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Staff Memorandum

REPORT ON THE POSSIBLE USES OF THE POLYGRAPH

And

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION OF
KOREAN NATIONALS AND COMMUNIST CHINESE

by

Russell Chatham, Incorporated

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Operations Research Office
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Staff Memorandum is preliminary,
tentative and subject to revision and
expansion.

REPORT ON THE POSSIBLE USES OF THE POLYGRAPH
DETECTION OF DECEPTION TECHNIQUE IN THE QUESTIONING
OF MILITARY PERSONNEL

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION OF
KOREAN NATIONALS AND COMMUNIST CHINESE

INTRODUCTION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Report of Cases: Korean Nationals

Report of Cases: Chinese Communists

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Training and supervision of an adequate body of polygraph operators.
- b. Possible uses of such a body of operators.
- c. Training of interpreters.
- d. Physical conditions necessary for adequate polygraph testing.

INTRODUCTION

It is the purpose of this report to present the possible use of the polygraph detection deception technique to problems of personnel - examination with special reference to G-2 operation and examination of suspects guilty of war crimes.

The writer has been interested in and associated with the work involving polygraph examinations since the first experiments conducted at the Berkeley California Police Department in 1921. His experience has covered some 29 years of polygraph examinations of criminal suspects; examination of applicants for positions of importance with commercial companies; and research on the use and validity of these polygraph techniques.

The writer has always insisted that the polygraph detection of deception technique has a definite but limited purpose and use whether it be in the criminological field or in the field of personnel examination for industry.

In the police field its best and most efficient use has been in the elimination of the innocent suspect from the body of the investigation.

In the commercial field its best use has been in the examination of the applicant for the position in question - the applicant being questioned as to his past activity rather than that of his future intentions.

The polygraph technique involves the measurement of pressure changes in systolic blood pressure and changes of respiratory activity at the same time of the questioning of the subject. The above named changes occurring as a result of emotions aroused accompanying attempts at deception.

Certain experimenters have spent considerable research time in the investigation of galvanometric changes of skin resistance to the passage of weak electrical currents. It is the writer's experience and opinion that these experiments have not indicated results which can be helpful to the polygraph detection of deception technique. In other words, insofar as the writer's experience is concerned, the use of an instrument which measures continuously systolic blood pressure changes and changes of respiratory activity is still sufficient and best for the efficient operation of the detection of deception technique.

The mechanics of operation of the modern polygraph may be taught in a few days but the instruction in the interpretation of the polygraph charts is not such a simple procedure.

To the writer's knowledge, there are at least 80 or more variations of systolic blood pressure and breathing recordings which may occur in any series of examinations. Fortunately for the trainee in the technique only about 12 of these variations occur in the majority of polygraph recordings.

The efficiency and accuracy of the polygraph operator is directly related to his experience in the field. Other conditions being equal the operator who has conducted one thousand polygraph examinations has a lower degree of error than he who has conducted one hundred examinations.

In this writer's opinion, the use of the polygraph technique, toward the solution of certain personnel problems of the Armed forces, is entirely feasible. This application of the technique is purely a matter of the adequate training and supervision of personnel and the meeting of certain physical conditions necessary for efficient operation.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Early experiments in the field of physiology and psychology indicate that there are accompanying physiological changes with changes in emotional states. Early Chinese writers noted that the guilty suspect paled or flushed during questioning about his crime. Other experimenters noted the inhibition of the flow of saliva in the mouth of the guilty suspect. Pavlov's conditioned reflex experiments with dogs is experimental proof of the point in question. Benussi has shown that there exists a definite inspiration - expiration ratio in the breathing curve resulting when the subject attempts to lie. Lombroso in his early work on criminal types observes that certain physiological changes in the heart action and breathing mechanism occur during the questioning of the guilty suspect.

