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20 April 1953

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BELLES

Subject: Exploitation of Prisoners of War Returnees

1. At the meeting of the RCB today ~~we~~ will be prepared to discuss this question. In discussion with ~~we~~ we have arrived at the following points:

a. This Agency is anxious to accomplish the most complete possible exploitation of the knowledge of these POW's for all purposes, including psychological warfare.

b. A very thorough interrogation is required, and for this purpose a number of qualified interrogators will be needed. At the present reading we are not certain that a sufficient number of interrogators has been made available by the Army.

c. A thorough interrogation can be accomplished only under conditions where the best interrogation techniques can be used.

d. This requires a leisurely pace of interrogation in congenial surroundings and without a desire on the part of the POW, whether he be a cooperative or reluctant subject, to get the interrogation over with quickly.

e. This requires that his family be nearby.

2. We feel that the responsibility for the interrogation and the responsibility for the funds required for it are properly those of the Army. This Agency is prepared to be, and is in fact working with the Army as, a backstop. Our people are in touch with Army G-2 and Army Paywar in working out the details of our support including the use of technical listening or recording equipment, which the Army had previously dropped as being infeasible. ~~and~~ ~~are~~ are coordinating for this Agency.

3. With respect to the funds for the subsidy of the families, we feel it appropriate for the Department of Defense to provide them, but if they do not have such funds available recommend you offer some assistance from this Agency.

cc: ~~_____~~
~~_____~~
1051-1509 M
~~_____~~
~~_____~~

de-pl

53-92

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