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grants rights to individuals. It is individuals who benefit from the law being obeyed.

3. All personnel should be aware of the basic rules of the law of armed conflict. They are set out in Part B for junior rates, Royal Marines, soldiers and airmen, in Part C for senior rates and non-commissioned officers. Protective emblems are illustrated and described in Part D.

PART B - RULES FOR JUNIOR RATES, ROYAL MARINES, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN

I MUST -

1. Comply with service discipline and these rules which are made for my protection and to reduce unnecessary suffering.

2. Respect the protective emblems of the medical services and white flag of truce (see Part D).

3. Treat all persons who fall into my power humanely and protect them from the dangers of war.

4. Care for the wounded including the enemy.

I MUST NOT -

1. Cause more damage or injury than my operational task requires.

2. Take enemy property for my personal use.

3. Use poison or other my weapons or ammunition so as to increase injury or damage.

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PRISONERS OF WAR (PW) Status

16. In cases of doubt, captured personnel should be treated as PW until their status has been determined by higher authority.

Initial Capture

17. On initial capture of PW the following rules must be followed:

a. Humane treatment

b. Medical care for the wounded.

c. Search, disarm, remove military papers and equipment.

d. Allow PW to keep identity documents, personal items, protective and other clothing, canteen, badges of rank and decoration.

e. Establish identity.

f. No torture or threats to obtain information.

g. Swift evacuation from the combat area.

h. Money and valuables are only to be removed on the order of an officer and a receipt must be given.

Rights if Captured

18. If you are captured you must give only your number, rank, full names, date of birth, blood type and religion.

Detaining Power:

provide adequate shelter, food, clothing and medical

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I MUST NOT ATTACK -

6. Peaceful civilians.

9. Medical personnel and chaplains.

10. Those protected by a flag of truce.

11. Hospitals, medical centres or medical transports.

12. Enemy combatants who are no longer fighting and are disabled or have surrendered.

13. Civilian buildings or property which are neither being used for military purposes nor have military importance.

IF CAPTURED -

14. I must give my number, rank, full names and date of birth - but nothing else.

15. I must not do any work of a military character for my captors.

PART C - RULES FOR SENIOR RATES AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

DISCIPLINE

1. Discipline is vital to efficiency. Offences against service law and the law of armed conflict undermine discipline and must be dealt with.

2. Illegal orders are not to be given or carried out.

3. Breaches of the law of war are usually also offences against service law and are tried under service discipline acts, but they may be tried by a civil court under the ordinary criminal law, which includes the Geneva Convention Act 1957.

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b. Must allow PW to make complaints to representatives of the Detaining Power or the International Committee of the Red Cross.

c. Must display in permanent PW camps a copy of the 1949 Geneva Convention in the language of the PW.

d. Cannot make any PW do work of a dangerous or military nature and can require NCO PW to do supervisory work only.

e. Can take disciplinary measures against PW after investigation, trial and conviction, but may not use torture or coercion.

CIVILIANS

19. Civilians, especially women and children, must be treated humanely and respected. They must be protected so far as possible from the incidental dangers of war. In particular they may not be used to shield military operations. Coercion, torture, collective punishments and the taking of hostages are forbidden.

PART D - THE LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT PROTECTIVE EMBLEMS (1)

1. Medical Services
Red on a white background



2. Flag of Truce (2)
Plain white flag (any material)

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COMBAT RULES

4. Killing or wounding an enemy by treachery is forbidden.

5. A white flag of truce may be used to signal a wish to talk to the enemy. The side using the white flag must stop fighting and indicate a wish to communicate. Both sides must then stop fighting. Abuse of the white flag is treachery. (See Part D).

6. Poison is not to be used. Weapons and ammunition must not be altered to increase injury, or damage.

7. No more damage or injury may be caused than is necessary to carry out your operational task. Care should be taken to minimise incidental damage or injury.