Marston working with Army recruits in 1915 reported that deception could be detected to a high degree of accuracy by the use of a simple blood pressure measuring device. His method was to take several blood pressure readings immediately before the asking of a critical question and to take readings immediately after the subject had lied in response to the question.

In 1921 Larson, then a research student at the University of California and an officer of the Berkeley Police Department, undertook a further investigation of the deception phenomena reported by Marston. Larson reasoned that if Marston was able to detect deception to a high degree of accuracy using an intermittent method of blood pressure reading than any method which employed a continuous reading of the blood pressure curve would miss nothing and might add considerable of value to the data for interpretation of such records. He had reviewed the work of Benussi and decided a continuous curve of respiratory change indications would also be of good use for diagnostic purposes.

To this end he joined together several well known instruments namely, the erlanger sphygmomanometer, an instrument for the continuous measurement of blood pressure; 2 Marey tambours, from which he devised a pneumograph for the effective measurement of breathing

differences; a kymograph, for the constant movement of the recording chart and a chronograph which marked off time intervals on the kymograph chart. Thus, he assembled the first conglomeration of instruments subsequently described as the polygraph.

It was the writer's privilege to have been associated with Larson in the first and later experiments with the polygraph both at Berkeley and subsequently at the Institute for Juvenile Research in Chicago. Sometime in 1922 or 1923, Larson reported on some 400 cases of the questioning of criminal suspects. He subsequently read a paper on the polygraph examination of Asiatics, reporting that these subjects presented no special or unusual problem of polygraph curve interpretation. In 1931, Larson and the writer published a reference work "Lying and its detection" which summarized the work done to the above mentioned date.

Subsequently to the early experiments at Berkeley, Keeler, then an undergraduate at Stanford, devised a polygraph which proved to be far more efficient and compact than the earlier Berkeley polygraph. It is the Keeler Polygraph or one of several of its modifications that has had the most extensive use in the field since.

Later both Keeler and the writer established laboratories in Chicago offering polygraph service to law enforcement agencies and to business organizations. These laboratories examined thousands of cases with rather marked success. It was likewise in one or the other of these laboratories that a majority of the present day polygraph operators were trained.

Chatham, first working for ten years as polygraph examiner for the Indianapolis Police Department, later, formed a group of skilled operators for the purpose of examining personnel employed or associated with the Atomic Energy Commission. This operation is by far the most extensive and highly coordinated use to which the polygraph technique has been employed. It is the privilege of the writer to be associated with Chatham on this project.

REPORT OF CASES

Korean Nationals
Chinese Communist Headquarters
Eighth United States Army, Korea (EUSAK)

OPERATIONS RESEARCH OFFICE

APO 301

14 November 1950

SUBJECT: Polygraph Examination

TO: Dr. W. Kendall
A. Preparations for.
B. Examinations given with results summarized in separate report.
C. Opinion as to and the reliability of test given to Korean Nationals.

A. B. On 6 November 1950 it was decided that Korean Translators-Interpreters should be examined by the Polygraph Technique. A list of fifteen questions was compiled by Dr. Kendall, the writer and Mr. Daugherty. These questions were passed on and approved by the Director, Dr. Whitson, after they were submitted to G2 Section (EUSAK) which has in turn approved them. Mr. Kim translated the English into Korean.

On November 7, 1950 the writer made arrangements with Lt. Col. Jones, Chaplain SAC Area, for use of space in his office in the Mitsui Building for the purpose of giving Polygraph tests to the interpreter-translators. On the same date arrangement was made with Mr. Harkness for the scheduling of the examinations which were to begin on 9 November 1950 and to continue until examinations were completed. Examinations were given on the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 13th November as per arrangement. Report of these examinations is submitted separately.

C. After careful analysis of the Polygraph Examinations given the 25 interpreter-translator group of Korean Nationals it is the opinion of the writer that the Korean National does not present any special or different problem of interpretation insofar as the Polygraph Technique is concerned. If judgment can be made from the limited number of examinations given, it is then the opinion of the writer that Korean Nationals react as definitely and positively as do persons of the White race.

