

HAROLD STASSEN PAPERS: Removals

Subgroup: Naval Service

Series: POW Repatriation

Folder title/dates: POW Repatriation: Correspondence > Misc. Related Material
1945-1946

Box #: 116 Shelf location: 142.A.18.1B

Document i.d.: Tentative Operation Plan

From US Pacific 3rd Fleet To _____

Date August 1945 Classification Top Secret

Pages 13

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UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
THIRD FLEET

COMMANDER THIRD FLEET LIBERATION FORM ALE

(Last) (First) (Middle) Name of camp
(Released Prisoner of War)

Rank or Rate _____ Nationality _____

Home Address _____

Next of Kin _____ Relationship _____

Address of Next of Kin _____

Then and where captured _____

Unit serving with when captured _____

Has prisoner been subjected to atrocities or abuse. Give essential facts including identity of assailants: _____

Does prisoner know of other prisoners subjected to atrocities or abuse. Give essential facts: _____

Does prisoner know of any other POW who died while prisoner. Give name, rank or rate, date, and place: _____

Remarks: _____

50,6
to Comtask Group Op Plan No. 1-45

Amex A. - List of POW Camps.

1. POW camps as listed in ComPac Bulletin 113-45 have been assigned identification numbers alphabetically. New camps located have been assigned numbers in sequence. Camps located in the Area of Commander Third Fleet naval responsibility are set forth with appropriate information. Additional information will be received from aircraft search reports, Japanese Emmissarys, Released prisoners of war, Red Cross, and other sources.

Number.	Name.	Location	Remarks.
---------	-------	----------	----------

Commander Task Group 30.8	(10)
Com Gen Eighth Army	(5)
SCAP	(5)
USS San Juan	(1)
Com Gen 4th Marine Reg.	(1)
Com Inch	(15)
Pep Nav	(3)
Comdt Mar Corps	(2)
Com Pac Adm.	(10)
Comd PAC Pearl	(5)
Com 5th Pac	(10)
CTF 38	(2)
CTG 38.1	(2)
CTG 38.2	(2)
CTG 38.4	(2)

Ships and Units upon assignment (1)

Authenticated

~~Flag Secretary~~


(over)

Amex B. - C D E as typed

✓

4. Logistics in accordance with
Logistics Plan Annex G

5. Communications in accordance with
Pac 70 B and Annex H of
Com Third Fleet VP Plan 10-45.
Commander Task Group in the San Juan
initially in company with Task Force Thirty
Five in Sagami Wan.


Roger Simpson
Commodore USN
Commander Task Group 30.6.

Annexes:

A.

B.

C

D

E

F

G

Distribution:

Commander Third Fleet ~~45~~ (10)

Commander Task Force 31 (10)

Commander Task Force 35 (10)

Appendix 1 Annex F.

Commander Shyde Fleet
Liberation Form Able.

Name of released P.O.W. Name of Camp

Rank.

Nationality

Home Address /

Next of Kin /

When and where

Captured

address

Unit serving with when captured

Has prisoner been subjected to Atrocities or Abuse
Give essential ~~facts~~ including identity of assailants.

Does prisoner know of other prisoners subjected
to Atrocities or Abuse - Give essential facts.

Does prisoner know of any other P.O.W who died while
prisoner. - Give name rank date and place.

Remarks.

3. (a) Task Unit 30.6.1, operate as directed by CTG 30.6.1.
b. ~~be~~ operate as directed by CTG 30.6.1.

- (X) (1.) All forces assigned to CTG 30.6 by Commander Third Fleet will immediately prepare for the maximum utilization of their personnel, facilities, and services in the care, release and examination of Allied Prisoners of War.
- (2.) Contact parties prepared to go ashore will be organized including medical personnel and supplies, food, clothing, and appropriate personnel in accordance with Annex —.
- (3.) All Allied Prisoners of War will be given the same priority and same treatment without regard to nationality.
- (4.) This group will be prepared to execute the plans indicated in Annex — if directed by Commander Third Fleet and forces and facilities are assigned.

