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- TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Serial 024

22 September 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commander Task Group THIRTY POINT SIX.
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via: (1) Commander THIRD Fleet.
(2) Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report Covering Evacuation of Prisoners of War
during period 29 August 1945 to 19 September 1945.

Enclosures: ✓ (A) Action Report. *P. 2*
✓ (B) Joint Plan for Evacuation of POW. *P. 14*
✓ (C) Summary of Allied POW routed onward from Tokyo Bay
by CTU 30.6.9. *P. 16*
✓ (D) Movement of ships of TG 30.6 during period 29 August to
19 September 1945. *P. 17*
✓ (E) ComTaskFlotSix OpPlan 1-45. - *Removed - Secret AS. 10 289*

1. Enclosures (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) are submitted herewith.

RODGER W. SIMPSON

Copies to:

CominCh (2/advanced)	USS GOSSELIN (APD126)
ComDesPac	LSM 71
USS SAN JUAN (CL54)	LSM 101
BENEVOLENCE (AH13)	LSM 208
RESCUE (AH18)	LSM 252
MONITOR (LSV5)	LSM 420
OZARK (LSV2)	LSM 489
GARRARD (APA84)	SPEAKER HMS
NICHOLAS (DD449)	BATAAN HMAS
TAYLOR (DD468)	WIZARD HMS
BUCHANAN (DD484)	WARRAMUNGA HMAS
LARDNER (DD487)	WAKEFUL HMS
LANSLOWNE (DD486)	TENACIOUS HMS
WEAVER (DE741)	
BARR (APD39)	
REEVES (APD52)	
RUNELS (APD85)	
WANTUCK (APD125)	

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Part I. Brief Summary.

Commander Task Group 30.6 was assigned the mission by Commander THIRD Fleet's OpPlan 10-45 of extending medical care, liberating and evacuating Allied Prisoners of War in Japan within the Commander THIRD Fleet's area of responsibility. The primary responsibility for the particular task rested with SCAP and the Commanding General EIGHTH Army. With the aid of the detailed knowledge of prisoner of war camps acquired by the carrier searches, photographic coverage, and other intelligence information, and with a knowledge of the capabilities of the ships and forces of the Fleet, Commander Task Group 30.6 prepared detailed plans ready for execution if ordered, and issued his Operation Plan 1-45.

On the morning of the 29th of August 1945, the Commander THIRD Fleet in the USS MISSOURI entered Tokyo Bay. Commander Task Group 30.6 in the USS SAN JUAN, with the USS BENEVOLENCE in company, entered Tokyo Bay at 1130 A.M. At 1300 on 29 August, Commander THIRD Fleet ordered Commander Task Group 30.6 to proceed with the emergency evacuation of Allied Prisoners of War in the Tokyo Bay waterfront area. Commander Task Group 30.6 in the USS SAN JUAN proceeded north in Tokyo Bay to the vicinity of Lat. 35-34 N, Long 139 - 48 E, embarked in LCVP's with medical parties and proceeded to Omori Camp number 8 on the waterfront of Tokyo and began the evacuation of the first POW's from Japan. This developed during succeeding days into joint Army-Navy operations and proceeded through 15 September 1945 until approximately twenty thousand Allied Prisoners of War were released and until all prisoners of war within the Commander THIRD Fleet's area of responsibility had been evacuated.

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Part II. Preliminaries.

- A. Commander Task Group 30.6 functioned as a task group under the direct command of Commander THIRD Fleet. The original assignment of forces assigned only the USS SAN JUAN (CL54) as flagship of Task Group 30.6, but as subsequent forces became available and the operations developed, additional units were assigned.
- B. The task group commander's staff and the personnel of the flagship prepared detailed plans for the liberation and medical care for prisoners of War in four principal phases: the Tokyo waterfront; the Hamamatsu-Nagoya area; the Sendai-Eastern Honshu area; and the Niigata-Western Honshu area. Special medical units, portable communication units and minor landing forces were organized and trained between the 15th of August and the 29th of August.
- C. The mission of this task group was to extend every possible assistance to the liberation and evacuation of Prisoners of War. The enemy reaction to the initial occupation by our naval forces was to be quickly analyzed and plans were prepared for rapid adjustment to the information disclosed. It was assumed the prisoners of war would be found in ill health, malnourished, suffering from many diseases and under extreme tension because of the cessation of hostilities and past maltreatment. It was also assumed that the Japanese would not dare to oppose the liberation and medical assistance operations as they would be well aware that their treatment of Allied Prisoners of War would be one of the sore points in our post war attitude toward their leadership. The plan of operation was to make minor amphibious landings with medical parties to proceed to prisoner of war camps, to extend immediate medical care, and to begin the evacuation to hospital ships; first of the most seriously ill, and then of the ambulatories. Landings were not to be made in force, as the forces were neither available nor authorized at these camps beyond the occupation areas and prior to the formal surrender. Hence, if organized opposition in strength was encountered, the minor amphibious landing would of necessity withdraw.
- D. In the first instance, only the USS SAN JUAN (CL54), flagship of Task Group 30.6, was assigned to CTG 30.6. At 1300 on 29 August, the USS GOSSELIN (APD126), REEVES (APD52), and the LANSLOWNE (DD486) were assigned to the operational control of Commander Task Group 30.6, plus two additional landing craft from the TETON (AGC14) and the ANCON (AGC4). The facilities of the USS BENEVOLENCE (AH13) were also made available, but the BENEVOLENCE remained under the operational control of Commander THIRD Fleet. Task Unit 30.6.1, Capt. BAHM, in the USS SAN JUAN, was organized.

As additional forces became available, the following were assigned in succession:

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Part II. Preliminaries.(Continued)

On 2 September 1945, Task Group 30.6 was reorganized into Task Units 30.6.1 and 30.6.9. Task Unit 30.6.1 proceeded to the vicinity of Hamamatsu to conduct operations in that area. Various ships returned to Tokyo Bay as shown in Part III to transfer repatriates.

