

ENVELOPE

CDSN = CFS206 MCN = 95311/00481 TOR = 953110024
PTTSZYUW RUEKDIA1115 3110006- --RUEANSS.

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HEADER

P 031615Z NOV 95

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC//

TO RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP-VLC//

RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI//JTFFA DET 2//

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5:PW-MIA/J5:PAC//

RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J32//

RUHPHQ/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//

RUEALGX/SAFE WASH DC

BT

CONTROLS

CITE: 41701-96

SECTION 1 OF 2

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

SUBJ: LIVE SIGHTING INVESTIGATOR (LSI) TASKING (A-050) --
UNDERGROUND DETENTION FACILITY

REFS: A. INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVE D-VOP-2430-03-90,
SIGHTINGS OF AMERICANS.

B. DET32 MSG 150659Z SEP 87, SUBJ: POSSIBLE
VIETNAMESE UNDERGROUND DETENTION FACILITY FOR U.S.
POW'S

C. DET32 MSG 210100Z JUN 90, SUBJ: IIR 1 512 0218 90
- UNDERGROUND DETENTION FACILITY FOR U.S. PW'S IN
NORTH VIETNAM

1. LSI INVESTIGATION IS BASED UPON REFS AND BACKGROUND
CONTAINED HEREIN.

2. BACKGROUND:

A. THE TWO REFERENCED DET 32 REPORTS PROVIDE
INFORMATION REGARDING AN UNDERGROUND PRISON LOCATED INSIDE A
MOUNTAIN IN A MILITARY SECURITY ZONE IN VINH PHU PROVINCE, SRV.
ALTHOUGH THIS HUMINT REPORTING IS DATED, SERIOUS CONCERNS WITH
REGARD TO THIS INFORMATION WERE PUBLICLY SURFACED RECENTLY AND
GAINED HIGH LEVEL CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST.

B. THE HUMINT REPORTING IS SUMMARIZED BELOW:

(1) REF B: THIS SOURCE STATED IN 1987 THAT HE
ACQUIRED INFORMATION FROM A SUBSOURCE AND FRIEND WHO WAS ASSIGNED
TO A PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) UNIT GUARDING A PRISON
BETWEEN 82 AND 84. ACCORDING TO THE SUBSOURCE, THERE WERE
APPROXIMATELY 300 AMERICAN POWS LIVING IN AN UNDERGROUND PRISON;
PAVN UNITS WERE DEPLOYED IN THREE CONCENTRIC DEFENSIVE PERIMETERS,
SPACED 2 KM APART, SURROUNDING THE MOUNTAIN IN WHICH THE PRISON
WAS LOCATED. ADDITIONALLY, THE ONLY ACCESS TO THIS AREA WAS A

OASD DPMO	
Date Received	7 Nov 95
Watch Officer	R
Distro	Act / Info
Director	— ✓
Deputy Dir	— ✓
Chief of Staff	— ✓
Exec Asst	— ✓
Gen Counsel	— ✓
Pol/Plns	— ✓
Res/Analyst	— ✓
Jt Comm Spt	— ✓
Ref/DOC	— ✓
Ext Affairs	— ✓
Resource Mgmt	— ✓
RA-SA	— ✓
RA-CA	— ✓
Collection	— ✓
Tech-Source Files	

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NARROW ROAD THAT EXTENDED FROM AN UNKNOWN ROAD. THE PRISON WAS
REPORTED TO BE LOCATED 50 KM WEST OF PHUC YEN. THE REPORTING
AGENCY INCORRECTLY PLACED THIS ALLEGED FACILITY IN THE AREA OF
HUNG HOA.

(2) REF C: THE SOURCE OF THIS FIRSTHAND REPORT
CLAIMED TO HAVE VISITED AN UNDERGROUND PRISON HOLDING ABOUT 200
AMERICAN POWS ABOUT 30 KM WEST OF SON TAY IN MAY 72. THE SOURCE
SAID THAT PAVN GUARDS WERE POSTED AROUND THE FACILITY AND THAT
VISITORS HAD TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AT THE GUARD SHACK BEFORE
ENTERING THE UNDERGROUND FACILITY.

C. IN A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THIS REPORTING, DPMO
IDENTIFIED THREE SEPARATE HILLS OR MOUNTAINS IN THE AREA 30 KM
WEST OF SON TAY AND 50 KM WEST OF PHUOC YEN. DATA

THE THREE SITES ARE AS

FOLLOWS:

(1) DATA

(2) DATA

(3) DATA

D. SOURCE METHOD

(A) THE DATA AREA, DATA : THIS
RIDGE LINE, APPROXIMATELY 5 KM IN LENGTH, OVERLOOKED THE DATA
THE HILL SIDE WAS RELATIVELY STEEP ON THE WESTWARD SIDE, MORE
GENTLY SLOPING ON THE EAST SIDE. LOW, SPARSE, SCRUB VEGETATION
WAS GROWING ON THE WEST FACE; DENSER SCRUB VEGETATION WAS OBSERVED
ON THE EAST SLOPE AS WELL AS CLEARED CROP AREAS. DATA

UNTRACEABLE ROADS OR TRAILS WERE NOTED. DATA NO
DATA NO CAVES WERE LOCATED.