8. Enemy property is not to be taken, damaged or destroyed without an operational need. Looting is prohibited.

9. It is forbidden to compel enemy nationals to take part in military operations against their own country.

ATTACKS

10. It is prohibited to attack:

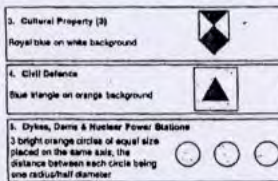
a. Undeclared towns, villages or buildings, safety, neutralised or demilitarised zones.

b. Civilian buildings or property, especially cultural property (See Part D). ~~Buildings that are not being used for military purposes, etc. have military importance.~~

c. Civil defence facilities, dykes, dams and nuclear power stations (see Part D). ~~Buildings that are not being used for military purposes, etc. have military importance.~~

d. Civilians who are not actually engaged in combat.

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Notes:

(1) In addition to the emblems illustrated, the following letters should be painted on walls or roofs to denote buildings in Prisoner of War (Prisoner of Quarters) Camps or civilian internment Camps, which are protected from attack: PW (D) (C)

(2) A flag of truce indicates no more than an intention to enter into negotiations with the enemy. It does not automatically create a truce. There is no obligation to receive a flag party, which may be sent back. It may not however be attacked and on completion of its mission must be allowed to return to its own lines if it wishes to do so. A flag party may consist of an envoy, flag bearer, interpreter and interpreter/interpreter/interpreter. The party may be on foot or in a vehicle or aircraft flying the white flag.

(3) This symbol is used by many NATO States (but not the UK) under the Hague Cultural Property Convention 1954 to denote buildings used for religion, art, science, charity, historical monuments, or other important cultural objects.

a. Medical personnel and chaplains, hospitals, medical centres or medical transports. They will usually be identified by one of the Geneva emblems: Red Cross or Red Crescent on a white background. (See Part D).

3. Enemy combatants who are no longer fighting because they are disabled by wounds or sickness, who wish to communicate under the flag of truce, or who have surrendered. (See Part D).

11. Attacks must not be indiscriminate. They must always be directed at military objectives.

MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND CHAPLAINS

12. Medical personnel and chaplains have special, non-combatant status. They are only permitted to carry out their medical and spiritual duties and may take no other part in combat, except as specified below.

13. Medical personnel may carry and use small arms for their personal self-defence or the protection of their patients. They may not use them to resist capture, but only when they or their patients are directly attacked.

14. If captured, medical personnel and chaplains are not prisoners of war (PW). They may only be retained by their captors if required to continue their medical and spiritual duties for the benefit of PW of their own forces. They then have special status as 'retained personnel'.

WOUNDED, SICK AND DEAD

15. All the wounded and sick must be duly treated, whether merely or heavily. Priority of treatment is determined by medical reasons alone. The dead must not be plundered or mutilated.

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OPERATION TELIC

AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT

INTRODUCTION

This leaflet is issued to all UK service personnel deployed on Operation TELIC. It outlines the key principles of the Law of Armed Conflict and offers practical guidance on its application. Personnel whose responsibilities require them to have a more detailed knowledge of the application of the Law of Armed Conflict in this operation will find further guidance in the Rules of Engagement, Targeting Directives, and associated documents. Detailed guidance to Commanders will be available at all times through the Naval and Military legal advisors in the chain of Command.

PART A - THE LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT

1. In every international armed conflict, members of armed forces, including accompanying civilians, are subject not only to their own service law, but also to international law. However, international law, which makes up the law of armed conflict, is mainly contained in the Hague Rules of 1907, the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, and the First Geneva Additional Protocol of 1977. The law of armed conflict is enforced in the UK by Acts of Parliament such as the Geneva Conventions Act 1957, and by other provisions of criminal and service disciplinary law. Individuals who break the law may expect to be dealt with and, if found guilty, severely punished. It should be remembered that the Naval Discipline Act 1957, the Army Act 1955 and the Air Force Act 1955 operate at all times.

2. The law of armed conflict provides for the protection and humane treatment of both combatants and non-combatants. It protects the basic rights of civilians, prisoners of war (PW), and incapacitated, wounded and sick members of armed forces. The law sets out duties and

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