISTING INTERROGATION

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CONDUCT DURING INTERROGATION (Continued)

- L. Don't be misled by knowledge displayed by I.O. It is only displayed to lull your fears and deceive you into thinking that you won't betray any secrets by your additional statements.
- M. Don't consider it safe to "talk a little" on the assumption that you "know when to stop." You don't.
- N. Remember that the soldier who gives any information away is a traitor even in the eyes of the enemy, and will always be treated as such. Avoid persons long kept in Transit Camps (Dulags). They're probably talking.
- O. Therefore;

Remember to be polite, firm in your determination not to betray your country's secrets, and above all, be MILITARY. You can defeat every effort of the enemy by keeping silent.

NOTE:

SECURITY as practiced by GERMAN Prisoners of War.

Experience in the MIDDLE EAST has shown that the following drill is followed by GERMAN Prisoners of War under interrogation, in order to try to divert interrogators from their task of collecting information:-

1. "Start by complaining about some trivial matter, such as being asked to stand at attention by some officer here or elsewhere (Complaint made by officers, only, not by N.C.O's.)
2. Point out to interrogator that all British Prisoners of War in Germany are treated well and never subjected to severe questioning.
3. Express admiration of the American or British P/W for not divulging any military secrets.
4. State the Allied soldiers are wonderful.
5. Argue about International Law.
6. Ask for any items of clothing, toilet utensils, towels, etc., or even comforts; anything you can think of at the moment.
7. Be courteous at all times and make a display of perfect military discipline.
8. At the first opportunity introduce arguments for National Socialism.
9. If asked awkward questions which cannot be answered without betraying military secrets, feign loss of memory."

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RESISTING INTERROGATION

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VIII. THE JAPANESE - A CONTRASTING ATTITUDE

The German interrogates with a combination of subtle means, all within the defined limits of the Geneva Convention.

BUT

The Jap interrogates brutally and with arrogance and not all in the well propagandized Charlie Chan manner. In him all the guile has turned to gall. In place of trickery, he substitutes a ruthless Asiatic brutality. There is nothing subtle about a Jap. The Japanese interrogator, with or without interpreter, is a member of a strange, tough, and vicious people. Whether interrogating before a crowd of natives (who are already more or less unimpressed by Japanese superiority) or in the privacy of a cell, the Japs consider that they "loose face" if the P/W doesn't answer. Therefore, if you do not answer them, they will definitely abuse you and slap you around...as they invariably slap their own personnel around just to accent an order.

A. Tactics

They will persist in repeatedly asking apparently pointless questions in an arrogant manner. Most of their interrogation will be through untrustworthy interpreters, but at least you'll have time to frame appropriate replies. Always give an answer to some of their questions and play it ignorant - no smart answers - on the really important military questions.

B. Rules

The Japs pay almost no attention at all to the Geneva Convention. Inasmuch as they are not signatories thereto, they make up their own set of rules as they go along, which means they do pretty much as they please...and what pleases them won't please you.

FOR EXAMPLE

Sept. 21, 1943

Order to Camp Commander of Jap P.O.W. Camp...

Subject: Treatment of Prisoners

"....In the present circumstances there is no need to make special efforts to increase the number of our prisoners. Should any doubt arise in connection with the treatment of prisoners, those who display hostile feelings are to be disposed of...."

C. Solution

The small number of Jap P/W in our hands severely limits the possibilities of bargaining. Since no reprisals are possible, the only solution of any practical value is: Don't be captured, if you can possibly avoid it. Every Jap prisoner is "Dead" as far as his government and his family are concerned. With this official psychology as a starter, they actually despise anyone for allowing himself to be captured in the first place.

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RESISTING INTERROGATION

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IX. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

A. Interrogation at any Time

It is emphasized that the danger of unwittingly giving away information to the enemy is ever-present. Past interrogations are always liable to be re-opened, while the newcomer who has seemingly escaped questioning at the time of capture, may in reality only be "on ice" until the enemy is able to deal with him.

Every prisoner should be on his guard ALL THE TIME, his senses alert to detect and combat any variation of the known practices.

B. Enemy Propaganda

A new policy is apparently being tried in Germany by which selected P/W, officer and men, will be specially subjected to propaganda to stimulate their sympathy for Germany and her aims with a view to influencing public opinion in their own country on their return.

This policy is known to be carried out at STALAG IIIID/999. The camp accommodates about 25 officers and requisite orderlies. It is a comfortable private house with baths and good beds, surrounded by lakes and pine woods.

The P/W - who appear to be specially selected for their knowledge of German or aptitude for debate etc. - are allowed long country walks, on parole, visits to the Zoo, Cinema and famous buildings; steamer trips on the lake; they appear to be treated with much consideration, with opportunities to converse in German with their "Hosts" who are most kind. At intervals P/W are also visited by members of the FOREIGN OFFICE who are perfectly willing to discuss any subject without undue bias, enabling P/W to become up-to-date in current affairs and opinions not only in GERMANY but in ENGLAND-AMERICA-TURKEY, and elsewhere.

C. A Message Report on Security Recently Received in This Country:-

"We consider much information is disclosed to Germans during interrogation at DULAG LUFT. Recent arrivals especially U. S. A. Personnel are not aware of treatment to expect, devices used, etc., creating a tendency to careless talk."

"Treatment here consists of 15 days solitary confinement, visit by false Red Cross civilian, threats to withhold information of prisoners' safety, bribes of luxury articles and treatment, threats of restriction of rations, superheated cells, threats to shoot or delivery to Gestapo."

"All these threats are bluff."

D. Quote from G-2 (8 Sept. 1943):-

"It is beyond the understanding how anyone who goes over the lines day after day through a hail of flak, goes soft after a few hours of turkish bath temperature, or without cigarettes."

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SUMMARY (Continued)

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E. Enemy Security

The following is a copy of a recently captured enemy document strongly emphasizing the points made in this chapter:-

"Subject:- Security

German - Italian Armoured Force
G.O.C.

G.H.Q.

As a result of previous experiences all Officers Commanding are at once urgently reminded as to the necessity of constant instruction of our soldiers in the duty of complete silence in the event of being taken prisoner.

The following points are to be impressed again and again on all soldiers.

1. The enemy is always the enemy, even to P/W.
2. If a German soldier is taken P/W it is his duty to seize every opportunity to escape in order to rejoin his unit.
3. At interrogation only the following information is to be given: Name, Rank, Date and Place of Birth, Home address.

THE ANSWERING OF FURTHER QUESTIONS IS A CRIME.

Any soldier failing to comply will be liable to court-martial as a traitor after the war. In the majority of cases we receive knowledge of such statements through the enemy and by various methods.

4. Conversations about military topics even with fellow prisoners should be avoided since the enemy makes considerable use of disguised agents in German or Italian uniform and also of microphones.
5. By proud reserve and total silence the German soldier in captivity will earn the respect of the enemy.

Therefore all soldiers should be in possession of the pamphlet, "Behaviour of P/W."

ROMMEL.

... To be followed by PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS

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