TASK UNIT 30.6.1

C.T.U. 30.6.1 - Captain George H. BAHM, USN.
USS SAN JUAN (CL54) (F)
USS RESCUE (AH18)
USS BUCHANAN (DD484) - ComDes^{Div} 38
USS LANSDOWNE (DD486)
USS LARDNER (DD487)
USS REEVES (APD52)
USS GOSSELIN (APD126)
USS WANTUCK (APD125)
USS RUNELS (APD85)
LSM 101
LSM 71

TASK UNIT 30.6.9

C.T.U. 30.6.9 - Captain HENEBERGER (ComDesRon 21)
USS NICHOLAS (DD449) (F)
USS BENEVOLENCE (AH13)
TJITJALENGKA
USS TAYLOR (DD468)
USS OZARK (LSV2)
USS MONITOR (LSV5)
USS WEAVER (DE741)
USS WATERMAN (DE740)
USS BARR (APD39)

On 8 September 1945, Task Group 30.6 was again reorganized as follows:

TASK UNIT 30.6.1

C.T.U. 30.6.1 - Captain George H. BAHM, USN.
USS SAN JUAN (CL54) (F)
USS WANTUCK (APD125)
USS BARR (APD39)

TASK UNIT 30.6.2

C.T.U. - Captain HENEBERGER (ComDesRon 21)
USS NICHOLAS (DD449) (F)
USS RESCUE (AH18)
USS GARRARD (APA84)
USS TAYLOR (DD468)
USS GOSSELIN (APD126)
USS RUNELS (APD85)
HMAS BATAAN
HMAS WARRAMUNGA
HMS WIZARD
HMS TENACIOUS (WAKEFUL)

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ENCLOSURE (A)

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TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Part II. Preliminaries (Continued):

TASK UNIT 30.6.3

C.T.U. 30.6.3 - Lieut. Comdr. TAYLOR
USS WEAVER (DE741) (F)
USS WATERMAN (DE740)
LSM 71
LSM 101
LSM 252
LSM 208

TASK UNIT 30.6.9

C.T.U. 30.6.9 - Captain L. W. PANCOAST (ComDesDiv 38)
USS BUCHANAN (DD484) (F)
USS MONITOR (LSV5)
USS LARDNER (DD487)
USS LANSLOWNE (DD486)
LSM 368
LSM 488

On 10 September Task Unit 30.6.2 proceeded to the vicinity of Sendai to conduct operations in that area. On 10 September Task Unit 30.6.3 likewise proceeded to the vicinity of Sendai to assist in that operation.

On 9 September the remaining units of Task Unit 30.6.1 arrived Tokyo Bay fueled, provisioned and proceeded to Sendai where Task Units 30.6.2 and 30.6.3 were dissolved and placed in Task Unit 30.6.1.

Task Unit 30.6.9 was organized on 2 September with ComDesRon 21 in the NICHOLAS as Unit Commander until 8 September when relieved by ComDesDiv 38 in the BUCHANAN. This unit functioned as the Tokyo Bay unit, supervised unloading and evacuation in the Tokyo Bay area in the absence of CTG 30.6 on the Hamamatsu and Sendai operations. Two TBM and two divisions of VF were furnished by Task Group 31.6 on orders of Commander THIRD Fleet for reconnaissance and special transportation missions.

Numerous Japanese guards, military police, and military personnel were encountered by the amphibious units, all without incident.

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Part III. Chronological Account of the Action.

29 August 1945.

Operations began immediately upon the receipt of Commander THIRD Fleet's orders to execute the Tokyo Bay waterfront plan. Commander Task Group 30.6 in the SAN JUAN proceeded north in Tokyo Bay and anchored about four miles east of Omori. The GOSSELIN, LANSDOWNE, and BENEVOLENCE, followed the SAN JUAN and anchored in vicinity. Commander Task Group 30.6 with a medical and evacuation party embarked in LCVP's of the GOSSELIN and with the assistance of air spotting by the TBM of the COWPENS, proceeded to the Omori Camp number 8, which was known by intelligence to be Tokyo Headquarters Camp. The appearance of the landing craft in the channel off the prisoner of war camp caused an indescribable scene of jubilation and emotion on the part of hundreds of prisoners of war who streamed out of the camp and climbed up over the piling. Some began to swim out to meet the landing craft. After some difficulty in being heard, the prisoners of war were assured that more boats would be coming and that they should stand steady for an orderly evacuation, and that the liberation party wanted to go immediately to those who were ill and extend medical assistance and evacuate them first.

The Japanese camp commander made protest that he was not authorized to turn the prisoners over to the task unit and that he had to await word from headquarters that the formal surrender had taken place. He was told emphatically that the task unit was there to evacuate the men to the hospital ship and that their cooperation was required.

Commander Arthur L. MAHER, USN, former gunnery officer of the USS HOUSTON was found to be the senior prisoner of war officer and was requested to assemble the men in the prisoner of war compound for evacuation and instructions from CTG 30.6. A portable communication unit was set up in the yard and word relayed to the flagship of the progress of the contact.

Information was obtained from Commander MAHER and other POW officers that there were many seriously ill at a POW camp called Shinagawa hospital. CTG 30.6 determined to evacuate this hospital as soon as possible, however its exact location and approach by boat was not know. Decision was therefore made to evacuate immediately 18 litter cases and approximately 125 ambulatory cases from Omori Camp while obtaining information on the hospital. A group of officers to determine the water approach and Commodore BOONE, medical officer of Commander THIRD Fleet, who had accompanied the expedition, were directed to commandeer trucks and automobiles and proceed to gain the information desired. This party completed its mission and returned with the report that inspection of Shinagawa revealed it to be an indescribable hell hole of filth, disease and death. Immediate evacuation was determined upon and landing craft augmented by 4 LCVP's from the REEVES which had reported for duty departed for Shinagawa. Then proceeded on an all-night evacuation of the patients of Shinagawa followed by the remaining POW's of Omori camp. This evacuation was completed at daybreak, a total of 707 POW was freed.

