

**UNITED NATIONS**  
**P.O.W.'S IN KOREA**





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These men have just been captured.  
They are on their way to the prisoner-  
of-war camps. What lies ahead for  
them?

Is it true, as they've heard, that  
prisoners of war in Korean and Chinese  
hands are treated humanely and well.

They don't know. They're not sure.



After all, these men all know about Kojé Island, Cheju and other camps where Korean and Chinese prisoners in U.S. hands are continually clubbed and shot down—in cruel disregard of the Geneva Convention relating to P.O.W.'s.

Will the Chinese and Koreans pay back in kind ?

After a U.S. massacre of war prisoners on Kojé Island.





THIS is Li Ching-yuan, a fighter of the Chinese People's Volunteers.

He is studying the orders on the treatment of war prisoners signed by Marshal Kim Il Sung, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, and General Peng Teh-huai, Commander of the Chinese People's Volunteers.

The order states:

"Every prisoner, regardless of nationality or rank, is to be treated in accordance with our policy of leniency to prisoners of war and escorted to the nearest local headquarters of the Korean People's Army or the Chinese People's Volunteers. He is to be guaranteed:

1. Security of life.
2. Retention of all personal belongings.
3. Freedom from maltreatment or abuse.
4. Medical care if wounded or ill."

THE LENIENT POLICY is the U.N. soldier's bill of rights from the moment he is in Korean or Chinese hands.

The Lenient Policy is not only proclaimed. It is enforced.

It flows from the nature of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese People's Volunteers, from the cause for which they are fighting, from the basic principles on which the Korean and Chinese peoples base their life.

Why is this?

It is because the Korean People's Army and the Chinese People's Volunteers are—as their names indicate—armed forces of the ordinary, working people.

Every commander and fighter of these forces understands that the U.N. soldiers, in their vast majority, are also people who have worked hard for a living or come from working families. He understands that, like him, they prefer peace to war. He knows that they would rather be home, working at a job, leading a normal family life, building their own future. He knows that the only reason they are in Korea, fighting in an aggressive war, is that they have been cruelly deceived.

As he sees it, the only people who want war are those who profit from it—a handful of U.S. billionaires. The billionaires do not fight their own battles. They send others to fight for them.



He sees the U.N. soldiers at the front as the victims of these greedy and evil men, duped or forced to bear arms in an unjust war from which they have nothing to gain and everything to lose.

Therefore, once they have been disarmed, he does not regard the U.N. soldiers as enemies at all. Having sympathy instead of hatred for them, he treats his prisoners in a generous and humane way. This is natural to him, because he believes in the unity of the common people of all lands.

UNITED NATIONS soldiers who have been captured by the Korean People's Army or the Chinese People's Volunteers have found this to be true from their own experience—even under the most difficult battle conditions.

Here is what Pvt. John M. McCoy who comes from San Diego, Calif., U.S.A., where he was a carpenter until he was drafted, says of the way he was taken prisoner:

"I was standing with my hands in the air thinking, 'Well! This is it, John, as soon as they get around to it they're going to kill you,' when some big Chinese officer runs up to me with a pistol in his left hand. Then I knew I'd had it. Instead of shooting me, though, he reaches up and grabs my hand and starts shaking it as though I was a long-lost brother or something. Another thing, I've still got the personal belongings that I had when I was captured."



WHATEVER the hardships at the front, under heaviest bombardment and bombing from the air, Korean and Chinese fighters have made every effort to save the lives of wounded and physically weak prisoners.

This is the story told by Sgt. George A. Stanley of Poulsbo, Washington, U.S.A.:

"I was injured in my right knee and left shoulder. During my futile attempt to escape being taken captive, I severely froze my right foot and suffered frostbite in my right hand. Immediately following my capture I was taken to a warm Korean house. Here they removed my boots and attended to my feet and treated me with whatever medical facilities were available. I was fed beef and potatoes, the same meal my captors ate, and then transported to another village where a hospital was in operation.

"Here practically all medicines were available and I was given medical care and food as well as issues of soap, a towel and various other things. I remained at this installation for approximately 20 days and then began a trip further toward the rear."

These are only two men among many thousands—Americans, British, Turks, Filipinos, Canadians, French, Australians, Greeks and others.

In the prisoner-of-war camps in North Korea captured U.N. personnel enjoy better material conditions than is stipulated by the Geneva Conven-

tion, Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. They have ample facilities for culture and recreation and improve rapidly in both spirits and health. They find themselves among friends.

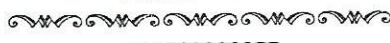
While the U.S. airforce continues its indiscriminate bombing of Korean cities and villages, killing women and children with high explosive and napalm; while the U.S. authorities wage shameful war on unarmed Korean and Chinese prisoners in Koje and other death camps—the Korean People's Army and Chinese People's Volunteers unswervingly continue their Lenient Policy from day to day.

