

HEADQUARTERS
44TH UNITED STATES ARMY
APO #0001 US ARMY

26 June 1945

AG 411.099 (DEBGA)

SUBJECT: Indoctrination for return to U.S.

TO : All Units.

1. In compliance with current policies for rotation of armed forces overseas it is directed that, in order to maintain the high standard of character of the American Soldiers and to prevent any dishonor to reflect on the uniform, all individuals eligible for return to the U. S. under current directives will undergo an indoctrination of demilitarization prior to approval of his application for return.

2. The following points will be emphasized in the indoctrination course:

a. In America there are a remarkable number of beautiful girls. These young ladies have not been liberated and many are gainfully employed as stenographers, sales girls, and beauty operators or welders. Contrary to current practices they should not be approached with "How much?" A proper greeting is "Isn't it a lovely day?" or "Have you ever been to Chicago?" Then say, "How Much?"

b. A guest in a private home is usually awakened in the morning by a light tapping on his door and an invitation to join the guests at breakfast. It is proper to say "I'll be there shortly." Do not say "Blow it out your a__".

c. A typical American breakfast consists of such strange foods as cantaloupes, fresh eggs, milk, ham, etc. These are highly palatable and though strange in appearance, are extremely tasty. Butter made from cream is often served. If you wish some butter, you turn to the person nearest it and say quietly "Please pass the butter". You do not say "Throw the goddam grease".

d. Very natural urges are apt to occur when in a crowd. If it is found necessary to defecate, one does not grab a shovel in one hand and paper in the other and run for the garden. At least 90% of American homes have one room called the "Bathroom", i.e. a room that in most cases, contains a bathtub, wash basin, medicine cabinet, and a toilet. It is the latter that you will use in this case. Instructions should make sure that all personnel understand the operation of a toilet, particularly the lever or button arrangement that serves to prepare the device for re-use.

e. In the event the helmet is retained by the individual, he will refrain from using it as a chair, washbowl, foot-bath and bathtub. All of these devices are furnished in the average American home. It is not considered good practice to squat Indian fashion in a corner in the event all chairs are occupied. The host will usually provide suitable seats.

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f. Belching is strictly frowned upon. If you should forget about it, however, and belch in the presence of others, a proper remark is "Excuse me".. Do not say "It must be that lousy chow we've been eating".

g. Americans dinners, in most cases, consist of several items, each served in a separate dish; the common practice of mixing various items, such as corned-beef and pudding, or lima beans and peaches, to make it more palatable will be refrained from. In time "Separate Dish" system becomes enjoyable.

h. Americans have a strange taste for stimulants. The drinks in common usage on the Continent, such as underripe wine, alcohol and grapefruit juice, or Gasline Bitters and water (commonly known by the French term 'Cognac') are not ordinarily acceptable to civilian circles. These drinks should be served only to those who are definitely not within the inner circle of friends. A suitable use for such drinks is for serving one's landlord in order to break an undesirable lease.

i. The returning soldier is apt to often find his opinion differ from those of his civilian associates. One should call upon his reserve of etiquette and correct his acquaintances with such remarks as "I believe you have made a mistake", or "I'm afraid you are in error in that. Do not say "Brother, you're really f___d up." This is considered impolite.

j. Upon leaving friends homes after a visit, one may find his hat misplaced. Frequently it has been placed in a closet. One should turn to one's host and say, "I don't seem to have a hat." Could you help me find it?" Do not say, "Don't leave this room, some SOB has stolen my hat".

k. In traveling in the US particularly in a strange city, it is often necessary to spend the night. Hotels are provided for this purpose and almost anyone can give directions to the nearest hotel. Here, for a small sum, one can register and be shown to a room where he can sleep for the night. The present practice of entering the nearest house, throwing the occupants into the yard, and taking over the premises will cease.

l. Whiskey, a common American drink, may be offered to the soldier on social occasions. It is considered a reflection on the uniform to snatch the bottle from the hostess and drain the bottle, cork and all. All individuals are cautioned to exercise the extreme of control in these circumstances.

m. In the motion pictures theatres seats are provided. Helmets are not required. It is not considered good form to whistle every time a female over 8 and under 80 crosses the screen. If vision is impaired by the person in the seat in front of you, there are plenty of other seats which can be occupied. Do not hit him across the back of the head and say "Move your head, jerk, I can't see a damn thing."

n. It is not proper to go around hitting everyone of draft age in civilian clothes. He might have been released from the service for medical reasons. Ask for his credentials, and if he can't show any, then go ahead and slug him.

o. Upon retiring, one will often find a pair of pajamas laid out on the bed. (Pajamas, it should be explained, are two-piece garments which are donned after all clothing has been removed). The soldier, confronted by these garments should assume an air of familiarity and act as though he were used to them. A casual remark, such as, "My what a delicate shade of blue" will usually suffice. Under no circumstances say "How the Hell do you expect me to sleep in a damn get-up like that?"

p. Natural functions will continue. It may be necessary frequently to urinate. Do not walk behind the nearest tree or automobile you find to accomplish this. Toilets are provided in all public buildings for this purpose.

q. Beer is sometimes served in bottles. A cap remover is usually available and it is not good form to open the bottle by the use of one's teeth.

r. Always tip your hat before striking a lady.

s. Air raids and enemy patrols are not encountered in America. Therefore it is not necessary to wear the helmet in church, or at a social gathering, or to hold the weapon at ready, loaded and cocked, when talking to civilians in the street.

t. Every American home and all hotels are equipped with bathing facilities. When it is desired to take a bath, it is not considered good form to find the nearest pool or stream, strip down and indulge in bathing. This is particularly true in heavily populated areas.

u. All individuals returning to the US will make every effort to conform to the customs and habits of the regions visited and to make themselves as inconspicuous as possible. Any actions which reflect upon the uniform will be promptly dealt with.

JOHN J. JONES?
Col. Inf
Commanding.

It is the policy of the United States to support the efforts of the people of the Republic of China to maintain their position as the only government of China, and to oppose any attempt to replace it by a government of the Chinese Communists.

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