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Part III. Chronological account of the action (Continued):

All had been taken aboard the BENEVOLENCE and passed through the prepared procedure. This procedure involved a bath, medical examination, clean clothes, food, filling out of essential mimeographed questionnaire of basic information including information of atrocities, and then either to bed in the hospital ship or, if ambulatory, immediate transfer to an APD alongside the hospital ship for billeting. The procedure was promptly named "BENEVOLENCED".

30 August 1945.

Information of additional camps ^{was} obtained during the night from the prisoners of war so that at dawn the landing craft were divided into two units, one of which proceeded to evacuate Kawasaki Camp number one, the Kawasaki Bunsho Camp and Tokyo sub camp number 3 in the adjoining area.

The other unit proceeded to the Sumidagawa Camp deep in the Tokyo inner channels and evacuated the prisoners of war from that camp.

A contact unit was maintained at Omori Headquarters and prisoners of war from an inland camp came to Omori and were evacuated from that point.

The transfer of these prisoners of war to the BENEVOLENCE was completed at 2130 on 30 August, bringing the total to 1,496 who had been freed. Many of the released prisoners of war were immediately given plasma, intravenous nourishment and other emergency hospital treatment. c" . . .

31 August 1945.

Contact was made at Omori camp with the EIGHTH Army Recovered Personnel Officer who requested a joint conference for joint planning.

1 September 1945.

Searches were extended in the Tokyo waterfront area and 22 civilians were liberated.

Commander THIRD Fleet's consent was obtained of sending a representative to the conference which was held at ComGenEIGHTH Army Headquarters at Yokohama. At the conference a joint plan, enclosure (B), was developed which was followed in the subsequent evacuation.

3 September 1945.

Pursuant to the joint plan, Task Unit 30.6.1 with CTG 30.6 embarked in SAN JUAN proceeded to the vicinity of Hamanatsu.

An officer of the staff of Commander Task Group 30.6 flew to Niigata accompanied by an officer of the EIGHTH Army Headquarters and there arranged for the evacuation of seven prisoner of war camps by rail to Yokohama for reception at that port aboard ship.

TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Part III. Chronological account of the action (Continued):

 The seven camps were as follows and were evacuated by rail in seven special trains:

Tokyo Camp 5B - Niigata	688
Tokyo Camp 15B - Niigata	314
Tokyo Camp 16B - Kanose	288
Tokyo Camp 4B - Naoetsu	698
Tokyo Camp 13B - Aomi	530
Tokyo Camp 3B - Nagaoka	197
Tokyo Camp 3B - Branch Nagaoka	98
Total.....	2,813

4 September 1945.

Task Unit 30.6.9 remained in Tokyo Bay to receive and to arrange for onward passage of repatriates evacuated from other areas.

Task Unit 30.6.1 arrived at anchorage off Hamamatsu at daylight. The Task Group Commander led the first detachment of boats ashore but found that the water at the beaches were not as shown on available charts and evacuation over the beaches was not feasible. He, however, took one boat over the bar and obtained local Japanese pilots to guide the remainder of the landing craft through the unmarked channel to the railroad station at Arai where prisoners from this area were evacuated.

Beach parties and communication teams were established ashore. Prisoners of war were brought by rail to Arai and taken to the RESCUE for processing. Able-bodied repatriates were transferred to destroyers and APD's for further transportation to Tokyo as shown in subsequent paragraphs.

The following camps were evacuated on 7 September 1945:

Nagoya #2	273
Nagoya #5	295
Hiroshi	21 (Dutch internees)
Mitsushima	306
Total	895

5 September 1945.

No camps were evacuated, however the task group commander embarked in the USS LARDNER and proceeded to the Tokyo Bay to supervise the reception of repatriates there and to make plans for future operations.

Repatriates were transferred to Tokyo Bay in ships as follows:

LARDNER	209
REEVES	126
RUNELS	140
WANTUCK	167
Total	642

III(3)

ENCLOSURE (A)

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TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Part III. Chronological account of the action (Continued):

6 September 1945.

Evacuation continued and personnel were received as follows:

Nagoya #8	287
Nagoya #9	346
Nagoya #11	<u>142</u>
Total	775

7 September 1945.

At dawn repatriates were transferred to ships as shown for transportation to Tokyo Bay:

BUCHANAN	197
LANSLOWNE	212
LARDNER	<u>215</u>
Total	624

Evacuation continued from:

Nagoya #6	281
Nagoya #10	292
Nagoya #3	313
Tsuruga Osoka Area	<u>2</u>
Total	888

Reports were received that Camp Nagoya #7 of 152 POW was evacuated by air, and camp #1 of 606 POW by rail to Yokohama.

Arrangements were made with CTG 30.5 to provide plane to evacuate two seriously ill POW and three POW medical orderlies by air from Nagoya military hospital.

8 September 1945.

Repatriates received the previous day were transported to Tokyo Bay by:

REEVES	169
WIZARD	280
WARRAMUNGA	176
TENACIOUS	<u>160</u>
Total	785

Because of transportation difficulties the Japanese reported that they were unable to evacuate Nagoya Camp number 4 until 9 September. In order to prepare for the Sendai operation all ships except the SAN JUAN, BARR and WANTUCK were sent to Tokyo Bay.

TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Part III. Chronological account of the action (Continued):

 9 September 1945.

283 Repatriates from Nagoya Camp #4 were received at 0600 and taken aboard the SAN JUAN, BARR and WANTUCK for processing and transportation to Tokyo Bay.

These last three ships arrived in Tokyo Bay and discharged the remaining repatriates making a total of 2,841 evacuated in the Hamamatsu operation.

10 September 1945.

At 0500 Task Unit 30.6.3 proceeded to Shiogama followed by Task Unit 30.6.2 at 1000.

Task Unit 30.6.1 remained in Tokyo until 1700 obtaining fuel and provisions.

11 September 1945.

An entrance channel having been swept by CTU 35.8.5 (Captain CARMICHAEL), Task Units 30.6.1, 30.6.2 and 30.6.3 arrived at Shiogama and consolidated into one unit, 30.6.1 (Captain George H. BAHM).

