

1-628

[REDACTED]

REPORT NO. CS-311/10032-69

COUNTRY LAOS

DATE DISTR. 6 NOVEMBER 1969

DOI JUNE - 28 SEPTEMBER 1969

SUBJECT LOCATION OF A PRISON HOUSING LAO INMATES
SOUTHEAST OF THE ROUTES 911/9113 JUNCTION IN
KHAMMOUANG PROVINCE

ACQ LAOS, VIENTIANE /27 OCT 69/ [REDACTED]

SOURCE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

1. AS OF 28 SEPTEMBER 1969, A PRISON LOCATED IN A CAVE ON THE NORTH FACE OF A KARST FORMATION /PHA THAPACHON/ AT WE 8805, APPROXIMATELY 13 KILOMETERS SOUTHEAST OF THE ROUTES 911/9113 JUNCTION IN KHAMMOUANG PROVINCE, HOUSED 34 LAO INMATES. PRIOR TO JUNE 1969, SIX AMERICAN AIRMEN HAD BEEN INTERNED IN THE PRISON. IN JUNE, THE SIX INTERNEES WERE SENT TO HANOI. PRIOR TO THIS TIME, THE PRISON HAD ALSO BEEN UTILIZED AS A TEMPORARY WAY STATION FOR OTHER FOREIGN CAPTIVES IN BOUALAPHA DISTRICT. [REDACTED] COMMENT.

IN MID-JUNE 1969, A RELIABLE [REDACTED] LEARNED FROM A SENIOR PATHET LAO OFFICER THAT THE ABOVE PRISON HOUSED A TOTAL OF 17 FOREIGN AIRMEN, INCLUDING 12

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
Date 1 MAY 1979

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(classification)		(dissem controls)						(For field Distribution see final paragraph)
STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	CRS		
[REDACTED]		IAS						

ENCLOSURE 30 ~~1458142/13411~~ ~~1710~~

~~Log 1013~~

AMERICANS, THREE THAIS AND TWO FILIPINOS, SEE TDCS-314/09799-69./

COMMENT. SOURCE WAS UNABLE TO LEARN HOW THE FOREIGN AIRMEN WERE TRANSPORTED TO HANOI./

2. THE PRISON COMPOUND WAS ENCLOSED BY WOOD AND WIRE FENCING AND TRENCHES PROTECTED THE FRONT PERIMETER. THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE TRENCHES WAS TO PROVIDE CLOSE-IN DEFENSE SHOULD IT BECOME NECESSARY. AN 11-MAN GUARD FORCE, COMMANDED BY LIEUTENANT X O N G, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INNER SECURITY OF THE PRISON COMPOUND. THE FORCE MAINTAINED A TWO-MAN, FOUR-HOUR DUTY ROSTER TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY. THE TWO GUARDS STOOD THEIR POSTS AT A GUARD HOUSE LOCATED NEAR THE FRONT GATE. EACH GUARD WAS ARMED. SECURITY OUTSIDE THE COMPOUND WAS MAINTAINED BY A PATHET LAO UNIT COMMANDED BY B O U N K E U T H.

3. THREE NORTH VIETNAMESE ADVISORS, LIEUTENANT ONG H E U A G, ONG T O N G AND ONG T H U C, LIVED IN THE PRISON COMPOUND. IN ADDITION TO THEIR ADVISORY DUTIES, THE THREE CONDUCTED A POLITICAL REEDUCATION COURSE FOR THE PRISONERS.

4. THREE MEALS, CONSISTING MAINLY OF RICE, WERE SERVED DAILY AT 0700, 1200 AND 1700 HOURS. THE RICE, OBTAINED FROM VILLAGERS [REDACTED] WAS COOKED BY THE INDIVIDUAL PRISONERS. THE GUARDS CONSUMED THEIR MEALS WHILE STANDING DUTY. COMMENT. GUARDS RECEIVED 700 PATHET LAO KIP MONTHLY. THERE WAS NO FAMILY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE./

5. COMMENT. ANALYSIS OF PHOTOGRAPHY DATED 9 AND 24 SEPTEMBER AND 16 OCTOBER 1969 REVEALED THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITY IN THE VICINITY OF THE REPORTED BAN THAPACHON /WE 8805/ PRISON-

A. AN ACTIVE TRAIL DEPARTS ROUTE 91 AT WE 867048, LEADS TO A POSSIBLE CAVE AT WE 877049, THEN CONTINUES AROUND THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE KARST TO ANOTHER POSSIBLE

CAVE ENTRANCE AT WE 878658. THE TRAIL CONTINUES EAST ALONG THE NORTHERN FACE OF THE KARST TO AN AREA OF CONCENTRATED ACTIVITY AT WE 886049.

B. HEAVY FOOT TRAIL ACTIVITY AROUND THE BASE OF THE KARST AT WE 886049 INDICATES A POSSIBLE CAVE ENTRANCE AT THIS LOCATION. THE AREA IN FRONT OF THE POSSIBLE CAVE ENTRANCE APPEARS TO BE ENCLOSED BY POSSIBLE FENCES ON THE EAST AND WEST SIDES, EXTENDING FROM THE BASE OF THE KARST TO THE EDGE OF THE RIVER. THE UNDERBRUSH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN CLEARED FROM BENEATH THE TREE CANOPY BETWEEN THE KARST AND THE RIVER. POSSIBLE TRENCHES WERE OBSERVED IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF THE POSSIBLE CAVE ENTRANCE. ONE SMALL HUT WAS VISIBLE ON THE RIVER'S EDGE AT WE 886051.

C. SMALL ROW CROP PLOTS WERE OBSERVED ALONG THE SOUTH BANK OF THE RIVER AT WE 883501, WE 885050, AND WE 883052. LIGHT VEHICULAR TRACKING WAS VISIBLE LEADING TO A POSSIBLE TRUCK PARK/OFFLOADING POINT ON THE NORTH BANK OF THE RIVER AT WE 883501. A FOOT TRAIL FORDS THE RIVER AT THIS POINT TO LINK UP WITH THE MAIN EAST-WEST TRAIL RUNNING ALONG THE NORTHERN FACE OF THE KARST.

G. FIELD DISSEM. STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF TFA/HKP [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]