GEORGE W. HANEY
ORO, EUSAK

Headquarters
Eighth United States Army, Korea (EUSAK)
Operations Research Office

APO 301

14 November 1950

TO: Dr. W. Kendall
FROM: G. W. Haney
SUBJECT: Polygraph Examination of Interpreters and Translators
PLACE: Chaplain's Office - Mitsui Building - 4th Floor SAC Area
DATES: 9 - 10 - 11 - 13 - November 1950

QUESTIONS USED:

1. Is your name _____ ?
2. Are you now living in Seoul?
3. Are you loyal to the Republic of Korea?
4. Have you ever been associated with any Communist organization?
5. Did you have something to eat today?
6. Are you now a member of any Communist organization?
7. Have you friends or relatives who are Communist?
Have you relatives who have been Communist in the past?
8. Do you smoke?
9. Have you ever been fired from a job because of dishonesty?
Have you ever been fired from a job because of disloyalty?
10. Have you at any time given aid to the North Korean Army?
11. Have you traveled to enemy territory for the purpose of giving aid to the enemy?
12. Have you at any time in recent months wished North Korea to win the war?
13. Have you at any time considered joining the North Korean forces?
14. Do you support the United Nations because you believe the Communist position to be false?
15. Have you told the truth?

PERSONNEL:

Cho, Kakyong
9 Nov 50

Age 24, single, 3rd year student Seoul National University. About 1 month experience as interpreter with 24th Army. Polygraph examination - No significant

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| | response to critical questions. Subject emotionally stable. Recommended. |
| Wu, Gnmyong 9 Nov 50 | Age 24, single, 3rd year student Korean University. No experience as translator or interpreter. States he had university friends who are Communist. Polygraph examination indicates he has other Communist friends not mentioned. Not recommended for interpreting when information to be gained is vital. |
| Hong, Bongyong 9 Nov 50 | Age 30, married, daughter, age 4, 3rd year student Korean University. After questioning stated he had Communist friends and relatives. Not recommended for interpreting when information to be gained is vital. |
| Kim, Sechin 9 Nov 50 | Age 25, single, education middle school and 2 years Radio Institute. Polygraph examination indicates strong reaction to question of giving aid to North Korean Army. Not recommended. |
| Lee, Yungpin 9 Nov 50 | Age 21, single, 3rd year student Kokmin College. Polygraph examination shows reaction to questions 4, 6, 7, 7a, and 12. Not recommended. |
| Pak, Songmyong 9 Nov 50 | Age 23, single, 3rd year student in Law School, Kukmin University. Previous to his polygraph examination stated that his Aunt's husband was being held as a collaborator. His Polygraph Test indicated no significant response to critical question. Recommended and considered safe. |
| Kim, Wontak 9 Nov 50 | Age 25, single, graduate Seoul University. Polygraph examination indicates strong reaction to questions 3, 4, 6, 12, 13 and 14. Considered unsafe. |

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| <p>Yoo, Chin Hyung 9 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 26, single, 4th year student College Commerce Seoul University. No reaction to significant questions while on polygraph. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Chang, Johnhnsung 9 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 22, single, graduate Methodist Seminary. No reaction to significant question of Poly- graph. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Lew, Changyul 10 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 24, single, 2nd year student of Kongjyn College. Has had some interpreting ex- perience with Army. During first Polygraph test reacted to question of having Communist friends. On being questioned stated that some of his University friends are being held as collaborators, under arrest, for giving aid to NK Army. His second Polygraph test was clear of irregularity. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>So, Chongpal 10 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 31, married, son age 3, graduate Col- lege of Law Seoul National University. Taught English in the Intermediate School. Interpreting experience with 42nd Engr. Co. last year. Polygraph tests clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Kim, Lansang 10 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 24, single, beginning second year Tongadong Mon University (Japanese) Shanghai. Interpreting experience 512th Engr. US Army. Polygraph tests clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>La, Yongyun 10 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 20, single, 1st year student Dept. of Commerce Seoul University. Polygraph test clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Kim, Sangjo 10 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 27, widower, 3rd year student in Po- litical Science University of Manchuria. He is Catholic. He states that his cousin</p> |

