

BA-84

Army Report No. 1374

Revision and Adjustment of Cautions on Censorship

20 December 1943

From: Chief of Information Bureau, War Ministry

We wish to inform you that as of 20 December 1943 the above is revised and adjusted as follows:

Instructions on news regarding two-grade promotions for officers and enlisted men is omitted.

Precautionary Matters in Censorship of News of Prisoners of War

Domestic reports concerning POW's should be made mainly to contribute to the raising of the fighting spirit of the people and to increase and bolster production; care should be taken to avoid issuing twisted reports of our fair attitude which might give the enemy food for evil propaganda and bring harm to our interned brothers. For this reason, any reports (including photographs, pictures, etc.) which come under the following categories are prohibited:

1. Anything which gives the impression that POW's are too well treated or are cruelly treated.

Example: Any information giving an impression that POW's receive good food without working, or that labor conditions are extraordinarily good. Any reports which give an impression of cruel treatment, such as prisoners being punished or being made to labor without clothing.

2. Any concrete information concerning facilities, supplies, sanitary conditions, or other matters pertaining to living conditions within POW camps.
3. Any information giving the names of any location of POW's other than the following, or indicating their location:

HAKODATE
 TOKYO
 OSAKA
 ZENTSUJI

FUKUOKA
 FORMOSA
 KOREA
 RUSSIA

PHILIPPINES
 MALAY
 JAVA
 BORNEO

4. Any report which tells about POW's who are not yet duly processed into POW camps, especially their names, military units and places of birth (captured officers and men of the Chungking Army are excluded). Example: Any news of the POW expressing his feeling about the bravery of the Imperial Army immediately after capture is good, but any information which describes conditions under which POW investigations are made or which state the names, birth places, etc. of POW's and which might tend to adversely affect (?) is not good.
5. Any reports indicating the capture of Orientals and the use of them for labor.
6. Any report indicating utilization of POW's for purposes other than common labor.
7. All statements by or impressions from high ranking POW's (except those specifically authorized by the War Ministry).

(The rest is omitted)

C E R T I F I C A T E

W.D.C. No. _____
I.S.S. No. 2733

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, Nakanishi Sadayoshi, hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Acting Director POW Information Bureau, and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of 3 pages, dated 20 December, 1943, and described as follows: Certified copy of instructions on censorship of information re POW's.

I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): POW Information Bureau PA 84

Signed at Tokyo on this
25th day of October, 1946.

/s/ Nakanishi Sadayoshi
Signature of Official

SEAL

Witness: /s/ K. Yokoi

Acting Director POW
Information Bureau
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, 2nd Lt. Eric W. Fleisher O-935000, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above described document was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this
25th day of October, 1946.

/s/ Eric W. Fleisher, 2nd Lt. AUSMI
NAME

Investigation Division IPS
Official Capacity

Witness: /s/ Henry T. Onachi
2nd Lt. Inf.