Task Group Commander landed with the first boat, and off. loaded ambulances and trucks from LSM's 101 and 71 and confirmed train schedules of the various camp evacuations. At 1600 evacuation began and 179 civilians were received from Fukushima. Trucks and ambulances were used to transport the evacuees from the rail station to the landing, a distance of about 2 miles.

12 September 1945.

At dawn the HMAS WARRAMUNGA was loaded with 171 repatriates received the previous day and departed for Tokyo Bay.

Evacuation continued as follows:

Sendai #7	283
Sendai #8	336
Sendai #3	<u>245</u>
Total	864

13 September 1945.

Repatriates were transported to Tokyo Bay in:

NICHOLAS	248
TAYLOR	300
WIZARD	<u>198</u>
Total	746

Camps evacuated this date were:

Sendai #10	279
Sendai #9	293
Sendai #11	<u>187</u>
Total	878

TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Part III. Chronological account of the action (Continued):

14 September 1945.

HMS WAKEFUL was loaded with 310 repatriates and sent to Tokyo Bay, the remainder of the able-bodied being transferred to the GARRARD.

During this, the final operation at Shioyama, 544 POW's were received from Sendai Camp 36. The able-bodied were loaded in the GARRARD and she was sent in company with HMAS BATAAN to Tokyo, with 931 repatriates.

The remaining ships of the Task Unit got underway and proceeded to Kamaishi for further evacuation.

15 September 1945.

Upon arrival at Kamaishi the usual procedure was followed, the trucks and ambulances were unloaded. Sendai Camps number 4 and 5 were evacuated of 598 POW. A labor camp nearby containing 167 Chinese was also evacuated. 160 Chinese, able-bodied, were loaded in the LSM's, which got underway at 2000 for Tokyo Bay, escorted by WATERMAN and WEAVER.

16 September 1945.

While in the process of getting underway at about 0700, despatch information was received from the Commanding General EIGHTH Army of the possibility of more POW's at Miyako and Hachinohe.

RUNELS, WANTUCK and BARR were permitted to proceed to Tokyo with 437 repatriates while SAN JUAN, RESCUE, GOSSELIN and WARRAMUNGA remained.

The Task Group Commander went ashore and obtained signed statements from local authorities at Kamaishi that investigation proved no POW's at the above localities. The representative of the Swedish Legation was of the same opinion.

Air reconnaissance provided by CTG 38.2 at the request of CTG 30.6 failed to locate any POW between Lat. 39 - 20 and Lat. 40 - 50 within five miles of the coast line.

The remaining ships of the task unit returned to Tokyo arriving 17 September 1945.

18 September 1945.

Having evacuated 7,598 POW and believing that none remained to be evacuated in the Central or Norther Honshu and having completed the assignment, Commander THIRD Fleet ordered the Task Group dissolved as of 0000 ZEBRA 19 September 1945.

TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Part VII. Personnel Performance and Casualties.

All personnel performed in an outstanding and exceptional manner, responding to the acute need and the obvious urgency of fast action to extend medical care to those in need of it and to avoid an eruption from the extreme tension that existed in the camps.

Boats crews, ship's personnel, evacuation teams, processing teams, and commanding officers worked long, consecutive hours with cheerfulness and efficiency and with obvious satisfaction of playing a part in the relief of human suffering.

The assistance rendered by members of the International Red Cross, Swedish Legation and Swiss Legation in arranging train schedules, furnishing information on the location of camps, the composition of its occupation, and their general condition assisted materially in prompt evacuation by this task group. It is recommended that their services be acknowledged by the United States Government.

Those who were known to assist were, Dr. JUNOD, Mr. A. O. KELLER and Mr. WITTENBERG of the International Red Cross; Mr. Erwin RUCK and Mr. A. F. KUNZ of the Swiss Legation and Consul Ivan P. TRUEDSSON, Mr. B. GAWELL and Mr. J. WENDBLADH of the Royal Swedish Legation".

TASK FLOTILLA SIX

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Part VIII. Lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations.

It is mentioned in passing, not in a commendatory spirit, but only as an observation, that the Japanese who were contacted by this group, after the surrender ceremony, were almost universally helpful and outwardly polite. With the end of the war, history started immediately to repeat, but we shall not be deceived again by the superficial friendship of this cruel race.

My recommendation is that we continue our announced policy of forcefulness toward the Japanese nation and that the United States of America forever maintain effective diplomatic representation and strong potential if not actual military pressure to force continued peace, and to insure that our citizens and our friendly world neighbors never again fall prey to the cruel existence endured by the brave peoples just repatriated.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH ARMY
United States Army
Office of the Commanding General
APO 343

AG 383.6 (D)

2 September 1945

MEMORANDUM:

SUBJECT : Liberation and Evacuation of Allied Prisoners of War and
Civilian Internees in Japan.

1. GENERAL. The Eighth United States Army, utilizing units of the THIRD Fleet under the command of Commander Task Group 30.6, and assisted by representatives of the International Red Cross and the Swedish and Swiss Legations, will liberate and evacuate Allied Prisoners of War and civilian internees in accordance with the plan contained herein. Certain camps designated herein are located on the coast of Japan at points readily accessible to the Navy. Other camps are located within the interior, necessitating land transportation to the coast at points selected by the Commanders of the Task Force Units hereinafter described. The Japanese Government has been directed by the Supreme Commander, Allied Powers, to provide timely and adequate transportation from such inland camps to points accessible from the sea. (See letter to Japanese Government from SCAP, attached hereto as Annex 1).

2. PLAN. The camps have been divided into four groups, as follows: East, West, and North Honshu, and the island of Hokkaido. The specific camps comprising each of these groups are listed and attached as Annex 2.

a. One Task Force Unit of Task Group 30.6 will be assigned to liberate and evacuate all personnel of the camps within each group to the Tokyo Bay area and there await orders of the Commanding General, 8th U.S. Army.

b. All recovered personnel will be processed aboard ship as soon as practicable. The attached form (Annex 3) will be completed on all recovered personnel, the original and one copy of which will be forwarded immediately to Headquarters Eighth Army, G-1 Section (Recovered Personnel).

c. Liaison officers of the Eighth Army, (G-1 Section), Surgeon's Section, and representatives of the International Red Cross, Swedish and Swiss Legations, will be aboard the Flagship of the Commander of each of the four Task Units.

d. Eighth Army Medical teams will be aboard the hospital or evacuation ships of each unit to medically screen all evacuated personnel and to furnish medical care and treatment enroute. Evacuees requiring hospital care will be off-loaded at Yokohama and transferred to the U.S.A. Hospital Ship Marigold for additional hospitalization and appropriate disposition.

