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# Intelligence Information Report



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REPORT NO. CS -311/02855-71

DATE DISTR. 15 APRIL 1971

COUNTRY CAMBODIA/SOUTH VIETNAM/NORTH VIETNAM

DOI MAY - NOVEMBER 1970

SUBJECT DETENTION OF SIX AMERICAN PRISONERS AT THE KRONG  
TRUK DETENTION CAMP, CHBAR DISTRICT, MONDOL KIRI  
PROVINCE, CAMBODIA

ACC VIETNAM, NHA TRANG 29 MARCH 1971

SOURCE [REDACTED]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
Date 20 AUG 1978

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STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	(Use Field Distribution use final paragraph)
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DIA # 180

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SUMMARY. IN MID-NOVEMBER 1970 SIX AMERICAN PRISONERS WERE BROUGHT FROM THE AREA OF THE DAK DAM RIVER TO THE KIONG R'BUK DETENTION CAMP, CHBAR DISTRICT, MONDKIRI PROVINCE. THE AMERICANS WERE CAPTURED AFTER THEIR HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN. THEY WERE TO REST AT THE CAMP FOR THREE DAYS. NONE OF THE PRISONERS WAS WOUNDED. THEY WERE ISOLATED AT THE CAMP AND WERE NOT USED FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES. THEY WERE CLOSELY GUARDED. THE PRISONERS WERE FED DAILY ONE CANNER-CUP OF RICE MIXED WITH DEER MEAT, FISH OR BAMBOO SPROUTS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MID-NOVEMBER 1970, SIX AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR /POW/ WERE BROUGHT FROM NEAR THE DAK DAM RIVER TO THE KIONG R'BUK DETENTION CAMP AT YU295134, CHBAR DISTRICT, MONDKIRI PROVINCE.

COMMENT--THE DAK DAM RIVER RUNS ALONG THE CAMRODIAN/ SOUTH VIETNAMESE BORDER FROM ABOUT YU6080 TO YU7040. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY 18 ENLISTED KHMER ROUGE /KR/ CADRES, TWO KR OFFICERS, AND THREE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY /NVA/ MAJORS. ACCORDING TO NVA LIEUTENANT COLONEL /FNU/ V.A. SENIOR PROPAGANDA OFFICER FOR THE PROVINCE, WHO HAD ARRIVED AT THE CAMP IN EARLY NOVEMBER FROM BU RMIT /YU297747/, THE SIX AMERICANS WERE CAPTURED AFTER THEIR HELICOPTER WAS DOWNED BY NVA FIRE. HE SAID THAT TWO OTHER CREW MEMBERS HAD DIED IN THE CRASH. THE PRISONERS WERE TO SPEND THREE DAYS RESTING AT THE CAMP AND THEN WERE TO BE TAKEN TO "PROVINCE" FOR INTERNMENT. VA INDICATED THE PRISONERS WOULD EVENTUALLY BE TAKEN TO NORTH VIETNAM.

COMMENT--SEE CS-311/02003-71, FROM ANOTHER SOURCE, ON THE DETENTION CAMP AND JOINT KR/NVA HEADQUARTERS AT KIONG R'BUK.

2. NO ONE IN KIONG R'BUK SPOKE ENGLISH AND APPARENTLY NO EFFORT WAS MADE TO QUESTION THE PRISONERS. THE PRISONERS WERE ISOLATED AT THE CAMP AND WERE NOT USED FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES BY THE KR OR NVA, AND NO KR WERE ALLOWED TO SEE THE PRISONERS. HOWEVER, THEY WERE VISITED BY THE CAMP COMMANDER, NOT IDENTIFIED BY NAME, A 60-YEAR OLD NVA COLONEL WHO DRESSED IN BLUE COTTON SLACKS AND SHIRT AND WALKED WITH A CANE. THE PRISONERS WERE BOUND WITH NYLON CORD AND CLOSELY GUARDED. THEY WERE DRESSED IN

GI AND WHITE UNDERSHORTS, TORN BLACK PAJAMA SHIRTS, AND "HO CHI MINH" SANDALS. NONE WAS WOUNDED BUT TWO HAD SCRATCHES AND CUTS ABOUT THEIR FACES AND ARMS.

