



Intelligence Information Report

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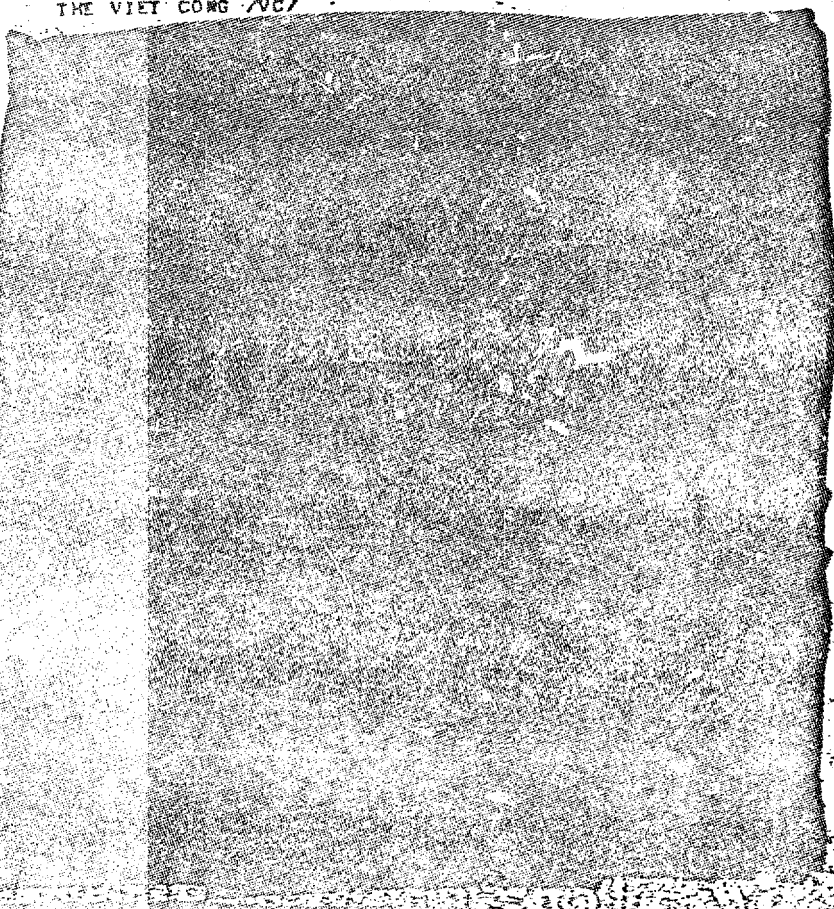
COUNTRY - SOUTH VIETNAM

DDI - FEBRUARY 1970

SUBJECT - CAPTURE AND DETENTION OF THREE U.S. ARMY PERSONNEL BY THE VIET CONG (VC)

ACQ

SOURCE



CLASS	DATE	BY	EXT	APPROV	REAS	COM	REMARKS

1609-99-4

(2)

1. IN FEBRUARY 1978, [REDACTED] SPENT EIGHT DAYS AS A TRANSLATOR AT A VIET CONG /VC/ PRISON CAMP LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF CAI NGAY CANAL AND CANAL NUMBER 5 AT VQ144745 IN TAN AN VILLAGE, NAM CAN DISTRICT, AN XUYEN PROVINCE. THE ONLY PRISONERS INCARCERATED THERE WERE THREE U.S. ARMY SOLDIERS WHO HAD ALL BEEN CAPTURED AT THE SAME TIME IN THE VICINITY OF THOI BINH DISTRICT, AN XUYEN PROVINCE, BY THE VC 303RD MAIN FORCE BATTALION. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] COULD NOT BE SPECIFIC ABOUT THE