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ENCLOSURE (B)

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH ARMY
United States Army
Office of the Commanding General
APO 343

AG 383.6 (D)

2 September 1945

MEMORANDUM:

SUBJECT : Liberation and Evacuation of Allied Prisoners of War and
Civilian Internees in Japan. (Continued)

e. Ambulatory patients desiring air transportation and not requiring hospital care will be off-loaded at Yokohama and transferred to Atsugi Airfield by Eighth Army. Those not desiring air transportation will remain aboard ship awaiting orders of the Commanding General, Eighth Army.

f. The Japanese Government will furnish transportation from the camps to the designated evacuation points on the coast, under the direction and supervision of officers of the U. S. Army and Navy, in accordance with instructions contained in Annex 1. Limited motor transport will be loaded in an amphibious ship of each Task Unit to assist in the operation.

g. Air protection and reconnaissance will be provided by the Commander, Third Fleet, during the operation.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

C. E. BYERS,
Major General, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

ANNEXES:

- No. 1 - Ltr to Japanese Govt
from SCAP, 1 Sept. 45.
- No. 2 - Camp Groups on Central and
Northern Honshu and Island
of Hokkaido.
- No. 3 - Form for Processing Personnel.

- 2 -

C O P Y

C O P Y

ENCLOSURE (B)

15

U.S.S. BUCHANAN (DD-484)

SUMMARY OF RECOVERED ALLIED MILITARY PRISONERS AND ALLIED CIVILIANS
ROUTED ONWARD FROM TOKYO BAY BY CTU 30.6.9

A. By AIR

Classification	DATE									TOTAL
	8&9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
U.S. NAVY	113	22	41	31	51	78	80	51	79	546
U.S. MARINES	44	5	1	51	48	11	164	65	38	427
CANADIANS	16	1	53	84	68	6	56	61	4	349
CIVILIANS	28	61	0	0	1	4	3	23	80	200
TOTAL	201	89	95	166	168	99	303	200	201	1522

B. By surface on USS HYDE.

Classification

HYDE sailed 19 September at 0600

U.S. NAVY	160
U.S. MARINES	340
CANADIANS	125
CIVILIANS	96
TOTAL	721

C. Total Number Evacuees Air and Surface 2,243

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ENCLOSURE (10) 0974

16

Days Ships Assigned to Task Group 30.6
29 Aug. - 19 Sept., Inclusive

Ships	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
SAN JUAN	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
BENEVOLENCE	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
RESCUE			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
MONITOR		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
OZARK		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x											
GARRARD										x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
NICHOLAS						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
TAYLOR						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
BUCHANAN						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LARDNER						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
LANSDOWNE	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
WEAVER						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WATERMAN						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
BARR		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
REEVES	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x										
RUNELS		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WANTUCK		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
GOSSELIN	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LSM 71						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LSM 101						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LSM 208											x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LSM 252												x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LSM 420												x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LSM 489												x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
SPEAKER		x	x	x	x	x																
BATAAN											x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WIZARD											x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WARRALUNGA											x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WAKEFUL												x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
TENACIOUS											x	x	x									

ENCLOSURE (D)

Location of ships of T.G. 30.6 as of 1200 ITEM 29 Aug. - 18th Sept., inclusive.

Ships	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
SAN JUAN	T	T	T	T	T	T	H	H	H	H	H	E-T	T	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
BENEVOLENCE	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
RESCUE			T	T	T	T	H	H	H	H	E-T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
MONITOR		T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
OZARK		T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T										
GARRARD											T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	T	T	T	T
NICHOLAS						T	T	T	T	E-H	E-T	T	E-S	S	S	E-T	T				
TAYLOR						T	T	T	T	E-H	E-T	T	E-S	S	S	E-T	T				
BUCHANAN						T	H	H	H	E-T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T			
LARDNER						T	H	E-T	H	E-T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
LANSLOWNE	T	T	T	T	T	T	H	H	H	E-T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T			
WEAVER						T	T	T	T	T	T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	S	E-T	T	T
WATERMAN						T	T	T	T	T	T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	S	E-T	T	T
BARR		T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	H	H	E-T	T	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
REEVES	T	T	T	T	T	T	H	E-T	H	H	T	T									
RUNELS		T	T	T	T	T	H	E-T	H	H	E-T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
WANTUCK		T	T	T	T	T	H	E-T	H	H	H	E-T	T	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
GOSSELIN	T	T	T	T	T	T	H	H	H	H	E-T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
LSM 71						T	H	H	H	H	E-T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
LSM 101						T	H	H	H	H	E-T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
LSM 208											T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
LSM 252												T	E-S	S	S	S	S	K	E-T	T	T
LSM 420												T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
LSM 489												T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
SPEAKER		T	T	T	T	T															
BATAAN												E-T	T	E-S	S	S	S	S	T	T	T
WIZARD											H	T	T	E-S	S	S	E-T	T	T	T	T
WARRAMUNGA											H	E-T	T	E-S	S	E-T	T	S	K	E-T	T
WAKEFUL												T	E-S	S	S	S	E-T	T	T	T	T
TENACIOUS												E-T	T								

Symbols: T - Tokyo S - Sendai E - Enroute
H - Hamamatsu K - Kamaishi

ENCLOSURE (D)

SECRET

Operation Plan.

C.T.G. 30.6-No. 1-45

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET

THIRD Fleet,

Allied Prisoner of War Rescue Group,

Commander Task Group 30.6

U.S.S. SAN JUAN (CL54) (Flagship).

