

Laying It On Returning POWs

Washington

"Hey, big daddy," says a Pentagon pamphlet for returning prisoners of war, "when your young son or daughter comes to you and says, 'Do you dig?' you can say, 'Lay it on me dude, and right on.'"

The pamphlet is a dictionary of slang expressions to help POWs — some of whom haven't been home in eight years — understand the language of today's youth.

The head of a household, advises the pamphlet, is "big daddy." Being high on either drugs or alcohol is "blasted," while to focus attention on something is to "tune in."

"This is a part of the language and the slang being used by the youth of today — your sons and daughters," says the pamphlet.

MOON

The POWs also can be expected to be unaware that Americans first landed on the moon July 20, 1969; that Richard Nixon was elected

in 1968 and re-elected in 1972, or that "U.S. infantry troops entered the South Vietnamese village of Song My (My Lai) in March 1968 and murdered 450 civilians."

Summaries such as the latter are included in the pamphlet to bring the prisoners up to date on major events, sports highlights and deaths of prominent individuals since 1965.

The pamphlets will be handed out to the POWs on the way home.

A Pentagon spokesman said the news summary is "not mandatory reading" and in "no way intends to manage the news."

SUMMARY

"Some of these guys are going to be out of touch with current events and recent history and this is just another way to bring them up to date," the spokesman said.

The summary was prepared by NBC newsman Peter Hackes and Gordon Hart of Oklahoma State University, Navy reservists who

wrote it during summer training.

Some other examples in the pamphlet:

"July 7, 1967—Vietnam commander Westmoreland asks LBJ to send over another 100,000 men. Says we are winning slowly but steadily.

"Dec. 22, 1968—Julie Nixon, daughter of president-elect, marries David Eisenhower, Ike's grandson.

"Oct. 15, 1969—Millions join in first Vietnam Moratorium Day demonstrations including tens of thousands in Washington . . . all protesting the war."

Others include synopses of such events as the Kent State shootings, the Sharon Tate murders, the Joe Frazier-Muhammed Ali prizefight, the attempted assassination of Governor George Wallace, Marilyn Monroe's death, the 1972 presidential race and, finally, president that adviser Henry Kissinger's successful negotiations to end the war.

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