(B) DATA :
THIS VEGETATED HILL MASS SAT BETWEEN THE DATA
TO THE EAST AND A STREAM THAT FED INTO THE DATA TO THE
WEST. THE HILL LAY GENERALLY NORTHWEST TO SOUTHEAST IN
ORIENTATION AND COVERED AN AREA 7 KM LONG BY 7 KM WIDE. NUMEROUS
VILLAGES AND AGRICULTURAL FIELDS SURROUNDED THE BASE OF THE HILL
MASS. DATA NO CAVES WERE
LOCATED. NO UNTRACEABLE ROADS OR TRAILS WERE NOTED.

(C) THE DATA AREA, DATA : THIS
STEEPLY SLOPED HILL MASS WAS LOCATED EAST OF THE DATA AND
COVERED AN AREA APPROXIMATELY 11 KM SQUARE. OBSERVED VEGETATION
APPEARED DENSE ALONG THE RIDGE LINE, EASTERN SLOPES AND VALLEYS,
WHILE IT WAS SPARSE AND AGRICULTURAL ON THE WESTERN SLOPES AND
AROUND THE BASE. NUMEROUS VILLAGES AND AGRICULTURAL FIELDS
SURROUNDED THE
BASE OF THE HILL MASS. DATA

NO CAVES WERE LOCATED. NO UNTRACEABLE ROADS OR TRAILS
WERE NOTED.

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3. REQMTS: REQUEST STONY BEACH INVESTIGATOR TRAVEL TO THE AREA OF INTEREST AND ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE THE FOLLOWING:

A. IS THERE EVIDENCE OF ANY UNDERGROUND BUNKERS, PRISONS OR DETENTION FACILITIES? DETERMINE IF ANY ARE CURRENTLY IN USE.

B. IF THERE IS RESIDUAL EVIDENCE THAT BUNKERS, PRISONS OR DETENTION FACILITIES WERE ONCE ACTIVE IN THIS AREA; DETERMINE THE DATES OF ACTIVITY, THE PURPOSE OF THE FACILITY, THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS HELD, AND HOW MANY AMERICAN POWS WERE HELD HERE. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE AMERICANS?

C. ARE THERE GRAVE SITES OR CEMETERIES ASSOCIATED WITH ANY OF THE FACILITIES NOTED IN THIS AREA; IS THERE EVIDENCE THAT AMERICANS ARE BURIED THERE? WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE AMERICAN GRAVE SITES, HOW ARE THE SITES MARKED; PROVIDE A SKETCH MAP WHICH SHOWS THE POSITION OF THE AMERICAN'S GRAVE SITE IN RELATION TO THE REMAINDER OF THE AREA.

D. REPORT WHAT TYPES OF SECURITY MEASURES ARE EVIDENT; HOW IS ACCESS TO THE FACILITY OF INTEREST CONTROLLED? WHICH MILITARY UNIT HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY?

E. PROVIDE A SKETCH MAP OF EACH BUNKER, PRISON OR DETENTION FACILITY; INDICATE ACCESS POINTS.

F. IDENTIFY ALL RESTRICTED ACCESS AREAS WHICH INCLUDE BUNKERS, PRISONS OR DETENTION FACILITIES, AS WELL AS THOSE RESTRICTED AREAS ADJACENT FACILITIES OF INTEREST.

4. GUIDANCE:

A. IN LIGHT OF THE PREVIOUS LSI VISIT TO THIS GENERAL AREA, THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT CAN BE EXPECTED TO QUESTION THE

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/

VALUE OF ANOTHER INVESTIGATION. RECOMMEND YOU INFORM THE VIETNAMESE THAT THE AMERICAN THAT SURFACED THE REPORT THAT LED TO THE PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION PROVIDED THE WRONG COORDINATES FOR THE AREA. IN LIGHT OF HIS PUBLIC CLAIMS ABOUT HOLDING IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE, AND AFTER HE PUBLICLY DISCLOSED THE COORDINATES FROM THE PREVIOUS REPORTING, THERE WAS NO CHOICE BUT TO VISIT THE HUNG HOA AREA FOR THE INVESTIGATION. IN THIS REGARD, CONTINUING ANALYTICAL REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS REPORTING HAS LED TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE SOURCES WERE TALKING ABOUT THE MOUNTAINOUS AREA IDENTIFIED FOR THIS INVESTIGATION. LASTLY, THIS INVESTIGATION IS REQUIRED TO SATISFY ALL CONCERNED THAT A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION IS POSSIBLE, AND THAT THE AREA IN QUESTION CAN BE VISITED. IT IS NOT NECESSARY FOR JOURNALISTS TO ACCOMPANY DURING THIS INVESTIGATION, HOWEVER, THE LSI SHOULD OBTAIN PERMISSION TO FILM THE INVESTIGATION.

B. *DATA*

DISCREET USE OF THIS INFORMATION MAY BE MADE BY COLLECTORS IN CONTACT WITH FOREIGN NATIONALS ONLY AS PRESCRIBED IN DIAM 58-13, VOLUME I, CHAPTER 3, PARA 8.B.

C. RESPONSES SHOULD BE IN IIR FORMAT ADDRESSED TO SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO// AND DIA WASHINGTON DC// WITH AN INFORMATION COPY TO CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//.

D. APPRECIATE THE CONTINUED SUPPORT AND ASSIST.

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DIA POC IS COL (SEL) MIKE MCCARTHY (703) 907-0571.
DPMO/RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS (CURRENT OPERATIONS) POC IS TONY
LITVINAS OR JO ANNE TRAVIS, (703) 603-2202 EXT 243 OR SECURE GREY
981-4237.

DERIVED FROM: DIA MSG 151200Z JUN 95

ADMIN

BT

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