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[Redacted]

REPORT NO. CS-311/01108-70

DATE DISTR. 14 February 1970

COUNTRY LAOS

DDI March 1968 - November 1969

SUBJECT Pathet Lao Prison Camp in the Nam Nga Na Song Area of Phong Saly Province

ACQ Laos, Vientiane (30 December 1969) [Redacted]

SOURCE [Redacted]

Summary: In late November 1970 a Pathet Lao prison camp was located in the vicinity of Nam Nga Na Song. There were 72 prisoners housed in six structures. The prison was guarded by 30 Pathet Lao soldiers and had at least two North Vietnamese interrogators. There were no Americans at this camp. End of Summary.

1. In late November 1969 a prison camp containing 72 military and civilian Lao prisoners was located in the Nam Nga Na Song area of Phong Saly Province at TJ 637456. There were no American or Thai prisoners at this location.

2. The prison camp consisted of six grass-roofed buildings and a hut for guards, surrounded by a bamboo fence about four or five meters high. There was one main gate and a side gate leading from the camp. Most of the prisoners were local civilian villagers including two women, one of whom was the wife of a former canton chief. The women were quartered in one of the buildings. Nine of the prisoners

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(classification)		(dissem controls)						(For Field Distribution see final paragraph)
STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	AID		

L-52
TJ 637456
L-7015 5551 III
21 11 50N 102 43 25 E
NF 48-9
Encl 157 (S-47) 101/DB

CS-3111108-10

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] were captured by the Pathet Lao in southern Phongsaly Province.

3. Each prisoner was kept in a separate, triple-walled bamboo cell, one by three meters in size. The cells each contained a raised bamboo platform for a bed and a blanket. The largest building contained 22 such cells. During the first three months of [REDACTED] imprisonment, he was tied above the elbows and across the back with a short length of twine. The bonds restricted the movement of his arms but he was able to use his hands to eat with. During his first year of captivity he was not permitted to leave his cell except at meal times which were at 1000 and 1700 hours.

4. Meals consisted of rice, and some greens and potatoes twice a day. Once every three months buffalo meat was included in the diet. Individual metal bowls were kept on pegs outside each building. After one year, [REDACTED] was permitted to leave the compound twice a day on a work detail. The work details carried rice and salt from a storage area at TJ 630428 to other camps and military units in the area. They also cut wood and made grass roofs for buildings.

5. The security force at the prison consisted of 30 Pathet Lao troops. They were quartered in huts outside the prison gate. A small hut within the compound was used by the guards on duty. Four guards were on duty during daylight hours from 0600 to 1800. They were changed at 1200 hours. Two guards were on duty at night. They were changed every hour. During air raid warnings, prisoners were taken by the guards to a long deep trench outside the prison compound. The camp commander was (Thao) X u e n g, his deputy was (Xieng) S y p h e n. Both were Pathet Lao officers.

6. [REDACTED] was interrogated by two North Vietnamese. One had the Lao name of K h a m d e e; the other's name was unknown. In March 1968, [REDACTED] interrogators claimed they had information on two to three Royal Thai Army divisions operating in the Muong Soui (TG 7860), Xieng Khouang (UG 2840), and Phou Kout (unlocated) areas, and lists of at least 300 American military personnel in Luang Prabang (TH 0002), and interrogated [REDACTED] about them. [REDACTED] was questioned about names, numbers, and activities of Thais and Americans in Laos, what percent of American military were pilots and were Lao trained besides Phitsanalouk and Houa Hi Thailand.

7. Prisoners who attempted to escape were beaten and placed in a solitary confinement cell with leg chains for 24 hours a day for an undetermined amount of time. Second offenders were shot. [REDACTED] saw one pro-Government prisoner beaten and confined in such a manner.

8. When news reached the prison of the death of the President of North Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh, prisoners were given 25 kilograms of pork to eat and allowed a day of rest. The Pathet Lao guards mourned the passing of Ho Chi Minh by feasting and drinking and wearing a black strip of cloth on their shirt pocket.

9. Field Dissem: State Army Air USMACV 7th Air Force
CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF [REDACTED]

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