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 Content UNCLASSIFIED  
 per 058375  
 date 8 NOV 1970  
 CITE TDCS -314/08455-68  
 DIST 21 MAY 1968

COUNTRY: LAOS

DOI: EARLY JANUARY 1968

SUBJECT: PROPAGANDA DISPLAY OF FOUR AMERICAN PILOTS IN  
HOUA PHAN PROVINCE

ACQ:

SOURCE:

1. DURING THE PATHET LAO MEO NEW YEAR CELEBRATION OF 1966, WHICH FELL BETWEEN 28 DECEMBER 1966 AND 3 JANUARY 1967, FOUR AMERICAN PILOTS WERE DISPLAYED FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES IN BAN HANG LONG (VH 1262). DURING THE HALF HOUR THAT THE PILOTS WERE ON DISPLAY, A PATHET LAO PROPAGANDIST EXPLAINED TO THE VILLAGERS

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(classification)

(dissem controls)

THAT THE PILOTS WOULD NOT BE KILLED, BUT WOULD BE HELD FOR PRISONER EXCHANGE AFTER THE START OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. THE PILOTS APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH AND VILLAGERS SAID THEY HAD RECEIVED GOOD TREATMENT; THEY WERE GETTING MILK AND OTHER FOODS TO WHICH THEY WERE ACCUSTOMED. THE PROPAGANDIST TOLD THE VILLAGERS THE PILOTS' NAMES, BUT SAI VANG HEU COULD NOT REMEMBER THEM.

2. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF \

REPORT CLASS

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[REDACTED] THE SOURCE LOOKED AT PHOTOGRAPHS AND IDENTIFIED ONE PRISONER AS CAPTAIN DAVID L. MEDLICKA, AO 3865742. HE SAID THAT ANOTHER RESEMBLED CAPTAIN JAMES W. LEWIS, AO 2211197, BUT LOOKED MUCH OLDER THAN THE MAN IN THE PHOTOGRAPH. THE OTHER PRISONERS WERE SMALLER AND RESEMBLED LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE WILLIAM E. SWANSON, 543832 AND CAPTAIN THEODORE E. DRYZAK, FV 3259659.