

Travis Plans for the Prisoners

By Charles Howe

Operating under strict security policies laid down by the Pentagon, three Bay Area military installations talked to the press yesterday on how they will process servicemen who were held prisoner in Southeast Asia.

After their layover at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines, almost all of the men being returned will be flown to Travis Air Force Base near Fairfield in Solano county.

Almost all of the 591 known prisoners will pass through Travis on their way to hospitals closest to their homes. Some will be rapidly transferred to the Army's Letterman General Hospital at The Presidio or to the Oakland Naval Hospital, widely known as Oak Knoll Hospital.

About 75 of the prisoners, over the coming weeks, will remain at the David Grant Medical Center at Travis. These men, mainly Air Force personnel from Northern California, will be temporarily housed in one-bed rooms.

QUESTIONS

Military spokesmen at the three Bay Area bases were unable to answer immediately two critical questions:

When will the first returnees arrive at Travis and how long will it take before they can be interviewed by the press?

At Travis, Lieutenant Colonel William J. Reslie told the press his base will have a minimum of 17 hours notice before a giant C-141 Starlifter takes off from Clark AFB in the Philippines.

HIDDEN

As the men arrive at Travis, he said, they will be picked up in a large ambulance and transferred to either the on-base David Grand Medical Center, the 32-room hospital nearby, or to appro-

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Political Slayings By Saigon Feared

London

The Vietnam cease-fire agreement has failed to provide adequate safeguards for the estimated 100,000 civilian detainees in South Vietnam, Amnesty International said yesterday.

"There is a real danger that key members of the South Vietnamese non-

communist opposition who are detained will be killed before the supervisory commissions come into operation 24 hours after the cease-fire Saturday night," an Amnesty statement said.

Amnesty is an international nonpolitical human rights pressure group.

United Press

private Army or Navy hospitals.

The prisoners will be virtually hidden from the public as the planes land.

The big hospital buses will back up to the planes and the men will be unloaded. Many of them will be carried off on stretchers.

Spokesmen said a few of the men may make brief statements before they board the hospital buses. In no case, the spokesmen said, will the men be allowed to be questioned by the press.

At Travis, members of the press and families of the prisoners will be about 25 yards away from the unloading process. When the buses arrive at the hospital, they will back into a loading ramp and the men will be carried in.

Photographers and other members of the press will be kept back at least 25 yards as the men are taken into the hospital, spokesmen said.

FAMILIES

"I have no idea when the first aircraft will arrive here," Lieutenant Colonel Reslie said, adding he knew nothing about reports that President Nixon might show up to welcome the first

the individual's desire to be interviewed, which will be taken into consideration. Department of Defense approval must be obtained prior to any interview."

Families will first greet their men after they are taken to the military hospital at Travis, Reslie said.

VISITS

"We will try and arrange the visits in private, as soon as the men deplane."

At Travis, Reslie said the Air Force was trying to keep the whole business of the return home at a low key.

A variety of magazines and news films covering the events that have taken place over the last ten years will be available for the men to review, as each is hospitalized.

"Will there be a band playing when the men arrive?" a newscaster shouted—one voice from a group of about 50 news types at a press conference.

"There will be no bands," Reslie replied. "We don't want to make it a circus, let's put it that way."