

INFO: CJCS-1 J3-1 SACSA-5 S/DEF-7 ASD/ISA

2-1823

DIA-15 CSA-1 CNO-2 CSAF-4 CMC-3
DCPG-1 ASD/SA-1 FILE-1(46) EEW-SE

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CALL 53337
PAGE 07 OF 11 27-416

[REDACTED]

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT. NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

152307Z

CITE TDCS - 314/08167-68

DIST 15 MAY 1968

COUNTRY: [REDACTED]

DOI: 4 FEBRUARY - 13 APRIL 1968

SUBJECT: NORTH VIETNAMESE CAPTURE OF LAO, SOUTH VIETNAMESE
AND AMERICAN TROOPS NEAR LANG VEI, SOUTH VIETNAM

ACQ:

LAOS, VIETNAMESE MID-MAY 1968

SOURCE:

[REDACTED]

*more info
apparently
available*

Refer confusing and lacks description of sites.

L-41

FORM 04 Log 1019

Log 1060 0137

DIA # 144

Encl 144

(S-47,601) DB-VH

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IN 11628

TDCS - 314/08167-68

PAGE 2 OF 6 PAGES

[REDACTED]

Hearings

1. ON THE MORNING OF 4 FEBRUARY 1968 NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS CAPTURED A UNITED STATES ARMY MEDIC AND SERGEANT SOURIGA ABOUT FOUR KILOMETERS EAST OF LANG VEI, SOUTH VIETNAM. THE TWO MEN HAD GONE ON PATROL WITH 13 OTHER MEMBERS OF BV 33 AND BOTH HAD BEEN WOUNDED SERIOUSLY IN THE LOWER LEFT LEG WHEN NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS AMBUSHED THE PATROL. THE OTHERS ESCAPED.

2. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDIC, A SERGEANT, HAD ARRIVED AT LANG VEI ABOUT 2 FEBRUARY. HE WAS ABOUT SIX FEET TWO INCHES TALL, WEIGHED 200 POUNDS, AND HAD LIGHT BLUE EYES, LIGHT BROWN HAIR IN A CREW CUT AND A MOUSTACHE. HE WAS BETWEEN 20 AND 30 YEARS OLD.

3. ON 6 FEBRUARY NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS ATTACKED A POSITION AT XD 790358 HELD BY 12 UNITED STATES ARMY AND 300 SOUTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS. BY 7 FEBRUARY EIGHT OF THE AMERICAN AND 50 OF THE SOUTH

[REDACTED]

IN 11628

TDCS - 314/08167-68

PAGE 3 OF 6 PAGES

VIETNAMESE TROOPS HAD WITHDRAWN TO A POSITION AT XD 798361 HELD BY THREE UNITED STATES ARMY AND 400 BV 33 TROOPS AMONG WHOM WAS [REDACTED] TWO OF THE 12 AMERICANS HAD BEEN KILLED AND TWO OF THEM, A MEDIC AND AN INFANTRYMAN, HAD BEEN CAPTURED. A MAJORITY OF THE 300 SOUTH VIETNAMESE HAD ALSO BEEN CAPTURED. AT 1600 HOURS HELICOPTERS BEGAN EVACUATING THE MEN FROM THE XD 798361 POSITION. WHEN ONLY 150 BV 33 TROOPS REMAINED THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ATTACKED, DISPERSED THE BV 33 TROOPS AND TOOK THE POSITION. AT 1900 HOURS [REDACTED] BV 33 TROOPS WERE CAPTURED BY 15 NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS AT XD 800367. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TOOK THEIR CAPTIVES ALONG A TRAIL THROUGH XD 810360 AND XD 870360 TO XD 890345 WHERE THERE WERE ABOUT 100 NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS AND KEPT THEM THERE FOR THE NIGHT. ALONG THE WAY 13 MORE BV 33 CAPTIVES HAD BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE 15 NORTH VIETNAMESE GUARDS.

4. ON 8 FEBRUARY THE [REDACTED] CAPTIVES WERE TAKEN ON A TRAIL THROUGH XD 920333 AND XD 920310 TO XD 939282. ALONG THE WAY 10 MORE BV 33 CAPTIVES WERE ADDED TO THE GROUP. ONE OF THE GUARDS CARRIED A FIELD TELEPHONE AND USED IT ABOUT SIX TIMES AFTER CONNECTING IT WITH ONE OF FOUR TELEPHONE LINES RUNNING ALONG THE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(S) (Information) (Classification controls)

GROUND BY THE TRAIL.