Inuit B

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity in MISSOURI</u>
2	Drawers	4100
2	Undershirts	940
2 pr.	Black Socks	1080
1 pr.	Black Shoes	1002
1 pr.	Black Socks	
2	Shirts, Dungaree	4099
2	Trousers, Dungaree	2875
2	Hats, white or blue	1260
12	Handkerchiefs	3600
1	Pillow slip* (* To be used as Sea Bag)	1080
1	Towels, bath	None.
1	Towels, face	1344
1	Jack, wind-breaker type, or rain coat	Regular allow. None.

1	Razor	400 SE & 200 DE
1 pkg	Blades	10000 SE & 5000 DE
1	Shaving brush	200
1 tube	Shaving cream	2500
2 bars	Face Soap	1000
1	Tooth brush	3000
1 tube	Tooth paste (or powder)	2000
1 carton	Cigarettes	4000

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Annex G.

Logistics

1. Logistics Support of Units assigned
shall be available as specified
in Com Third Fleet Op Plan
10-45 Annex E.

2. All units assigned to Task Group
30.6 will be prepared to utilize
existing stocks of food, clothing
and medical supplies for released POWs.

3. The following is designated as
a standard unit of supplies to
be furnished without cost to a
released prisoner of war by the ship
first in a position to supply it.
Proper entry will be made of the recipients.
Quantity - 1 item.

(Insert B)

Carrier planes of the Third Fleet are reporting location of and pertinent facts about POW camps sighted ~~and~~ ~~are~~ making limited food drops. Land based planes of Cincapac and Usartaf are making food drops.

It is assumed that the health and nutrition of the Allied P.O.W.s is poor, that contagious disease may exist among them, and that many may require hospitalization and evacuation by litter.

2. This group will operate as directed by Commander Third Fleet to release, receive, care for, and evacuate Allied prisoners of war, utilizing forces and facilities assigned by Commander Third Fleet, in order to alleviate their suffering and anxiety at the earliest possible hour, to extend medical assistance to the ill ~~and~~ ~~protection~~ and repatriation ^{for all} as rapidly as can be accomplished.

The Commander Third Fleet will seize and occupy Sagami Wan, Tokyo Bay and the Yokosuka Naval Base. ~~Simultaneously~~ At the same time Airborne forces of Cincapac will seize an adjoining area adjacent to Atsugi airfield. Supporting Army forces in strength will be landed by amphibious operations approximately six days after the initial landing. The formal surrender will take place approximately three days after the initial landings.

→ The Japanese have been charged with responsibility for the safe conduct of Allied Prisoners of War and have been directed to cooperate in their evacuation. Prisoners of War camps are to be marked by yellow letters POW on ~~yellow background~~ ~~20 ft~~ 20 ft high on north south axis and on black background. The International Red Cross and the Swiss and Swedish legations have organized seven POW contact and assistance teams.

7 The Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers
is in overall command of the entire surrender
and occupation operation. The Commander Third Fleet
~~zone of~~ ^{naval} responsibility is the combat area east
of the 135th Meridian and south of
Lat. 40 N. Land operations beyond the Naval
zone at Yokosuka will not be instituted
without the approval of the Supreme
Commander of the Allied Powers or the
Commanding General of the 8th Army in
the Tokyo Area and Eastern Honshu.

A/6-3

Serial

Top Secret

Sensitive

Cp Plan 1-45

Herb
Comment
+ Suggestions

United States Pacific Fleet

— Third Fleet

— Allied Prisoner of War Rescue Group

— Task Group Thirty-six

USS San Juan, Flagship

— At Sea

August 1945

Task Organization

(a) Task Unit 30.6.1. Flagship Unit Captain Bahn
 (1) ~~USS~~ San Diego CL 54, de CL (M)

(b.) ~~the~~. Forces as assigned by Commander Third Fleet to be organized into units upon assignment

1. This operation stems from Commander Third Fleet Operation Plan 10-45. Japan has capitulated and will be occupied. An estimated 36,000 Allied Prisoners of War are in Japan, of which an estimated 8,000 are United States Prisoners of War. ~~This~~
~~Commander Third Fleet~~ Forces under the

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
THIRD FLEET

14 August 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO: 01

Subject: Allied Prisoners of War.

