TOP SECRET SUEDE

9. KOREA. Communists issue new regulation for handling prisoners of war: An order on treatment of prisoners of war from the Korean Commander in Chief, dated 7 December, provided that no prisoners of war were to be released, that proper records on prisoners should be kept, and that currently held prisoners, "not as yet registered," should be reported to headquarters. The order further outlined the administrative procedures for handling of prisoners. (SUEDE US Air Force CM IN 3334, 13 Jan 52)

Comment: The issuance of this order eighteen months after the outbreak of war strongly suggests that Communist unit commanders have enjoyed a wide latitude in their handling of UN prisoners. It is also apparent from the order that the Communists have no record of some of the prisoners captured to date.

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