

## **7 FAM 470 THE DEATH OF A PRISONER**

*(TL:CON-11; 10-30-84)*

### **7 FAM 471 REPORTING THE DEATH**

Whenever a U.S. citizen prisoner dies, the post should notify the next of kin (NOK) or interested party by telegram and follow the normal procedures as set forth in 7 FAM 200 . In addition, the death of any U.S. citizen while in custody abroad must be reported promptly to the Department (CA/OCS/EMR) by separate telegram, giving as many of the pertinent details as are available. Unless it is clear that the medically determined cause of death obviates the possibility that death resulted from mistreatment or negligence on the part of the local authorities, the post should comment in its report to the Department whether or not this factor appears to exist.

### **7 FAM 472 INVESTIGATING CAUSE OF DEATH**

If there is reasonable suspicion that death may have resulted from mistreatment or negligence, the post should immediately request the host government to undertake a full investigation of the cause of death, including proper post mortem if such is not routine. It must be noted, however, that there are no U.S. Government funds to pay for such post mortem examination. Posts facing this problem should not hesitate to seek the Department's advice and guidance.

### **7 FAM 473 THROUGH 479 UNASSIGNED**