

Thomas Weh SYEN
(Phonetic: sine)

LIBERIA

Vice Head of State; Co-
chairman, People's Re-
demption Council (since
April 1980)

MICROFILMED

Addressed as:
General Syen

Maj. Gen. Thomas Weh Syen participated in the 12 April 1980 military coup that toppled President William Tolbert, Jr., and his regime of Americo-Liberians. In his present position Syen is the number-two man in the government under M. Sgt. Samuel Doe, Chairman of the People's Redemption Council. He also serves on three of the PRC's eight standing committees: Executive Affairs, Lands and Mines, and Local Government and Agriculture.

Syen was born in Sinoe County and was educated through the secondary level in Monrovia. He enlisted in the Army as a private in 1969. He took a noncommissioned officers course in 1972 and then served as a member of a noncommissioned officers training cadre. Syen reached the rank of sergeant in 1979. In early 1980 he attended officer candidate school. After the coup, he was given the rank of major general.

Syen, 28, is from the Sapa tribe, a small tribe closely related to the Krahn, to which several other PRC members belong. He is the youngest of nine children. Syen was active in athletics during his school years. Married, he has two sons and two daughters.

CR M 80-15723
30 December 1980

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
31-Dec-2008

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CIA/CE
80-15723-M