

FIR 317/09048/73

18 April 1973

1-1926

REPORT CLASS

COUNTRY

LAOS

DOI

MID-JUNE 1971

SUBJECT

SIGHTING OF TWO U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR IN LAOS

DO

VIETNAM, SAIGON (8 MARCH 1973)

SOURCE

20

77

June 71

FIR 317/09048-73

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

Date 20 AUG 1979

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

1. AROUND MID-JUNE 1971 AT ABOUT 0900 HOURS, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] BRIEFLY OBSERVED TWO U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POWS)
ON THE 559TH COMMO-LIAISON LINE, AT AN UNKNOWN LOCATION IN
THE TRUONG SON MOUNTAINS, LAOS, [REDACTED] WAS INFILTRATING SOUTH
VIETNAM AT THE TIME AND THE POWS WERE HEADED IN THE DIRECTION
OF NORTH VIETNAM.

2. THE POWS WERE ESCORTED BY THREE GUARDS WHO WERE
WEARING BLACK UNIFORMS AND WERE ARMED WITH K-54 PISTOLS.
BOTH POWS APPEARED TO BE ABOUT 26 YEARS OLD, WERE ABOUT 1.80
METERS TALL, WEIGHED 85 KILOS, HAD LIGHT TAN COMPLEXIONS,
HAD MUSTACHES AND APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH. ONE
PRISONER HAD A ROUND FACE AND THE OTHER A LONG FACE WITH
A SHARP CHIN. THE POWS WERE WEARING BLACK PAJAMA SHIRTS
AND BLACK SHORTS. THEY WERE BAREFOOTED AND THEIR HANDS
WERE TIED IN FRONT OF THEM WITH A ROPE ABOUT HALF A METER

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~
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LONG. [REDACTED] NOTICED THAT THE POWS WERE TALKING TO EACH OTHER IN LOW VOICES AND THEIR GUARDS DID NOT SEEM TO MIND.

GROUP OF ABOUT 15 SICK AND WOUNDED NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS, ESCORTED BY TWO UNARMED COMMO-LIAISON AGENTS, WAS FOLLOWING DIRECTLY BEHIND THE POWS.

3. (FIELD COMMENT: THE FOLLOWING IS THE JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) EVALUATION OF THE REPORT: INFORMATION AS PRESENTED IN THIS REPORT PRECLUDES ANY DEFINITE CORRELATION AS THERE WERE NUMEROUS POWS MOVING NORTH DURING THE PERIOD REPORTED.)

4. FIELD DISSEM: DEFENSE ATTACHE FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVE IN SAIGON: SENT TO CINCPAC (FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD ONLY) OSAG AND VIENTIANE (FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVES ONLY.)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]