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1 (UK) DIV EPW SOI

Refs:

- A. Geneva Convention III (GC).
- B. JWP 01-10.

INTRODUCTION

1. **General.** Conservative OA analysis predicts that 2,500 PW will be captured on the AL FAW peninsula and a further 11,500 PW captured within 1 (UK) Div's AO. The manner in which the PW are handled will attract huge media attention and will help create the conditions for the civilian/occupying power relationship in Ph 4.
2. The method of PW handling is mandated by the GC and regulated by the International Commission for the Red Cross (ICRC). A capturing force effectively takes ownerships of its PW and responsibility for their protection, shelter, feeding, medical and welfare needs.
3. **Prisoner of War Handling Organisation (PWHO).** QDG BGHQ have been identified as the PWHO and as such will be responsible for the collection of PW from Bde XPs, their processing, registration and detention at the Div Collection Point and their subsequent move to the Corps Holding Area once open. The aim of the PWHO organisation is to efficiently and humanely process the PW and whilst relieving Combat Power from the burden of PW.
4. **Contents.** The fol subj are covered within this SOI:
 - a. General Handling Points for PW.
 - b. Handling at Point of Capture.
 - c. CASEVAC.
 - d. Retained Eqpt.
 - e. Action at Sub-unit and Unit Level.
 - f. Action at Bdes.
 - g. Cat A/B PW.
 - h. PW reception and detention at Div Collection Point.

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GENERAL HANDLING POINTS

4. PW are effectively owned by the detaining power. US forces will not be tagging or marking their PW. Therefore it is critical that PW captured by UK tps are correctly tagged as this will be the only means of differentiating between the nations at the Div Collection Point. In effect PW captured by Bdes will belong to the UK, any physically handed over by the US remain theirs.
5. UK tps will operate within the parameters of the GC; the overriding message is that PW are to be treated in the manner in which you would expect to be treated if taken prisoner. The fol points apply throughout the PW process:
- a. Safe Custody. PW are to be treated humanely, provided with shelter from en fire and the elms and are to moved away from the combat zone as swifly as poss.
 - b. Tps are not to fraternise with the PW.
 - c. PW are only req to give Name, Rank, Number, DOB.
 - d. Treat en med and religious personnel the same way as PW but allow them to perform their duties without hindrance.

PW HANDLING AT POINT OF CAPTURE

6. The key to PW handling at the POC is simplicity; troops in combat must be as unhindered by the processing needs of PW. To ameliorate this a simple wristband tag has been produced and must be issued to the lowest level notwithstanding logistical constraints. The following is to happen at the POC:
- a. Disarm.
 - b. Search.
 - c. Administer First Aid.
 - d. Segregate - Officers, NCOs, ORs, Females, Juveniles.
 - e. Capture Cards if issued at plt level - Marked with unit, DTG and Loc of capture and annotated with F (Fought), S (Surrendered) or D (Deserted).
 - f. Tagging if issued at plt level - UK Tag on right wrist.
 - g. Escort to Sub-unit or Unit HQ as directed.

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10. Bde will be responsible for est (if not done so by 1st Mar Div) and running a Bde CP, where it is anticipated that initial screening by FHT will occur. Bdes must be prepared to hold PWs for up to 4 days. An LO from the PWHO will co-locate at the Bde XP (assumed to be co-located with the Collection Point) and be responsible for call fwd of PW transport using the PWREP on the Div HF PW net. The LO will be accompanied by MPS to advise the local comd on the detention of PW. The fol is to occur at the Bde Collection Point:

- a. Provision of food and water.
- b. Provision of shelter.
- c. Initial screening by FHT to ident Cat A/B PW.
- d. Detention for up to 4 days.
- e. Liaison with PWHO.
- f. PWHO LO will use PWREP to call fwd PW tpt.

CAT A PW

11. Cat A/B PW ident at any stage of the process are to be backloaded to the Div Collection Point Pro tps. A document detailing the defns of Cat A PW and further information extracted from JWP 1-10 is held is held at Annex A.

DPB ROBERTS
Capt
for CO

Annex:

- A. PW Status.

Attachments:

1. PW Handling Flowchart.
2. COMCAPREP.
3. PWREP.

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PW STATUS

Refs:

- A. JWP 1-10.
- B. Geneva Convention III (GC III).
- C. STANAG 2033.

1. **PW Status.** The following pers on falling into an en's hands acquire PW status and as such are protected by the GC III:

- a. Members of the en armed forces (including militias or vol corps forming part of the armed forces.
- b. Members of other militias or vol corps, including org resistance movements belonging to the en, which fulfil the following conditions:
 - (1) They are commanded by a person responsible for his subordinates.
 - (2) They have a fixed distinctive sign recognisable at a distance.
 - (3) They carry arms openly.
 - (4) They conduct their ops in accordance with the laws and customs of war.
- c. Members of en regular armed forces who profess allegiance to a govt or an authority not recognised by the UK government.
- d. Persons who accompany the armed forces without actually being members thereof, eg war correspondents, supply contractors, welfare workers, members of labour units, civil members of aircraft crews, etc., provided that they are authorised by the Armed Force which they accompany, who shall provide them with an identity card confirming their status.
- e. Members of crews, including masters, pilots and apprentices of the Merchant Marine and the crews of civil aircraft of the parties to the conflict, who do not benefit by more favourably treatment under any other provisions of International Law.