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| | <p>Pae Ho is with the NK Army. He likewise has Communist friends who have fled north. Polygraph test clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Pak, Sanghyong 10 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 22, single, student Law College Seoul National University. Polygraph test clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Chon, Myungche 10 Nov 50</p> | <p>Age 25, single, graduate College Lib. Arts & Sciences Seoul National University. 2 years graduate School Sociology Seoul National University. Instructor College Lib. Arts Seoul. He states that some of his University acquaintances were Communist and are now in the north. Polygraph tests clear of irregularity. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Dr. Kendall NOTE OK</p> | |
| <p>Pae, Hamtok 11 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 24, single, 2nd year University of Korea major in English Literature. No interpreting experience. Polygraph tests clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Chu, Munki 11 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 26, single, graduate School of Law, Seoul University. Polygraph tests show clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Choe, Kynugsuck 11 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 21, single, 3 years Liberal Arts & Science College Seoul University. No interpreting experience. Polygraph tests clear of irregularities. Recommended.</p> |
| <p>Kwon, Chun Taek 11 Nov 50 OK</p> | <p>Age 36, married, no children, graduate Music Academy, Tokyo. No interpreting experience. Polygraph tests clear of irregularity. Recommended.</p> |

Park, Young Kon
11 Nov 50

Age 23, single, Graduate Taegu Commercial High School. Interpreter for about 5 months, G2 Section, Pusan PW Camp.
Polygraph tests contain many irregularities. Considered unsafe.

Whang, Hi Yon
11 Nov 50
OK

Age 21, single, graduate Middle School, 1st year Pre-Med Chosun Christian University. Interpreting experience Taegu and Pusan G2 Section.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities. Recommended.

La, Chum Kuk
13 Nov 50
OK

Age 26, single, 3 years Engineering College Seoul University. No experience as interpreter.
Polygraph test clear of irregularities. Recommended.

Han, Myong Eui
13 Nov 50
OK

Age 25, single, 2 years Engineering College Seoul University. No interpreting experience.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities. Recommended.

Yoon, Dong Shik
13 Nov 50
OK

Age 21, single 2 years of Electrical Engineering, Technical College, Seoul University. One year interpreting experience with 24th Army.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities. Recommended.

SUMMARY:

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| Persons Examined | - | 25 |
| Recommended | - | 18 |
| Considered Doubtful | - | 7 |

ADDENDUM:

It has been learned through Mr. K. Kim that a certain Ahn, Hyun Woo, was on the list of interpreter-translators. He failed to show for a polygraph test and has not appeared for work as interpreter-translator.

Headquarters
Eighth United States Army, Korea (EUSAK)
Operations Research Office

APO 301

25 November 1950

SUBJECT: Polygraph Examinations

TO: Dr. W. Kendall
A. Preparation for.
B. Examinations given with results summarized.

A. A request was made of Dr. W. Kendall, ORO, G-3 Section, by Mr. Harkness, Special Project, G-2 Section for Polygraph examinations of Korean National Employees of the Special Project, G-2 Section. Examination of 13 such Nationals was given in the Office of Special Project, G-2 Section, 3rd floor, Mitsui Building on 24 November 1950.

B. Questions asked in above examinations:

1. Is your name _____?
2. Are you living in Seoul?
3. Are you loyal to the ROK?
4. Have you ever been associated with any Communist organization?
5. Did you have something to eat today?
6. Are you now a member of any Communist organization?
7. Have you friends or relatives who are Communist?
Have you relatives who have been Communist in the past?
8. Do you smoke?
9. Have you ever been fired from a job because of dishonesty?
Have you ever been fired from a job because of disloyalty?
10. Have you at any time given aid to the NK Army?
11. Have you traveled to enemy territory for the purpose of giving aid to the enemy?
12. Have you at any time in recent months wished N. Korea to win the war?
13. Have you at any time considered joining the N. Korean forces?
14. Do you support the UN because you believe the Communist position to be false?
15. Have you told the truth?