At Sea,

27 August 1945.

TASK ORGANIZATION

(a) Task Unit 30.6.1 Flagship Unit, U.S.S. SAN JUAN (CL54) Captain RAHM.

Forces as assigned by Commander THIRD Fleet organized into units for specific assignments.

1. General Situation. Japan has surrendered and an estimated 36,000 Allied Prisoners of War are in Japan, of which an estimated 8,000 are U. S. Prisoners of War. Information as to the location and condition of prisoner of war camps is in many cases indefinite and is being corrected and amended daily by reports from our occupation forces. Present available information of Allied Prisoner of War camps within the area of Commander THIRD Fleet, Commanding General EIGHTH Army responsibility, as shown in Annex "ABLE", CinCPac-CinCPOA Bulletin No. 113-45.

Japan will be occupied commencing with the seizure of the Yokosuka Naval Zone by forces under the command of Commander THIRD Fleet at the same time that an adjacent area is seized by airborne forces of CINCPAC. Support - Army Forces in strength will be landed by amphibious operation approximately six (6) days after the original landings.

Assumptions. 1. That military operations in connection with the release of Allied Prisoners of War will not be opposed by the Japanese.

(a) Although unopposed, Japanese unable or unwilling to assist.

(b) Japanese willing to assist in providing transportation to limited extent.

(c) Japanese willing and able to transport all POW to designated ports of embarkation.

2. That, if military operations are opposed in force by the Japanese, this group will withdraw until properly reinforced.

2. This group when directed by Commander THIRD Fleet will utilize the forces and facilities made available in order to effect the release, care and evacuation of all Allied Prisoners of War in the combat area east of the 135th meridian (ComTHIRDFlt zone of responsibility).

3. (a) Task Unit(s) (forces assigned). Operate in accordance with Plan "Spring-Em" Annex "ABLE".

(b) Task Unit(s) (forces assigned). Operate in accordance with Plan "Jailbreak", Annex "BAKER".

4. Logistics as made available by Commander THIRD Fleet.

5. Communications in accordance with Annex "CHARLIE"; use ITEM time. The Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers is in command of the entire surrender and occupation operation. The Commander THIRD Fleet zone of responsibility is the combat area east of the 135th meridian. The Commanding General

ENCLOSURE (E)

Operation Plan
C.T. Group 30.6 No. 1-45

EIGHTH Army will be in command of Army forces in the Tokyo Bay Area and is in command of all land operations in the area. Commander Task Force 31 will establish minor Naval and Naval air facilities at TOKORIMA, including facilities for screening, temporary care, and evacuation of released prisoners of war. Commander Task Group 30.6 in SAN JUAN (CL54) at SAGAMI WAN.

RODGER W. SIMPSON,
 Commodore, U. S. Navy,
 Commander Task Group 30.6.

Annexes:

- ABLE - Plan "Spring-En"
- BAKER - Plan "Jail Break"
- CHARLIE - Communication Plan

Distribution:

CinCAPPac	(5)	ComTHIRDFlt	(5)
CominCh	(15)	ComTaskFlot ONE	(2)
SpNav	(3)	ComTaskFlot TWO	(2)
Comd'tMarCorps	(2)	ComTaskFlot THREE	(2)
CinCPac Adv.	(5)	ComTaskFlot FOUR	(2)
CinCPac Pearl	(5)	ComTaskFlot FIVE	(2)
ComServPac	(3)	ComCarDiv TWO	(2)
ComAirPac	(2)	ComCarDiv THREE	(2)
ComCru-DesPac	(5)	ComCarDiv FOUR	(2)
CominPac	(5)	ComCarDiv SIX	(2)
ComFIFTHFleet	(2)	ComServRon 6	(3)
ComSEVENTHFleet	(2)	ComServRon 10	(3)
ComNorPac	(2)	ComDesRon 25	(1)
ComPhiBsPac	(2)	ComDesRon 61	(1)
ComTHIRDPhib	(3)	CTG 31.4 - Transport Grp.	(5)
ComNOBGuam	(2)	CTG 31.6 - Naval Air Activities - COMPENS	(3)
ComGenFMFPac	(2)	CTG 31.7 - Naval Shore Activities	(3)
Com2ndCarTaskFor	(3)	CTG 31.8 - SOPA Administrative	(3)
Com1stCarTaskFor	(3)	CO, USS PIEDMONT (AD17)	(1)
ComBatRon 1	(2)	CO, USS SAN JUAN (CL54)	(3)
ComBatRon 2	(2)	CO, USS TAMALPAIS (AO96)	(1)
ComBatDiv 7 (CTF 31)	(10)	CO, USS DELTA (AR9)	(1)
ComBatDiv 8	(2)	CTG 31.3 Landing Force	(3)
ComCruDiv 17 (CTF 35)	(3)		
		Deferred	
		Naval War College	(1)
		Army General Staff College	(1)
		ComMarCorpsSchls, Quantico	(3)

C. R. Sherman
 C. R. SHERMAN,
 Lieut. Comdr., USNR.,
 Flag Secretary.

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ANNEX "ABLE"
PLAN "SPRING-EM"

Operation Plan

C.T.G. 30.6 No. 1-45.