The Korean and Chinese forces resolutely repel and annihilate every armed aggressor on the battlefield because they are strong in conviction, because they know they are defending world peace.

The Korean and Chinese forces treat captured U.N. officers and men, once they have laid down their arms, with humane care. This too is a result of their convictions, which are that all peoples should live in peace, that no people is the enemy of any other and that the interests of the common people of every nation are the same.

This is enough to show every honest, decent person on which side justice and the truth lie.

THE materials collected in this book document the Lenient Policy—in photographs and in the words of the U.N. war prisoners themselves.







## THE DAILY ROUND

A P.O.W. camp on the shores of the Yalu River. The scene is pleasant and peaceful.

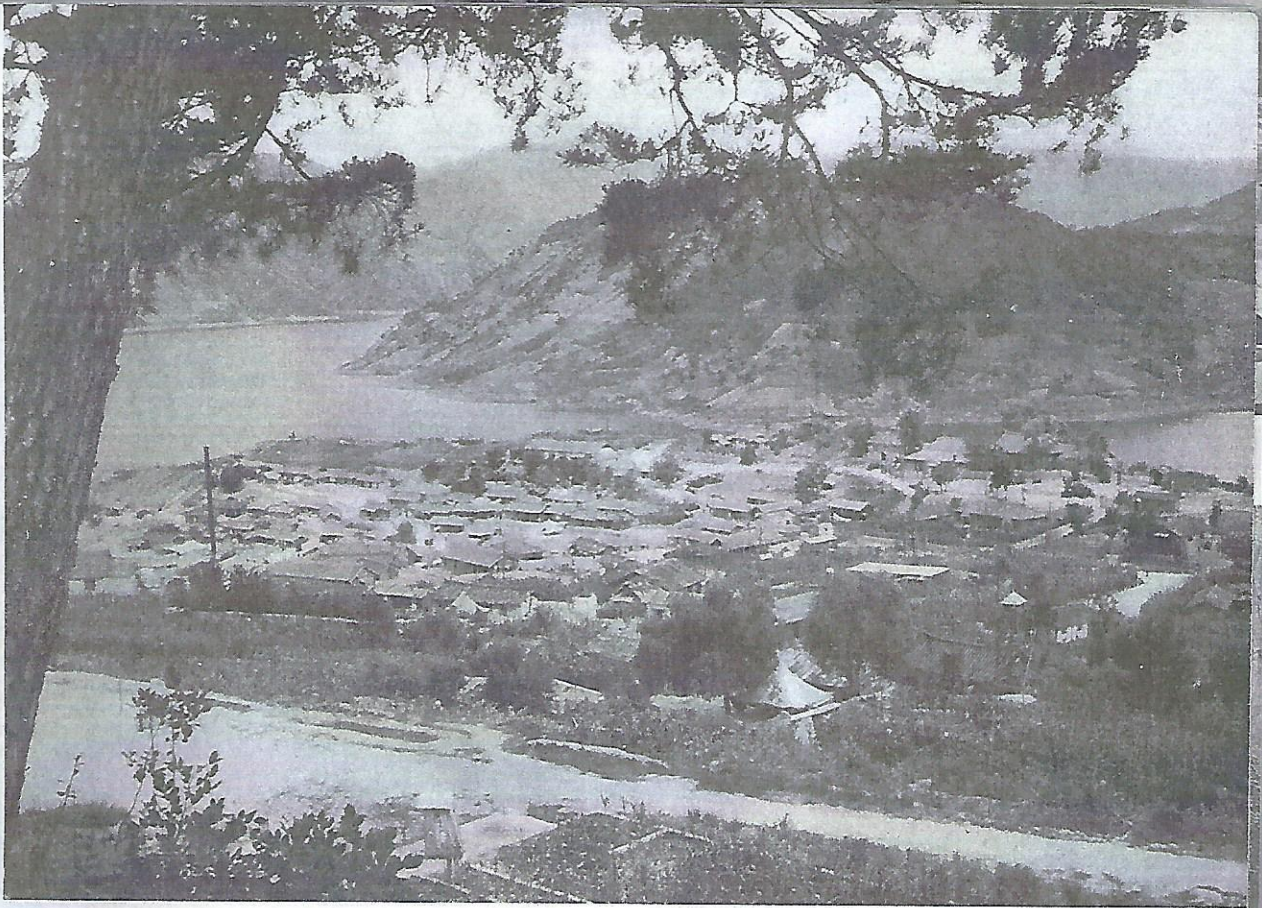
## DAILY ROUND

IN the P.O.W. camps in North Korea are prisoners of many nationalities. Mostly they live in Korean houses in the pleasant villages along the banks of the Yalu River, among some of the most beautiful Korean mountain scenery. There is no barbed wire around the camps. Prisoners are known by their names and not by numbers. Their

personal property has not been touched and many have wrist watches, fountain pens and cigarette lighters.