PERSONNEL EXAMINED:

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| Im, Goel Soon | Age 36, married, 5 children, graduate Chosun Christian College 1941. Worked 3 years as interpreter for MP's. Polygraph test clear of irregularities. Recommended. |
| Lee, Yon Ok (female) Limited Usefulness | Age 21, single, 2 years Chosun Christian College major English Literature. She states that Lee Chong Hee a friend and classmate was an active Communist. Also a distant relative of her mother's is a Communist. Polygraph test indicates that she has other Communist friends not admitted. |
| Pak, Po Suk (female) OK | Age 20, single, graduate Japanese Middle School of Shanghai 1945. Polygraph test clear of irregularities. Recommended. |
| Hurh, Hyun Polygraph test contained no marked irregularities. He is considered safe for employment. | Age 47, married, 3 children. Tokyo High Normal School, graduate 1927. Boston University 1930 - 32 School of Philo. Interpreting experience and other positions held: Military Government Korea 1945; Usa - Ussr Joint Comm. Korea 1946; UN Commission 1947; USIS Translating Section 1949. Has been a teacher for several years. He stated that OK Myung Chan a journalist friend and publisher of the now defunct Korean Economist told him at the time of the Communist invasion that he was a Communist and had been doing a job for the Communist. Hu Hurh states that at the time he was with USIS he had supplied OK with material for publication in the Korean Economist. That at this time he was not aware of OK's connection with the Communists. According to Hurh, his brother Dr. Hurh Yong has been arrested in Karsong by the Communists. |

Whang Kyung Soon
(female)
OK

Age 23, single, educated Ewha University -
BA Degree.
Polygraph test clear of irregularities.
Recommended.

Chin, Lei Wan

Age 44, married, 4 children, gradu-
ated Seoul Law College 1933. He states
that his cousin Chin Chul Lynn joined the
Communist party and left for the north
before the UN invasion. He states that
the Communist had him on their lists for
liquidation. He was an interpreter for
31st Bat. MP's and Security Section
American Embassy.
His polygraph tests indicate marked re-
actions to questions 4, 6, 14, and 15.
Not recommended.

Whang, Sang Youn
OK

Age 20, single, 1 year at Chosun Christian
University.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities.
Recommended.

Lee, Song Chae
OK

Age 27, single, graduated Seoul Middle
School. Polygraph tests clear of irre-
gularities.
Recommended.

O, Chin Yong
OK

Age 33, Married, 2 children, graduate
College of Law Seoul University.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities.
Recommended.

Whang, Ho Youn
OK

Age 19, single, 4th year at Seoul HS.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities.
Recommended.

Nam, Tok Wu
OK

Age 27, single, graduate Pol. Sci. Kuk
Min College.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities.
Recommended.

Ahn, Cynn Young
OK

Age 48, married, 4 children, graduate
Chosun Christian College. Was trans-
lator for Military Government 1945-46.
Now acting editor of World News USIS.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities.
Recommended.

Lee, Kyung Yul
OK

Age 50, married, 4 children, graduate
Chosun Christian College, 1 year
graduate work at Waseda University.
Polygraph tests clear of irregularities.
Recommended.