1. It is recognized that in the event of a sudden surrender of Japan, the liberation, care and evacuation of Allied Prisoners of War is a matter of extreme urgency and high policy.

2. The problem is of some magnitude, as the best information is that there are 8,243 United States Prisoners of War and 27,908 other Allied Prisoners of War, not including civilian internees in Japan. They are in prisoner camps estimated throughout KYUSHU, SHIKOKU, HONSHU, and HOKKAIDO.

3. A geographical distribution of the estimates by districts are as follows:

- (a) Tokyo Area - 3,130 U.S. - 14,639 total Allied.
- (b) Western HONSHU and SHIKOKU - 3,748 U.S. - 13,607 total Allied.
- (c) FUKUOKA - 8,523 U.S. - 6,207 total Allied.
- (d) ZENTUGI Group - 4,253 U.S. - 690 total Allied.
- (e) HOKODATE Group - 88 U.S. - 945 total Allied.

4. There are a considerable number of additional Allied Prisoners of War estimated at 3,000 U.S. and 90,000 Allied in Korea, Formosa, Manchuria, China, Thailand, and Netherlands East Indies.

5. The steps that can be taken, and the speed with which they can be effected, will vary greatly in accordance with a number of factors which can be ascertained only by prompt investigation and experiment after the surrender. Some of these are:

- (a) Enemy reaction, degree of servility and co-operation in effecting release of Prisoners of War.

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
THIRD FLEET

14 August 1945.

Subject: Allied Prisoners of War.

- (b) Civilian and military stability in maintaining order after surrender.
- (c) Health conditions of the POW's and their camps.
- (d) Land transportation facilities available - motor and rail.
- (e) Food conditions in the POW camps.

6. It would appear that the greatest likelihood conditions of Prisoners of War would be in very poor health, seriously deficient in nutrition; that motor transport would be practically nonexistent; that the civilians would be docile in the early stages of the surrender, possibly followed by civilian disorders if their own food situation is acute; and that the military will maintain reasonably good discipline and will not engage in hostilities unless there would be a widespread move of general treachery.

7. It would appear that immediately upon surrender, every effort should be made to verify existing information on location and nature of POW camps and to obtain additional accurate information. Principal sources of this would be:

- (a) Information received from the enemy officials in conjunction with the surrender.
- (b) Information received by prompt contact with the International Red Cross offices.
- (c) The embassies of neutral governments, particularly Switzerland and Sweden who have had POW missions.
- (d) Prompt carrier aircraft reconnaissance flights over areas of reported POW camps.

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14 August 1945.

Subject: Allied Prisoners of War.

8. Master plots should be prepared and maintained of all such Prisoners of War information.

9. Contact units should be established consisting of appropriate medical, interpreters, transport, supply, security, and communications personnel to begin promptly contacting those POW camps most easily accessible from the sea or from an airfield, to obtain specific information for evacuation and to take in emergency food and drug supplies. These operations could be started at locations such as ATAMI, which is on the western beach of SAGAMI WAN, and at KOMONATO, which is near the beach near AMATSO outside of Tokyo Bay, along the southeastern coast of the peninsula. There are a large number of POW camps in the YOKOHAMA - TOKYO areas to be followed up as rapidly as the factors already noted will permit.

10. Landing craft with coverage from fleet units and hospital ships, as appropriate, to be used from the sea, and evacuation squadrons of landplanes and seaplanes to be used after YOKOSUKA field is opened up.

11. While urgent supply conditions exist as to both food and clothing, draw on fleet supplies.

12. Under medical supervision the rapid classification of Prisoners, ambulatory and otherwise, should be carried on. Quarantine measures should be effected.

13. A simple, but vital record sheet to be developed, preferably including fingerprints, to promptly register vital information and method of transportation.

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14 August 1945.

Subject: Allied Prisoners of War.

14. CTF 31 is planning on the evacuation center at YOKOSUKA which will be the key point in the plan and will also be the air evacuation base.

15. It would appear that the essential basis of operation should be to develop the information and the methods and to request through the proper chain of command, appropriate commanders to carry out specific operations in accordance with the facilities available to them.