1. This plan will be placed in effect for the evacuation of Allied Prisoners of War in and around the TOKYO-YOKAHAMA area.
2. Forces and facilities required will normally consist of a small group of amphibious craft which may or may not be supported.
 - (a) 2 APD (more if required).
 - (b) Amphibious craft, LST's, LCI's, etc. (as required).
 - (c) 1 Division of destroyers (desirable).
 - (d) Air CAP and reconnoissance.
 - (e) 1 Company of Marines.
3. Forces and specific missions will be assigned by separate despatch.
4. Minor amphibious landings will be made in vicinity of camps to be evacuated. Prisoners of war will be released and transported to the TOKOSUKA Naval Base and turned over to Commander Task Force 31 for screening, care and evacuation. Our forces will be withdrawn upon the completion of evacuation and task unit dissolved.
5. The landing party will consist of:
 - (a) Marines or other assigned combat units who will spearhead the landing, who will act as military police to insure the orderly and unopposed activities of the evacuation party, and who will withdraw upon the completion of the evacuation.
 - (b) Interpreters - when and if available. Whenever possible the landing party will be accompanied by representatives of the International Red Cross, or of the Swedish or Swiss Legations, and of the Japanese Government.
 - (c) Medical officers and medical corpsmen - as assigned by Commander Task Group 30.6. In cases where assignment of medical personnel has or cannot be made to the task unit involved in the landing, it is directed that medical teams from accompanying destroyers or APD's be organized and sent in with the landing party. It is desired that every effort be made to have qualified medical personnel in each evacuation party, in order to render immediate medical aid and to safeguard against the exposure of personnel to infectious diseases.
 - (d) Drivers, machinists, stretcher bearers, personnel as needed - organized from the crews of the ships in company.
6. Unit commanders of landing parties will make determined efforts to contact Harbor Patrol and local police authorities, or any agencies recommended by Red Cross representatives or interpreters in order to facilitate the peaceful release of Allied Prisoners of War.
7. Small quantities of food, clothing and medical supplies may be taken by the evacuation parties to the camps for the immediate use of the prisoners of war.
8. Upon entry into the camp, the Senior Allied Prisoner, or the Camp Leader will be consulted. Accurate appraisal will be made of the numbers in the camp, the condition of their health, and an appropriate loading and evacuation plan evolved.

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ANNEX "ABLE"
PLAN "SPRING-EM"

Operation Plan

C.T.G. 30.6 No. 1-45.

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9. All available records of the camp and all evidences of any atrocities committed, the location of burial grounds, will be obtained. If convenient, suitable photographic records should be made of the camp and its environments.
 10. Commander Task Group 30.6 will be advised promptly by despatch of each contact, and of each development of significance and of the completion of evacuation including the number released, the ships upon which they are embarked, and their ETA YOKOSUKA.
 11. Released Allied Prisoners of War will be transported and delivered to CTF 31 (CTG 31.7 Naval activities ashore) at YOKOSUKA, where signed receipt for the number of Allied Prisoners of War actually delivered to the Naval activities will be obtained by unit commanders effecting such delivery. It is requested of CTF 31 that copies of all records and forms required by CinCPQA serial 29CL-45 of 13 June and CTF 31 serial 00032 of 16 August 1945 be forwarded to CTG 30.6 at first available opportunity.

RODGER W. SIMPSON,
Commodore, U. S. NAVY,
Commander Task Group 30.6.


C. R. GILMAN,
Lieut. Comdr., USNR.,
Flag Secretary.

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ANNEX "BAKER"
PLAN "JAIL BREAK"

Operation Plan

C.T.G. 30.6 No. 1-45.

1. This plan will be placed in effect for the evacuation of prisoners of war in areas of the Japanese Homeland east of the 135th meridian and not easily accessible to the initial area of occupation.
2. Forces and facilities required will normally consist of:
 - (a) 1 AH or LSV equipped for evacuation.
 - (b) 1 or 2 APA's.
 - (c) 4 APD's.
 - (d) 2 YMS's.
 - (e) 1 Squadron DD's.
 - (f) 1 CVL or air CAP and reconnaissance from carrier force.
3. Assignment of forces, specific mission, movement orders and other necessary information will be furnished by separate despatch.
4. When directed the task unit will proceed to a specified port or location to evacuate prisoners of war from all camps in a certain area. All latest available information as to location of the camps, numbers of prisoners involved, transportation difficulties likely to be encountered, etc., will be furnished prior departure if available, and by later despatch.
5. During all phases of the operation, approach, evacuation and retirement, task unit commanders will insure that all necessary security measures for the safety of the units involved are carried out. In this regard, particular attention is invited to the latest information concerning typhoons and mine fields.
6. Upon arrival at designated port, a minor amphibious landing will be made, local authorities immediately contacted and told of the mission. Unit commanders will undertake to obtain maximum assistance, with particular reference to overland transportation, from local authorities. However, in the event such assistance is not promptly forthcoming, unit commanders are authorized to commandeer equipment, materials and supplies that may be required for the successful accomplishment of the mission. Authority for this will be included in the directive to execute this plan. Attention is invited to ComTHIRDFlt despatch 260705 of August reference treatment of Japanese.
7. The landing party will consist of:
 - (a) Marines, or other combat units, who will spearhead the landing, who will act as military police to insure the orderly and unopposed activities of the evacuation parties, and who will withdraw upon the completion of the evacuation.
 - (b) Interpreters - when and if available. Whenever possible the landing party will be accompanied by representatives of the International Red Cross, or of the Swedish or Swiss Legations, and of the Japanese Government.
 - (c) Medical officers and medical corpsmen - from the APA's and accompanying ships organized into teams to accompany each evacuating party. It is desired that at least one medical officer and assigned medical corpsmen accompany each

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ANNEX "BAKER"
PLAN "JAIL BREAK"

Operation Plan

C.T.G. 30.6 No. 1-45.

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- party to render immediate medical aid and to safeguard against the spread of infectious disease, on entry into the camp.
- (d) Drivers, machinists, stretcher bearers and other personnel as needed - organized from the crews of the ships in company.
- (e) A processing center will be immediately set up. This may be afloat, in the AH or specially equipped LSV, or ashore as circumstances dictate. This center may serve as a headquarters for the parties ashore, and as a communication link between ships and evacuation parties. All released prisoners of war will be "screened" through this processing center before assignment to APA's or other ships for the return voyage. Prisoners of war will be interviewed, and records and forms as prescribed by CinCPAC serial 29GL-45 of 13 June and CTF 31 serial 00032 of 16 August 1945 will be filled out at this processing center.
- (f) Coincident with the establishment of the processing center, the various evacuation parties will be despatched to the camps in the assigned area. Contact will be maintained with all detached parties to the fullest extent possible.
8. Upon entry into the camp the Senior Allied Prisoner, or Camp Leader will be consulted. Accurate appraisal will be made of the numbers in the camp, the condition of their health, and an appropriate evacuation plan evolved.
9. Food, clothing, drugs and medical supplies will be left at the camp with the care of the prisoners until suitable arrangements can be made for complete evacuation.
10. All available records of the camp and all evidence of any atrocities committed, the location of burial grounds, will be obtained. If convenient suitable photographic records will be made of the camp and its environments.
11. Commander Task Group 30.6 will be advised promptly by despatch of each contact with a prisoner of war camp and of each development of significance, and of the completion of evacuation including the number released, the ships upon which they are embarked, and other pertinent information.
12. Returning task units may be directed to proceed to other ports away from Japan. In this case efforts will be made at the first available opportunity to deliver copies of all records in the case of each Allied Prisoner of War to C.T.G. 30.6.