Persons Examined - 13
Recommended - 11
Considered unsafe - 2

G. W. HANEY
ORO, EUSAK

Headquarters
Eighth United States Army, Korea (EUSAK)
Operations Research Office

APO 301

4 December 1950

SUBJECT: Polygraph Examinations
a. Liu, Ping - Chang, Captain CCF - 66th 197 Division
b. Chang, Hsueh Chang, Captain CCF 40th Army

TO: Dr. W. L. Whitson

Procedure: On 26 November 1950 the writer went to
EUSAK Advance for the purpose of conducting aforementioned Polygraph
tests. That of Liu Ping Chang, was given on 26 November 1950 with the
aid of Mr. Daugherty and two Chinese interpreters. The second exam-
ination, that of Chang, Hsueh Chang, was given 28 November 1950. Mr.
Daugherty and two Chinese interpreters were present.

Questions Asked:

Series I

- a.
 1. Is your name Liu, Ping Chang?
 2. Are you a Captain?
 3. Is the location of the 66th Army units given us true as far as you know?
 4. Are there six Chinese armies in Korea?
 5. Is there any Chinese cavalry in Korea?

6. Did you have a meal at the officers' mess?
7. Is the location of the 39th Army true as far as you know?
8. Do you believe the Communist doctrine?
9. Did you cross the Yalu on 24 October?
10. Is the location of the 40th Army as you have shown it?
11. Is the strength of a Chinese Army 30,000?
12. Have you seen Russian built tanks in Korea?
13. Have you told the truth during this examination?

Series II

1. Is your name Liu Ping Chang?
2. Are you a Communist?
3. Is the strength of the 197th Division between 10,000 and 11,000?
4. Are you here to give false information?
5. Did you eat today?
6. Have you seen any anti-tank weapons in the Taechon Area?
7. Have you seen UN POW's?
8. Have you ever seen the Joseph Stalin tank?
9. Are there any Stalin type tanks in the Chinese Army?
10. Have you seen anti-tank mine fields?
11. Have there been (few - many) casualties in your Division?
12. Is the three sides fence tactic commonly used in division-sized units?
13. Is there any shortage of ammunition in the 197th Division?
14. Is the morale in the 66th Army considered low?
15. Have you told the truth?
16. Do you want us to notify your family through the Red Cross?

b. Chang, Hsueh Chang

1. Is your name Chang, Hsueh Chang?
2. Is your home in China?
3.
 - a. Do you understand English?
 - b. Do you understand Russian?
 - c. Do you understand Korean?
4. Are you a Communist?
5. Did you eat today?
6. Are you a company commander?
7. Can you write better than you pretended yesterday?
8. Did you tell the truth in answer to our questions yesterday?
9. Were you instructed to surrender by your superior officer?
10. Have you seen any UN POW's?

11. Is your battalion commander's name Haun, Li-yeh?
12. Have you told the truth?

Results

a. Liu, Ping Chang - Subject was completely cooperative, offering more information than asked for and after about seven hours of questioning was given Polygraph tests using above noted questions. There were no significant responses to critical questions. It is therefore, the opinion of the writer that the subject was telling the truth on the questions asked.

b. Chang, Hsueh Chang - Subject was questioned for several hours. He was not cooperative to any degree. He constantly pretended to misunderstand questions asked him. Subsequently he was given Polygraph tests and reacted definitely to questions - (a) Are you a Communist agent? (b) Did you tell the truth in answer to our questions yesterday? (c) Were you instructed to surrender by your superior officers? (d) Have you told the truth during this examination? On the basis of the above results of this Polygraph test, it was suggested to Lt. Col. Hatsel Harris, PW Officer, G-2, Eighth Army, that the prisoner be kept separated from other POW's.

GEORGE W. HANEY

Earlier in this paper, the writer has stated the opinion that the use of the polygraph technique in questioning of military personnel is entirely feasible. That opinion is not based alone on the limited number of cases herein presented but is likewise based on the writer's experience in the examination of thousands of persons of many nationalities, races, and creeds. Beside the commonly used direct question method, the writer has questioned through interpreters and in several cases has been given the task of examining deaf and dumb persons. Although questioning through interpreters presents a problem, it is one which can be effectively met through special arrangement with and training of the interpreter. In the opinion of the writer, interpreter conducted examinations are in every way comparable to the direct question type of examination.