5. XD 939282 WAS A CONTROL POINT FOR FOOT TRAFFIC FROM NORTH VIETNAM THROUGH LAOS TO SOUTH VIETNAM. AT THAT POINT THE TRAIL CROSSED A SMALL STREAM. A DENSE FOREST CANOPY COVERED THE AREA. THERE WERE ABOUT 20 UNOCCUPIED TWO-MAN HUTS ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF THE TRAIL. ALONG THE WEST SIDE WERE SEVERAL PILES OF AMMUNITION FOR HEAVY WEAPONS AND FOR SMALL ARMS.

6. THE [REDACTED] BV 33 CAPTIVES WERE TIED TOGETHER BY THEIR UPPER ARMS IN GROUPS OF ABOUT FIVE AND PLACED IN A PIT A HALF METER DEEP AND FIVE METERS SQUARE WITH A PONCHO SPREAD OVER IT TWO METERS ABOVE GROUND LEVEL.

7. ON THE MORNING OF 9 FEBRUARY THE [REDACTED] WERE TAKEN OUT OF THE PIT, [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED] SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDIC WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED WITH HIM ON 4 FEBRUARY WAS STILL IN THE PIT AT THE TIME HE WAS TAKEN OUT. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] THE MEDIC WAS IN RELATIVELY GOOD CONDITION ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT WALK. HE HAD RECEIVED MEDICAL TREATMENT AND WAS BEING FED AND TREATED WELL.

9. NONE OF THE OTHER [REDACTED] BV 33 PRISONERS SAW THE AMERICAN MEDIC.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

IN 11628

TDCS - 314/08167-68

PAGE 5 OF 6 PAGES

[REDACTED]
(CLASSIFIED CONTROL)

10. THE 15 NORTH VIETNAMESE GUARDS TOOK THE [REDACTED] BV 33
CAPTIVES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FROM THE XD 939282 AREA AT 0600 HOURS ON
9 FEBRUARY. THREE HOURS AFTER THEY LEFT, [REDACTED] SAW FOUR AIRCRAFT
STRIKE THE VICINITY OF XD 939282 BUT COULD NOT TELL WHAT DAMAGE
THEY DID. THE GROUP WENT BY WAY OF XD 950260, XD 960240,
XD 980180, XD 980140, XD 970090, XD 960070 AND XD 920053 TO
XD 928053 WHERE THEY SPENT THE NIGHT. THE NEXT DAY THE GROUP
CONTINUED ON THROUGH XD 897180 AND XD 939162 TO XD 887157.
THE [REDACTED] BV 33 CAPTIVES WERE PLACED IN A TEMPORARY DETENTION CAMP
AT XD 887157 WHERE THERE WERE ALREADY ABOUT 260 SOUTH VIETNAMESE
SOLDIERS, 16 BV 33 SOLDIERS AND ONE UNITED STATES ARMY SOLDIER.
A SECOND UNITED STATES ARMY SOLDIER WAS BROUGHT TO THE CAMP ON 12
FEBRUARY. [REDACTED] HEARD LATER THAT THE TWO AMERICANS, A MEDIC AND
AN INFANTRYMAN, ESCAPED FROM THE CAMP ON 15 FEBRUARY.

11. ON 23 FEBRUARY ALL THE BV 33 CAPTIVES WERE TAKEN FROM
THE CAMP AT XD 887157 TO XD 550130 WHERE THEY REMAINED FOR FOUR
DAYS. EN ROUTE THREE BV 33 TROOPS CAPTURED NEAR HOU EI SANE
(XD 647357) WERE ADDED TO THE GROUP. FROM XD 550130 THE

IN 11628

TDCS - 314/08167-68

PAGE 6 OF 6 PAGES

[REDACTED]

(Classification)

(Dissem Controls)

CAPTIVES WERE TAKEN TO A PATHET LAO DETENTION CAMP AT WD
959271, ARRIVING ON 4 MARCH. ON 13 APRIL [REDACTED] OTHERS
ESCAPED. THEY SEPARATED ON 14 APRIL AFTER BEING FIRED
UPON BY FIVE PATHET LAO AT WD 870329. [REDACTED] MADE HIS WAY WEST AND
JOINED THE FAR TROOPS AT BAN PHON BOX (WD 396424) ON 16 APRIL.

12. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE

CENCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]