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
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1. Q. Commander Stassen, what is the latest news on the Allied Prisoners of War in Japan?
- A. Over 15,000 of them are free men again as of tonight, Mr. Page. A task group of Admiral Halsey's THIRD Fleet, under command of Commodore Simpson, including the hospital ship RESCUE, is at Sendai on the northeast coast of Honshu and FIFTH Air Force planes are flying them out of Honshu. In two more days all of the POW's in this part of Japan will be freed and under our care through the joint Army-Navy liberation program.
- Q. Will you tell us something of the first events of the liberation of Prisoners of War in Japan?
- A. Mr. Page, the scenes are really indescribable. I will never forget them. Many of these men had been beaten and starved, and denied adequate medical care for over three years, thousands of their buddies had died, their cheers and tears as our boats came into shore to take them out, their eager faces, that grim glint in their eyes as they told of their tortures, their solicitude for their friends who were unable to walk, all indelibly impressed in my memory but difficult to convey to others.

I particularly recall an officer prisoner in a camp in western Japan where we flew in to arrange for special trains. As I met him, I said I presumed he had heard of the general plan of evacuation and that I wanted to know how many stretchers cases he had in his camp. His lips quivered, his eyes watered

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
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and he could not speak. He said I'm sorry Commander, but I couldn't talk for a minute. You are the first free Americans I've seen since Corregidor, and we've taken a lot since then.

Q. Will those who committed the atrocities be held responsible?

A. I am confident that the Supreme Commander and the American people will not permit them to go unpunished. For the sake of the future of the world it must be clearly demonstrated that no one can treat human beings in the atrocious manner that these prisoners were treated without meeting with swift and just punishment.

Q. Commander, what were Commodore Simpson's orders when the liberation of prisoners began, that caused his force to go in ahead of the occupation?

A. Admiral Carney, the Chief of Staff, had collaborated on the advance plans, the carrier planes had made careful searches, locating the camps and they and the B-29's had dropped food and medicines. We knew there were large camps in the Tokyo Bay waterfront and when the Fleet steamed into Tokyo Bay, Admiral Halsey simply said, "Those are our boys, go and get them". That started the movement, and it has never stopped and will not stop until the last POW is released by the Joint Army Air and Navy program.

45-394 -- Processing of Repatriates

RESTRICTED. Pers-2-LD, A16 2; BuMed-R-1q, QW20/A146, 13 Apr 45

ACTION: ALL SHIPS AND STATIONS

1. For the purposes of this letter, United States Navy personnel who are returned to allied military control following capture by enemy forces, evasion of capture in enemy or enemy held territory are classified as and hereinafter referred to as repatriates.

2. In view of the fact that repatriates have, in almost every instance, encountered and survived extreme difficulties and harrowing experiences, it is the policy of the Navy Department to accord them special treatment and consideration upon their return. However, this policy is subject to special requirements of security, and special instructions for interrogation and briefing will be issued separately through operational command channels.

3. In keeping with the policy expressed above, repatriates who have been out of United States control for periods of 60 days or more shall, if they so desire, be returned to the United States by the earliest possible transportation, and shall have priority in return over all classes of personnel except those returning on account of disability or urgent need of the naval service. Repatriates who have been out of United States control for less than 60 days may be returned to the United States or retained in the theater of operations in the discretion of the responsible commander concerned.

4. While awaiting transportation, such personnel shall be processed as far as practicable, to the end that they may be put in a leave status as soon after return to United States as may be possible.

5. The following shall govern the medical processing of subject personnel:

(a). When such personnel first come under U. S. Naval jurisdiction, they shall be referred to the nearest available naval medical facility for appraisal of their physical and mental health and admission to the sick list if necessary. (If the condition of the individual will permit return to the U.S. before complete medical processing, that should be the first consideration.) At the time of admission to the sick list and/or medical processing, a complete history and physical examination shall be made. Results of this procedure shall be recorded in the newly opened health record and on NMS Form "Y". The words "special report -- repatriate" shall be typed on the top of this form. In completing this form, emphasis should be made of the following:

(1) An accurate history of all illnesses or injuries incurred during the period involved.

(2) An accurate description of all physical defects found.

