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CITE TDCS - 514/01998-72

DIST 29 MARCH 1972

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DDI AUGUST 1968 - OCTOBER 1971

SUBJECT PASSAGE OF U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR THROUGH

THE VIET CONG QUANG NGAI PROVINCE CIVILIAN

DETENTION FACILITY

DR	DI	X	12	X	23	NRSC
DD	DI	X	12	X	23	NRSC
CS	DI	X	12	X	23	NRSC
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ACQ VIETNAM, DANANG (14-17 MARCH 1972)

File

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(classification)

(dissem controls)

1. [REDACTED], THREE U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POW'S) ARRIVED AT THE VIET CONG (VC) QUANG NGAI PROVINCE DETENTION CAMP FOR CIVILIAN PRISONERS DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF OCTOBER 1971. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY SIX GUARDS ARMED WITH GRENADES AND AK-47 RIFLES. THE HANDS OF THE U.S. POW'S WERE BOUND BEHIND THEIR BACKS. ALL WORE SHORT-SLEEVED GREEN UNIFORM SHIRTS. TWO WORE GREEN UNIFORM TROUSERS, THE THIRD, GREEN UNIFORM SHORTS. THEY WORE NO HATS OR SHOES, AND THEIR FEET WERE BLOODY. TWO WERE CAUCASIANS; THE MAN WEARING SHORTS WAS A NEGRO. THEIR DESCRIPTIONS FOLLOW:

A. NEGRO, ABOUT SIX FEET FOUR INCHES TALL, VERY STRONG, VERY BLACK, KINKY BLACK HAIR WITH A TWO-INCH THICK BUSH. HE HAD A WIDE NEGROID NOSE, A LARGE SQUARE HEAD AND WORE A THIN MOUSTACHE. HE APPEARED TO BE IN HIS LATE 20'S.

B. CAUCASIAN, AGE 24-25, ABOUT FIVE FEET TEN INCHES TALL, APPEARED TO WEIGH ABOUT 200 LBS. HE HAD VERY LIGHT SKIN, A ROUND FACE, STRAIGHT NOSE, BROWN EYES, SMOOTH COMPLEXION AND NO BEARD OR MOUSTACHE. HE HAD LONG BLONDE OR LIGHT BROWN HAIR.

C. CAUCASIAN, ABOUT 35 YEARS OLD, MEDIUM BUILD FOR

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AN AMERICAN, BALD IN FRONT, LIGHT BROWN HAIR, A LONG FACE WITH HIGH PROMINENT CHEEKBONES. HE HAD A BEARD AND MOUSTACHE. HONG COULD NOT RECALL THE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT OF THE THIRD POW. THE POW'S WERE OBSERVED FROM FOUR METERS' DISTANCE WHILE THEY WERE RESTING NEAR THE GATE OF THE COMPOUND.

2. THE AMERICANS WERE KEPT OVERNIGHT UNDER GUARD IN THE BARRACKS FOR CAMP SECURITY PERSONNEL. THEY WERE GIVEN TWO BOWLS OF RICE PER MAN AND WERE OFFERED SOUP. THEY ALL ATE THE RICE, BUT DECLINED THE SOUP. THEY LEFT THE CAMP THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

THE AMERICANS HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN KY SANH VILLAGE NEAR CHU LAI BASE IN LY TIN DISTRICT, QUANG TIN PROVINCE.

SAID THEY HAD TAKEN SIX WEEKS TO TRAVEL TO THE CIVILIAN DETENTION CAMP FROM KY SANH VILLAGE. HE SAID THEY MOVED SOUTH THROUGH WESTERN BINH SON AND SON TINH DISTRICTS OF QUANG NGAI PROVINCE AND THEN SOUTHWEST TO THE DETENTION CAMP. ADDED THAT THE U.S. POW'S WERE BEING TAKEN TO VC TRA MY DISTRICT.

VC TRA MY DISTRICT IS GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM (GVN) HAU DUC DISTRICT IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE. HAU DUC DISTRICT, ALONG WITH MOST OF THE REST OF WESTERN QUANG TIN PROVINCE, HAS

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BEEN UNDER VC CONTROL.) TWO WEEKS LATER THE SIX GUARDS RETURNED TO THE VC QUANG NGAI PROVINCE DETENTION CAMP, [REDACTED] THE TRIP TO VC TRA MY DISTRICT HAD TAKEN A WEEK. [REDACTED] THE U.S. POW'S WERE MOVED BY THIS CIRCUITOUS ROUTE TO AVOID CONTACT WITH SOUTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS.

3. IN AUGUST 1968, A U.S. PILOT WAS OBSERVED RESTING NEAR THE GATE OF THE DETENTION CAMP. HE WAS ABOUT SIX FEET FIVE INCHES TALL, CAUCASIAN, AGE ABOUT 21 OR 22, AND HAD A HEAVY BUILD, ROUND FACE, STRAIGHT NOSE, BROWN EYES AND LIGHT BROWN HAIR WITH NO BEARD. HE WORE A WHITE UNDERSHIRT AND LIGHT BLUE PANTS. HE WAS KEPT AT THE CAMP OVERNIGHT AND WAS THEN TAKEN TO VC TRA MY DISTRICT THE FOLLOWING DAY.

4. [REDACTED] THE JOINT PERSONNEL RECOVERY CENTER CARRIES NO MISSING IN ACTION OR CAPTURED PERSONNEL IN THE AREA AND TIME PERIOD GIVEN IN THIS REPORT. HOWEVER, THE PILOT MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH 3 BEARS A PHYSICAL RESEMBLANCE TO USAF CAPTAIN THOMAS J. BEYER, WHO DISAPPEARED WHILE PILOTING AN F2 AC ON A VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE MISSION OVER WESTERN QUANG TIN PROVINCE. AT THE TIME OF LAST RADIO CONTACT, CAPTAIN [REDACTED]

