



Intelligence Information Report

13664

DIRECTORATE FOR PLANS

2-1896
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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

[REDACTED]

REPORT NO. CS-311/06757-71

DATE DISTR. 23 SEPTEMBER 1971

JRL

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI OCTOBER 1969 - MARCH 1971

SUBJECT TREATMENT OF NON-AMERICAN PRISONERS HELD IN DETENTION CAMPS OPERATED BY THE VIET CONG (VC) IN VC CA MAU AND CAN THO PROVINCES

ACQ VIETNAM, CAN THO (1 JULY 1971)

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

5
4
3
2
1

5
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1

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

Date 20 AUG 1978

(classification)		(dissem controls)				(For Field Distribution see Encl paragraph)	
STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA		

CAMP LOG #: _____

REPORT LOG #: 1415

1:50,000 Coord: _____

1:250,000 Coord: _____

UTM Card: _____

Encl 215 (S-47601/0044)

ONERS WERE BLINDFOLDED AND MARCHED TO ANOTHER LOCATION SOME SIX OR SEVEN HOURS FROM THE PREVIOUS SITE. OTHER SITE CHANGES OCCURRED WHEN A PRISONER ESCAPED OR WHEN WORD WAS RECEIVED OF GVN UNITS OPERATING IN THE AREA OR OF AN IMPENDING AIR STRIKE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: WHILE [REDACTED] WAS A PRISONER HE WAS NEVER ASKED TO DIG A FOXHOLE OR BUILD A SHELTER, NOR DID HE EXPERIENCE AN AIR STRIKE. HE HEARD THAT VC OFFICIALS MADE VISITS TO THE PRISON AREA, BUT HE NEVER ACTUALLY SAW ANY OF THE VISITORS.)

3. THE PRISONERS WERE FED TWO MEALS A DAY, WITH RICE AND SALT INCLUDED IN EACH MEAL. SANITARY CONDITIONS WERE PRIMITIVE. PRISONERS WERE ALLOWED TO USE THE LATRINE ONLY TWICE A DAY AND NOT AT ALL IN THE EVENING. DURING THE YEAR IN CAMP, [REDACTED] RECEIVED ONLY ONE LETTER; A NEPHEW WROTE THAT [REDACTED] WIFE AND FAMILY WERE IN GOOD HEALTH. MINOR CASES OF ILLNESS WERE TREATED WITH PILLS AND OTHER SIMPLE MEDICATION BY THE PRISON STAFF; NO OTHER MEDICAL SERVICE WAS PROVIDED. ONE 30-YEAR OLD FEMALE PRISONER DIED AFTER THREE MONTHS OF ILLNESS AND WAS BURIED IN THE JUNGLE.

4. IN AUGUST 1970, TWO PRISONERS ESCAPED WHEN RETURNING FROM A FIREWOOD DETAIL; THEY WERE SUBSEQUENTLY CAPTURED BY LOCAL GUERRILLAS AND RETURNED TO PRISON. ONE OF THE RECAPTURED PRISONERS WAS LATER EXECUTED. THE OTHER PRISONERS WERE ASSEMBLED AND INFORMED THAT ANY ATTEMPTED ESCAPE WOULD RESULT IN DEATH.

5. THE GUARD DETACHMENT AT THE PRISON CONSISTED OF ABOUT 15 MEN COMMANDED BY TU T H A N H AND HAI T H U A N. WHEN PRISONERS WERE NOT ON WORK DETAILS, THEY WERE HANDCUFFED AND MADE TO SIT ON THE GROUND. AT NIGHT, A LONG METAL ROD WAS INSERTED THROUGH SHACKLES PLACED ON THE ANKLES OF THE PRISONERS AND ANCHORED TO A HUT. ON THE DAY OF HIS RELEASE, [REDACTED] SIGNED A STATEMENT WHICH STATED THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO HIS HOME AND LIVE UNDER VC REGULATIONS, BECOME A GOOD VC CITIZEN, WOULD NOT RALLY TO THE GVN AND WOULD NOT DISCLOSE CONDITIONS AT THE PRISON CAMP. [REDACTED] WAS RELEASED ON 20 MARCH 1971 AND WAS TURNED OVER TO TWO GUIDES WHO TOOK HIM TO THE AREA OF THE TRAM RIVER, THOI BINH DISTRICT, AN XUYEN PROVINCE.

6. IN OCTOBER 1969, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WAS ARRESTED BY THE VC BECAUSE HE HAD REPORTED A DAY LATE TO HIS PROPAGANDA UNIT IN PHUNG HIEP VILLAGE. HE WAS SUSPECTED BY THE VC OF PROVIDING INFORMATION TO GVN OFFICIALS ABOUT THE LOCATION OF THE VC COMPOUND WHICH HAD BEEN HIT BY AN AIR STRIKE ON THE PREVIOUS DAY. HE SAID THE DETENTION CAMP HE WAS TAKEN TO WAS LOCATED IN A PADDY FIELD NEAR PHUNG HIEP VILLAGE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE EXACT LOCATION BECAUSE HE WAS BLINDFOLDED.)

7. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] THE CAMP HELD ABOUT 20 PRISONERS AND IT TOO WAS SHIFTED REGULARLY FROM ONE SITE TO THE NEXT. MEALS, CONSISTING OF RICE, SALT AND OCCASIONALLY FISH AND VEGETABLES, WERE SERVED AT 0500 AND 1700 HOURS. THE MEDICAL TREATMENT WAS MINIMAL AND THOSE SUFFERING FROM A SERIOUS ILLNESS HAD TO FARE FOR THEMSELVES. NO DISTINCTION WAS MADE BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE PRISONERS; THEY WERE BILLETED TOGETHER. THE LATRINE WAS USED TWICE DAILY. AT NIGHT, THE PRISONERS WERE SHACKLED, MADE TO LIE ON THEIR BACKS, AND DENIED THE USE OF A LATRINE. NO VISITORS OR MAIL WERE ALLOWED AND THE ONLY VISITORS TO THE CAMP WERE VC OFFICIALS WHO CAME FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF HOLDING INDOCTRINATION SESSIONS.

8. DURING THEIR CONFINEMENT, PRISONERS WERE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION SESSIONS. MOST OF THEM WERE LECTURES ON VC VICTORIES, ON ALLIED AND GVN LOSSES AND ON U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWALS. ONCE IN 1970, TWO GVN PRISONERS WERE BROUGHT IN AND KEPT IN THE PRISON FOR FIVE DAYS. ONE WAS A GVN HELICOPTER PILOT AND THE OTHER A GVN MEDIC; THEY WERE TURNED OVER TO ANOTHER VC UNIT AND NOTHING MORE WAS HEARD ABOUT THEM. AT NO TIME WERE THERE ANY AMERICAN PRISONERS DETAINED AT THIS FACILITY. [REDACTED] WAS RELEASED FROM THIS PRISON IN DECEMBER 1970.

9. FIELD DISSEM: STATE, USMACV, USAID, CORDS, DIR/JUSPAD (MR. LINCOLN ONLY), 7TH AIR FORCE, USARV, NAVFORV, 525TH MI GP, 1021 FAS, OSI, CINCPAC, PACFLT, PACAF, ARPA, [REDACTED]