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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Penny

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RELEASE
DATE: SEP 2005

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1/2

13 MAR 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Frank A. Sieverts
Special Assistant for PW/MIA Affairs
Department of State

Dr. Roger E. Shields
Deputy Assistant Secretary
of Defense for International
Economic Affairs

SUBJECT : Possible Sighting of Charles Dean and
Neil Sharman

1.

2.

observed the two caucasians who were closely guarded by two Pathet Lao armed soldiers and were obviously being held against their will. The merchant stated that both men appeared in good health.

3. [redacted] in discussions with a Pathet Lao co-op store manager in Khamkeut, learned that the two white men were arrested at a Pathet Lao control point in Pak Hinboun (VE 5944) "several" months ago after they refused to turn their cameras over to the Pathet Lao control point guards. The Pathet Lao store manager stated that the men not only refused to let their cameras be searched but threw the cameras into the Mekong River as an act of defiance. This act also indicated that the two men were spies posing as tourists.

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EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
§ 55(1), 12/1/74 (or any later date thereon)
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON
Date Impossible to Determine
(unless necessary to protect national security)

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4. [redacted] did not learn the names of the two men. However, from previous reports it is obvious that the men reportedly sighted were Mr. Charles Dean and Australian companion, Mr. Neil Sharman.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS:

[redacted]
Theodore G. Shackley

cc: Commander Charles F. Trowbridge, Jr.
DIA DI-6A4

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