They retain their own uniforms on capture and in the camps are fitted out twice a year with new summer and winter outfits. Their summer clothes are cooler and their winter clothes are





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He has arrived at the camp and now bids farewell to his Chinese escort, whom he has come to know and like. Such friendly relations caused one American Negro P.O.W. to remark, "I've never experienced such human sympathy as this before."

warmer than the American or British issues. Suitable footwear comes with the seasonal change of clothing. Fuel is ample.

The men get more food than is laid down by the Geneva Convention, Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. Special arrangements are made to meet the religious traditions in food of Moslems. A tobacco ration of five ounces is issued weekly. Pipes and cigarette paper are supplied.

Camp life in all its aspects is run democratically. P.O.W. committees arrange their clubs, messing, sports, recreation and other activities and keep contact with the camp authorities.

A description of camp life is provided by Frank Noel, an A.P. photographer who was attached to the U.S. army when captured. Many of his photos of prisoners and camp life have been sent to America and reprinted in papers there. He writes:

"The internal functions within the camps are run by the P.O.W.'s themselves. Camp-wide elections, usually held at 60-day intervals, determine the various committee heads. Elections are by secret ballot.

"Considering the circumstances, the Chinese have been fair and lenient and often provided extra rations and sport facilities over and above the requirements stipulated in the Geneva Convention regarding the rules regulating the conduct and care of prisoners of war.

"The P.O.W.'s prepare their own food and have complete run of the large Chinese-type kitchens, bake or steam their own bread and butcher the pigs. Beef is killed by the Chinese, and fish and chicken are brought from nearby China.

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"The Turks are issued lambs, mutton or chicken whenever the day's menu calls for pork. They also prepare their own Turkish-style dishes and can do with their rations whatever they wish and according to their taste.

"Strict cleanliness is not only observed in the kitchen but throughout the camp. All foods are thoroughly cooked and drinking water well boiled before it is set out in the convenient and large crockery jars to cool.

"A Saturday morning inspection is carried out here regularly. The rooms are emptied of floor mats; bedding aired and the rooms and windows scrubbed and swept clean. Clothing, food utensils and toilet articles are arranged in a neat and set pattern and after the blankets and quilts are aired and shaken out, the room is prepared for the inspection team made up of P.O.W.'s who are accompanied by a Chinese doctor and a member of the administrative staff. Usually at two-week intervals the Volunteers' medical team gives the room and bedding a good going over with D.D.T.

"All of the P.O.W.'s have had regular inoculation against typhoid, tetanus and cholera. There is a daily sick call for anyone feeling under the weather or needing a checking over.

"Whatever work the P.O.W. does is strictly for himself. The Chinese carpenters and labor gang repair and keep in shape the buildings and the actual construction of the large Oriental style baths. The P.O.W.'s brought the stones from the nearby streams for enlarging the kitchens and baths which will accommodate at one time the 12 men squads.

"Wood in regular cut length to fit the fire boxes under the kitchen pots is brought here by barge. The P.O.W.'s unload the barges and pair off and



(Top) It's all weighed out and measured. Each man gets an allotment of rice, flour, sugar, meat, vegetables and other food. And 5 ozs. of tobacco a week, too,

(Center) Chickens for the pot—as many as he can carry. He's drawing the allotment for his group.

(Bottom) Handing out supplies to the mess representatives keeps the staff busy. There is dried fish, tobacco leaf, chicken—and a whole pig.



carry the wood stretcher-style. This wood also is used to keep the houses warm during the winter.

"Church services for both Catholics and Protestants are held in the camps each Sunday.

"A mobile movie projection team usually manages to show Chinese or Korean-produced movies every two weeks. And almost every Saturday night the dramatic group works up enough new gags, stunts and skits to put on a good stage show. Borrowed musical instruments help out and the singing quartets all manage to put on a two-hour show. After one of these shows the kitchen crew bring out doughnuts and the simulated coffee.

"The British take their physical training seriously and one of their own is appointed their P.T. director. All P.O.W.'s get a 10 or 15 minutes' setting-up exercise right after the early morning roll call. Or the group may go for a brisk walk along the road for a round trip of a mile or two.

"Competitive sport, with basketball the most popular, helps pass the time and keeps the morale up. There are daily basketball, volleyball and soccer games.

"The sports and recreation committee keeps an active program going for those less inclined to muscle-flexing activities. Tournaments and championship playoffs in bridge, chess, checkers are available. Prizes of candy, apples and cigarettes go to the winners. A company championship playoff draws a large gallery and often side bets are made on the favorites. Cards are furnished but the men have made their own chess figures and some sets representing many hours of careful wood-carving, are elaborate and show expert workmanship."



*The South Koreans are skillful craftsmen. Here are some of the things they have made.*

