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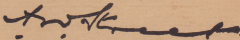
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NOT TO BE CARRIED IN
AIRCRAFT

**INSTRUCTIONS and GUIDE to ALL OFFICERS and AIRMEN
of THE ROYAL AIR FORCE regarding PRECAUTIONS to be
taken in the event of falling into the hands of an ENEMY**

Issued for the information and guidance of all concerned.

By Command of the Air Council



NOTES

1. On the outbreak of hostilities a copy of this publication is to be issued to every officer and to every airman whose duties might take him over enemy territory. An issue is to be made to every officer and to every such airman who joins the unit during the period of hostilities, unless he already has a copy.

2. C.Os. are to ensure that all other personnel have a broad knowledge of the principles laid down herein.

PART I

Information that should be given in the event of falling into the hands of an enemy

All that a Prisoner of War need give in the way of information, and all that is in the interest of his country and comrades he should give, is his name and rank, or alternatively he need only give his regimental number. The enemy may threaten you, but remember he dare not carry out his threats, and if you refuse to give him information he will respect you much more. Always remember that, however friendly he may appear, he is an enemy.

PART II

What the enemy will try and find out from you

1. Any information about any unit of the Army, Navy, or Air Force.
 - What do you belong to?
 - Where is it stationed? and what is its strength?
 - Where are other units stationed?
 - What have been their recent movements? Any rumours as to future movements?
 - What do you know about casualties suffered?
2. Types of Aircraft—performances—new designs—and armament. Building and Supply.
3. Air Stations and Landing Places at home and abroad.
4. Meteorological. Anything about the weather, recent or forecast.
5. Any question of training—Tactical methods—British, or what you know of enemy methods.

but don't forget the imperative necessity of giving effect to them.

5. Don't carry or allow anyone else to carry any papers, official or private, on a flight. An envelope may give away information. Everything gives something away, even an old Tram Ticket or a bill. Don't forget to turn your pockets out before going up as a matter of routine even if you don't expect to go over the enemy lines.
6. Don't allow your kit to bear any tradesmen's tabs or labels of your school or station, or have any marks, other than official, on your identity disc.
7. Don't forget there are expert interrogators who will obtain information from you if you enter into conversation with them on even seemingly unimportant subjects. Therefore don't be interrogated. You need not be. Silence alone is safe.
8. Don't feel clever, they have had more experience than you have.
9. If you write a note to say you are safe, which is to be dropped over the line—Don't address it to anyone else than **Headquarters, Royal Air Force.** Your letter will be received and your relatives informed. Never address such a letter to your squadron, wing, or aerodrome. Never indicate the portion of the line on which it is to be dropped.
10. Don't write to anyone a single word relating to any incident whatsoever preceding your capture.
11. Don't address officers or men of the other services in any way indicating their unit or the position of their unit. Address letters to their home addresses in the United Kingdom, if known, otherwise write c/o Air Ministry (London) or c/o G.P.O. London in case of other services.
12. Don't believe anything you are told from enemy or possible enemy sources. Be patient, and, above all, silent.

6. Air Defence organization and A.A. Defences.
7. Home Conditions—Politics—Food Supply—Spirit of the People and serving forces.

Remember that the men talking to you are enemies.

PART III

Sources and methods which may be employed by an enemy to derive information

These notes are based on fact. They are made from the experience of men who have actually been Prisoners of War and who know what they are talking about.

Section I.

Sources

1. From captured material and markings.
2. From papers found in aircraft.
3. From repeated interrogation; by professing sympathy; simulating professional and technical interest; or by threats.
4. From notebooks, diaries, personal letters and effects.
5. From letters written by and to the personnel of captured aircraft.
6. From conversations overheard by means of a concealed "microphone."

Section II.

Methods

1. By impersonating British or Allied prisoners and mixing with genuine prisoners.
2. By use of concealed microphones: for example:
 - (a) By leaving you in solitary confinement for a few days. This will make you long for society and conversation. Then allowing you to be alone with a friend, apparently by a lucky chance, and recording your conversation by a concealed microphone.

- (b) By putting you in a room with an appropriate map on the wall in the hope that the map will recall memories to you and that you will talk about them.

Because you can't find the microphone don't think there aren't any. There are.

The enemy may be listening

3. By using agents in the form of a hospital nurse or attendant, who will profess to be a neutral and sympathise with the British or their Allies.
4. By suggesting that another officer or man has talked freely, giving the impression that silence is no longer of value.
5. By friendly reception and good treatment on capture.
6. By renewed interrogation long after capture, not necessarily by direct inquiry but casual and seemingly friendly interest.

Beware of the confidence trick and remember the man talking to you or listening to you is an enemy.

PART IV

DONT'S

1. **Don't** hazard your country or comrades by discussing any Naval, Military, Air Force, or aeronautical matters with anyone.
2. **Don't** give any information other than name and rank. This is the extent of your obligations. (The enemy impose the same obligations on their own officers and men).
3. **Don't** refer in any circumstances to your unit and position. A careless word may cost old comrades their lives.
4. **Don't** forget to destroy, if possible, your aircraft, maps, etc., by fire if brought down. You have instructions

but **don't** forget the imperative necessity of giving effect to them.

5. **Don't** carry or allow anyone else to carry any papers, official or private, on a flight. An envelope may give away information. Everything gives something away, even an old Tram Ticket or a bill. **Don't** forget to turn your pockets out before going up as a matter of routine even if you don't expect to go over the enemy lines.
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12. **Don't** believe anything you are told from enemy or possible enemy sources. Be patient, and, above all, silent.

13. **Don't** be drawn into any discussions of our own or our Allies' aviation programmes or their progress.
14. **Don't** carry these instructions in your aircraft, but **don't** fail to carry every word of them in your head.
15. **Don't** be downhearted if captured. Opportunities for escape will present themselves. Keep your eyes and ears open for any information which you think may be of value should you succeed in escaping.
16. **Don't** help enemy propaganda by letting yourself be persuaded to broadcast. Remember it is strictly against orders.
17. **Don't** talk shop to **Anyone.**
Anywhere.
Any time.
18. **Don't** whilst in flight make any notes on performances or shortcomings of aircraft, armament, or equipment.
The men talking to you are **enemies** unless you know them personally and even then **enemies** may be listening.

PART V

Rights of prisoners

While it is considered probable that prisoners of war will be well treated, the attention of all ranks should be drawn to the rights of prisoners. The important rights are :

- (a) Complaints can be made to the Camp Commandant.
- (b) Complaints can be made to the American Consul.
- (c) Correspondence and parcels within limits are permitted under censorship supervision.
- (d) No prisoner should be threatened or in any way forced to divulge information against his will.