

## STUDY FINDS P.O.W.'s USED FOR POLITICS

NYTimes APR 20 1973

SEATTLE, April 19 (AP)—

Prisoners of war returning from Southeast Asia have been used for political ends rather than being treated according to their mental health needs, according to a report prepared for the American Psychological Association.

"The P.O.W.'s have been assigned the role of heroes in a war that has no heroes—the central role in an elaborate drama staged to provide justification for the President's policy, to create an illusion of victory and to arouse a sense of patriotic fervor," the report said.

The author is Dr. Herbert Kelman of Battelle Northwest, part of the Batelle Memorial Foundation, which is engaged

in several research projects financed through Federal grants.

Dr. Kelman said the psychological association's Board of Social and Ethical Responsibility "has been stymied in efforts to obtain any information which would put to rest the fears of psychological manipulation or psychological mistreatment."

He said the board had been given the run-around when trying to find out how psychiatrists decided when to release a prisoner. The psychiatrists said to ask the Pentagon and the Pentagon said to ask the psychiatrists, he reported.

Dr. Kelman said that the sort of quiet, private homecoming recommended by psychologists with Operation Homecoming and adopted by the Prisoner of War-Missing in Action Task Force had been discarded, apparently because of political and public relations objectives.