(3) A record of the positive findings of all laboratory and other procedures (X-Ray, electrocardiogram, etc.). The original of the special Form "Y" recording this examination shall be sent to BuMed as soon as all of the indicated laboratory and other medical procedures are completed.

(b) Wherever possible, medical processing and treatment should reach a point enabling subject personnel to be granted leave immediately upon arrival in the continental United States. No such leave shall be granted until the individual concerned has been certified by a naval medical officer as physically and mentally qualified for such leave and as requiring no immediate hospitalization.

(c) The medical screening of subject personnel prior to their being granted leave in the United States shall include, in addition to routine clinical study, observation for vermin infestation, laboratory study for amoebiasis and other intestinal infections, X-Ray chest study for tuberculosis, serologic test for syphilis, and whatever indicated by reason of locality, study of blood smears for malaria parasites. An individual found to be harboring any such infection, which may be of public-health significance, shall not be granted leave in the United States until he has received appropriate treatment.

(d) Those individuals requiring medical treatment which can be prescribed and self-administered should be recommended for leave upon reaching the United States. Their leave orders shall specify that they report in to the naval hospital, for further observation and disposition, upon expiration of leave.

(e) Those individuals requiring hospitalization or additional medical screening shall be admitted direct to a continental United States naval hospital in the vicinity of the port of debarkation and further processed, in accordance with the provisions of BuPers Circular Letter No. 296-44 or of BuPers Circular Letter No. 196-43, except that rehabilitation leave may be granted up to ninety days.

(f) In considering appropriate disposition of those individuals requiring prolonged hospitalization due consideration shall be given to the wishes of the individual. Likewise, (1) if the individual is to be returned to duty, full use shall be made of facilities for rehabilitation and furthering professional training; (2) if the individual is to be separated from service, full use shall be made of facilities for rehabilitation and civil readjustment; and (3) those enlisted personnel who will be physically qualified for limited duty only will be recommended for discharge from service if they so desire; and (4) those who are physically qualified for service but unsuited for further duty for other reasons may be reported upon by a board of medical survey under the diagnosis "No Disease" (Unsuited for further naval service) and recommended for discharge.

6. The following shall be the procedure for the settlement of the accounts of such personnel.

(a) Paymasters are authorized to arrange pay accounts of subject personnel in accordance with Alnav 221, of 14 December 1944.

(b) The Mobile Personnel and Settlement Unit is likewise authorized to make payments in accordance with Alnav 221, 14 December 1944. This Unit, composed of representatives of the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, the Bureau of Naval Personnel, and the Office of Shore Establishments and Civilian Personnel, has been sent into the Pacific areas. One of its purposes is to settle in the field the accounts and claims of personnel who intend to remain in the Pacific area as well as of repatriates whose accounts and claims can be processed conveniently in the field while awaiting transportation. This Unit is also authorized to settle claims, including dependent benefits, of dependents of naval personnel in those instances in which such dependents reside in liberated areas outside of the continental limits of the United States. It is not intended that personnel should be processed by the Unit, where such processing would not be essentially a convenience to them and in accordance with their duties.

7. The following shall govern the further disposition of subject personnel:

(a) Upon return to the United States, repatriates who have been out of United States control for extended periods may be granted as much as 90 days rehabilitation leave, provided they are medically qualified for such leave. Upon completion of leave, they will be ordered to the naval hospital nearest their home or leave address for medical survey to determine their physical fitness for duty.

(b) With respect to promotion, the policy of the Bureau of Naval Personnel is to give to returned officer and enlisted personnel who have, in the course of honorable service, fallen into the hands of the enemy as prisoners of war or who have escaped from such custody or evaded capture, special consideration in order to place them as soon as they are individually qualified, in the rank or rating and precedence they presumably would have acquired but for the fact of their capture, escape or evasion from the enemy.

(c) In the reassignment of subject personnel after completion of leave, effort will be made to accommodate the desires of subject personnel as to type of duty and station. The Bureau of Naval Personnel shall determine type of retraining, if any, which may be necessary, in order to fit those who have been retained in the service for further efficient performance. Consideration will also be given in all matters of assignment to the fact that subject personnel may be in need of special assignment.

8. Personnel in the process of discharge or release from service shall be afforded the usual discharge and readjustment facilities.



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