In military operations of any magnitude, it becomes necessary to question large numbers of prisoners of war. Due to the number of POW Personnel involved, the present questioning technique by necessity reduces itself to a sampling of the total POW Personnel involved.

It is the opinion of the writer that the use of a sufficiently large group of properly trained polygraph operators could screen the entire POW Population segregating them with reference to their specific reaction to certain critical questions. This screened group could then be

turned over to the questioners of the various branches for purposes of intensive questioning. Thus by this method of screening, time, effort, and the losses of information by the aforementioned sampling operation could be eliminated.

As for example, a team of 50 trained polygraph operators, each operator examining 30 POWs per day could in a short period of time examine large numbers of POW's; singling out for further examination those POWs who by their polygraph examination indicated themselves as a more fruitful field for intensive questioning.

Such polygraph operator teams with their interpreters and adequate secretarial personnel could be of any size group adequate to deal with the volume of POW examination necessary.

The Selection of Personnel for the Training and Supervision of an Adequate Body of Polygraph Operators

The trainee for prospective polygraph operator should be a person, male, between the ages of 25 - 35. He should have an intelligence quotient in excess of 120. He must be adaptable to his environment and quick to learn. He must show a definite interest in the type of work he is to do. He must be intellectually honest.

Given a basic selection of 100 such prospective operators, the supervisor or director of such a training program could within a short time weed out all except 50 of the best prospects.

The figure of 50 trainees is chosen by the writer simply because its group size approximates that of the size of the average beginning class in a university.

The training program for operators should be carried on near a university where advantage may be taken of specialized classes in physiology, psychology and psychiatry and where adequate facilities exist for reference perusal in a library of research adequacy.

After approximately 3 months of intensive training in the above named sciences, the trainee would be prepared for an additional two months of intensive training in the study of the detection of deception technique. This training should be done through lectures, demonstrations and interpretations of actual polygraph curves.

Following the above period, the trainee should be given a month of intensive training in the operation of the polygraph and the questioning of all types of subjects. After the above outlined period of training, the trainee should be prepared for field operation.

Because of the nature of the work and the monotony of examining subject after subject, the operator should be under careful and exacting supervision of a highly qualified polygraph expert. Every effort should be made by the polygraph expert-director to maintain high morale and alertness in the polygraph operator.

The Training of Interpreters

Interpreters may be trained in the field, and they may be drawn from friendly personnel indigenous to the locale. They should be intelligent, imaginative and have a good command of the language used by the average of enemy personnel. A knowledge of academic grade language would prove inadequate.

The interpreter should be quick to learn the signals given him by his polygraph operator since all questioning to be done, he will do, working from previously prepared lists of questions.

Further, all interpreters should be frequently checked by a master interpreter in order to be sure that questions he is asking are on proper subject matter and interpretations made to his polygraph operator are clear and adequate.

Physical Conditions Necessary for Effective Polygraph Testing

The physical conditions under which polygraph examinations are given must remain as constant as possible. The room in which the examination is conducted should be well lighted, heated to a temperature between 65° - 72° F, and should be insulated as far as possible against outside sound. It should be of sufficient size, not smaller than 8 x 10 feet. It should contain as furnishings a table and 3 straight chairs. These conditions as set up here are not to be considered hard and fast rules but rather those of the ideal condition. In field operations where it is proposed to run large groups of POWs, a quonset hut properly divided into examining room cubicles would be adequate. Such a properly equipped quonset hut would have the additional advantages of portability to and erection on the site of POW camps.

RESUME

1. It is the opinion of the writer that polygraph testing of military personnel on a large scale is feasible.
2. That the adequate training of a sizeable body of polygraph experts does not present a difficult problem.
3. That such experts could be used profitably in the examination of POWs to gain military information, information concerning war crimes, and, toward more efficient operations of CID.

GEORGE W. HANEY
ORO, G-3