C. E. GILMAN,
Lieut. Comdr., USNR.,
Flag Secretary.

RODGER W. SIMPSON,
Commodore, U. S. Navy,
Commander Task Group 30.6.

SECRET

ANNEX "CHARLIE"

Operation Plan

C.T.G. 30.6 No. 1-45.

201. Commander THIRD Fleet Communication Plan 1-45, Annex "HOW" to Operation Plan 10-45 is the basis from which this plan stems. Communications in accordance with Pac 70-B except as modified herein.
202. This plan is effective when any unit is directed to operate under the operation plan to which it is annexed.
- 203,234. Security - Our proximity to our enemies doubles the need for all precautions necessary to preserve the integrity of our information, publications, cryptographic aids, and the organization, plans and equipment of our Navy and our government. Security and reliability of communications will outweigh speed in every instance. Make maximum use of messengers, dispatch boats and all means other than radio for ship-shore communications. Take ashore only allowed and required cryptographic equipment. (Pac 70-B Annex "FOX").
411. Use Pac 6 for authentication when it is necessary.
851. No condition of radio silences are prescribed. The use of frequencies above 60 mcs should be made for all radio communications whenever possible.
3500. No press releases will be communicated to anyone except the Task Group Commander.

RADIO FREQUENCY PLAN

1. Listed herein are those frequencies not specified in Pac 70-B or are altered from those assigned therein. References to that publication are included.

<u>Type Watch</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>PacCon Ref.</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Guard	A	3	(C5)	477 kc (CW)	TG 30.6 Commander.
Int	B	2	(C5)	369 kc (CW)	TF Com, 3rdFleet.
Int	A	3	(E3)	3000 kc (V)	General warning.
Int	C	3	(C16)	3465 kc (V)	LAW.
Guard	D	5	(3072)	134.64 (P)(V)	SAD.
				129.78 (S)(V)	
Guard	D	5	(C14)	37.6 (P)(V)	IFD.
				2096 (S)(V)	IFD.
Guard	D	6	(F6)	116.10 (V)	Tower control guard.
Guard	D	3	(F1)	140.58 (V)	Common A/N.
Guard	A	6	(A3)	2716 (V)	Local Ship-Shore.
				54.8 (V)	
Guard	E	1	(E5)	500 kc (CW)	
Guard	A	1	(C6)	72.1 mc (P)(V)	Tactical.
				30.4 mc (S)(V)	

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ANNEX "CHARLIE"

Operations Plan

C.P.G. 30.6 No. 1-45.

LANDING PARTY FREQUENCIES

Selected from Annex "ABLE", Pac 70-B. Use frequencies assigned division A when practicable.

Special Liaison Channels --

Know are

- A. 11th Airborne Division (ARM)
4th Marine RCT

3780
3780 kc

- B. Joint air support net guarded by:

1. 5th Air force, Okinawa.
2. 5th Air Force Advanced, Tokyo.
3. Commander THIRD Fleet.
4. Commander Task Force 38.
5. Task Group Commanders - Task Force 38 if ordered.

Frequencies

11330 kc Day
4645 kc Night
3535 kc Alternate

Notes on Frequency Plan:

1. Continuous.
2. When directed.
3. If equipment available - At least one ship in company guard.
4. Within 300 miles Tokyo area or ComTHIRDFlt, CTF 31, and CAP furnished.
5. When CAP furnished.
6. When needed.

- A. All ships.
- B. Task Group Commander.
- C. Combatant ships.
- D. FD ships.
- E. One designated ship in company.

NOTE: Nothing in this plan is intended to preclude the use of common sense in passing the word. With heterogeneous ships in company (a definite possibility in this task group) dual tactical circuits, etc., not encompassed here, may be needed.

RODGER W. SIMPSON,
Commodore, U. S. Navy,
Commander Task Group 30.6.

R. Gilway
C. R. GILMAN,
Lieut. Condr., USNR.,
Flag Secretary.

FILE

A16-3/(11)

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
THIRD FLEET

Serial: ████ 0558

OCT 9 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
CTG 30.6 conf letter
file A16-3 serial 024
dated 22 September 1945.



From: Commander THIRD Fleet.
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via : (1) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report Covering Evacuation of Prisoners of War
during period 29 August 1945 to 19 September 1945.

1. Forwarded with a deep sense of pride and gratification for the outstanding performance of Task Group 30.6 in rapidly releasing and efficiently caring for approximately 20,000 Allied Prisoners of War. Commodore Simpson and all officers and men of his command are to be congratulated for the vigor, determination and adaptability which typified all of these operations. The richly deserved "well done" for this task group is further emphasized by the lifelong gratitude of all those thousands whose acute suffering they so fearlessly and efficiently relieved.

2. The cooperation and intelligent, vigorous assistance rendered by the Commanding General EIGHTH Army and all Army personnel under his command added immeasurably to the over-all success of these operations.

3. Attention is particularly invited to the recommendations in Part VII, enclosure (A). It is recommended that this matter be referred to the State Department for proper acknowledgment to the Swedish and Swiss Governments. Formal acknowledgment to the International Red Cross is also recommended.

4. Commander THIRD Fleet emphatically concurs in the remarks and recommendations in Part VIII, enclosure (A).

W. F. Halsey

W. F. Halsey

Copy to:
ComGen 8th Army
Commodore Rodger W. Simpson,
USN, Task Group 30.6

ENCLOSURE G

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