3. THE PRISONERS WERE FED DAILY ONE NVA CANTEEN CUP OF RICE MIXED WITH DEER MEAT ONE DAY, FISH THE NEXT, AND BAMBOO SPROUTS THE FOLLOWING DAY. THIS WAS DONE TO IMPRESS THE PRISONERS WITH THE FACT THAT FOOD WAS PLENTIFUL AND VARIED. THEY WERE GIVEN NUOC MAM WITH THE RICE. COMMENT--NUOC MAM, A FISH SAUCE, WAS SERVED AT THE SENIOR OFFICERS MESS AND WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A LUXURY FOR THE PRISONERS. THE PRISONERS ATE LUNCH AT 1200 HOURS AT THE SENIOR OFFICERS TABLE AFTER THE OFFICERS HAD FINISHED THEIR LUNCH. AT NIGHT THEY WERE GIVEN "CHOKO" BARS /SIC/ TO EAT WITH HOT TEA. THE NVA/KR DAILY ISSUE OF FOOD FOR BOTH OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN WAS ONE CANTEEN CUP OF COOKED RICE PER MEAL. THEIR DAYTIME MEAL WAS SERVED WITH EITHER VEGETABLES OR MEAT, WHICHEVER WAS AVAILABLE. AT NIGHT THEY ATE THEIR CANTEEN CUP OF RICE WITH A CONCENTRATED CHOCOLATE BAR AND EITHER HOT TEA OR "SWEET WATER," A DRINK WHICH WAS MADE OF FLOWERS, SUGAR AND BOILING WATER. THE PRISONERS DID NOT RECEIVE THIS SECOND CUP OF RICE. SWEET POTATOES WERE FREQUENTLY EATEN WHEN RICE WAS SHORT OR TO AUGMENT THE RICE RATION WHEN VEGETABLES OR MEAT WERE IN SHORT SUPPLY. THE NVA DELIBERATELY DID NOT EAT SWEET POTATOES OR ALLOW THEM TO BE SERVED THE POW'S.

4. THE PRISONERS ALL CARRIED NVA ISSUE PACKS WITH RICE FOR THE MARCH. ALL WERE WHITE MALES.

A. PRISONER 1 WAS ABOUT 6 FEET TALL, WEIGHT 140 LBS, SLIM BUILD, "LIGHT COLORED EYES," LONG BROWN HAIR AND HEAVY GROWTH OF BEARD. HE HAD SCRATCHES ON HIS FACE AND ARMS WHICH HAD BEEN TREATED WITH IODINE.

B. PRISONER 2 WAS SHORTER THAN PRISONER 1, HAD BROWN HAIR AND A MUSTACHE, APPEARED OLDER THAN THE OTHERS AND WAS HEAVY SET.

C. PRISONER 3 WAS ABOUT 6 FEET TALL, APPEARED TO BE THE YOUNGEST OF THE SIX. HE HAD BLACK HAIR, THIN AND SHORT, NO

[REDACTED]

BEARD, WAS HEAVY SET, HAD "LIGHT COLORED EYES" AND A "LARGE STOMACH."

D. PRISONER 4 WAS ABOUT 5'8" TALL, DARK BROWN HAIR, AND "BLOATED STOMACH." [REDACTED] COMMENT--"BLOATED" STOMACH INDICATED A CONDITION ATTRIBUTED TO LACK OF VITAMINS AND TO MALNUTRITION, WHEREAS "LARGE STOMACH" MEANT FAT OR OVERWEIGHT./

F. PRISONER 5 WAS ABOUT 5'8" TALL HAD BROWN HAIR, AND HAD A "BLOATED" STOMACH.

F. PRISONER 6 WAS THE SHORTEST OF THE SIX, HAD BLACK HAIR AND A THIN BUILD.

5. [REDACTED] COMMENT--JOINT PRISONER RECOVERY CENTER RECORDS REFLECT THAT ON 2 MAY 1978 A UH-1H WITH SEVEN ABOARD WENT DOWN AT XUP42279. THE FOLLOWING PERSONS WERE ON BOARD--CAPTAIN ROBERT W. YOUNG, CAPTAIN DALE W. RICHARDS, SP/4 RUNYON D. PRINCE, JR., SP/4 FREDRICK H. CRAWSON, WARRANT OFFICER MICHAEL P. VARNADO, WARRANT OFFICER DANIEL F. MASLOWSKI, AND SP/4 RODNEY L. GRIFFIN./

6. [REDACTED] DISSEM--STATE, USMACV, 7TH AIR FORCE, NAVFORV, 525TH MI GP, 1021 FAS, OSI, CINCPAC, PACFLT, PACAF, ARPAC

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