DATE OF CAPTURE BUT SAID HE BELIEVED THE PRISONERS HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN 1968 OR 1969. HE SAID HE GOT HIS INFORMATION IN CONVERSATION WITH ONE OF THE PRISONERS AND DID NOT ASK THE PRISON OFFICIALS ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CAPTURE. AT THE TIME THE THREE PRISONERS WERE CAPTURED A U. S. ARMY MAJOR, NO FURTHER INFORMATION, WAS KILLED. ALL THREE PRISONERS APPEARED TO BE IN REASONABLY GOOD HEALTH WHEN [REDACTED] SAW THEM. HE DESCRIBED THEM AS:

A. A U.S. ARMY FIRST LIEUTENANT, ABOUT SIX FEET TALL, TWIN BUILD, OVER 30 YEARS OLD, LIGHT BROWN HAIR, BROWN EYES, RUGGED FOREHEAD, CHEERFUL DISPOSITION. [REDACTED] COMMENT-- [REDACTED] ESTIMATED THE SIZE OF ALL THREE PRISONERS BY STANDING NEXT TO [REDACTED] AND COMPARING HIS SIZE WITH [REDACTED] RECOLLECTION OF THE PRISONERS. THE LIEUTENANT SAID HE HAD BEEN AN ENGINEER ADVISOR IN SAIGON AND HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO AN XUYEN ONLY SHORTLY BEFORE HE WAS CAPTURED. HE WAS NOT WOUNDED AT THE TIME OF CAPTURE. HE SAID HE WAS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITH. HE WAS CAUCASIAN AND HIS NAME SOUNDED LIKE [REDACTED] BROWN. HE WORE NEITHER A WATCH NOR RINGS.

B. A U.S. ARMY CAPTAIN, ABOUT SIX FEET FOUR OF FIVE INCHES TALL, ABOUT 30 YEARS OLD, CAUCASIAN, HUSKY BUILD, DARK BLOND HAIR, LIGHT GREEN EYES. [REDACTED] SAID ONE OF THE OTHER PRISONERS, HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHICH ONE, SAID THE CAPTAIN HAD BEEN AN ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM /ARVN/ ADVISOR. AT THE TIME OF THE CAPTURE, THE CAPTAIN RECEIVED FIVE WOUNDS, ONE IN THE RIGHT SHOULDER, THREE IN THE RIGHT THIGH AND ONE IN THE

RETIRED FOR BLENDED

[REDACTED]

RIGHT SIDE, ALL FROM AN AK-50 AUTOMATIC RIFLE, BUT BY FEBRUARY 1970, WITH [REDACTED] SAW HIM, ALL THE WOUNDS HAD HEALED AND THERE WERE NO ADVERSE AFTER-EFFECTS. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE AK-50 IS A MODIFIED VERSION OF THE AK-47; THE FORMER HAS A COLLAPSIBLE BAYONET AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE WEAPON. / THE CAPTAIN TOO WORE NEITHER A WATCH NOR RINGS.

C. A U.S. ARMY SERGEANT, CAUCASIAN, ABOUT FIVE FEET SEVEN INCHES TALL, THIN, ABOUT 43 YEARS OLD, BROWN HAIR, BROWN EYES AND THIN FACED. HE SAID HE WAS A ROMAN CATHOLIC AND HAD MADE A SMALL CROSS TO HANG ON HIS CELL WALL. HE WAS NOT WOUNDED AT THE TIME OF CAPTURE. HE WORE NEITHER A WATCH NOR RINGS. [REDACTED]

COMMENT-- THE JOINT PRISONER RECOVERY CENTER (JPRC) HAS STATED THAT TWO OF THE PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS MATCH THOSE OF LIEUTENANT BOYERS AND SERGEANT BAEZ WHO WERE MISSING-IN-ACTION TOGETHER ON 24 MARCH 1969. THE LIMITED INFORMATION ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF CAPTURE AND ONE OF THE PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS ALSO MATCH THOSE OF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS PARRISH WHO WAS MISSING-IN-ACTION ON 16 JANUARY 1968. NO INFORMATION IN JPRC FILES MATCHES UP WITH THE ENTIRE STORY.

2. [REDACTED] SAID THAT ACCORDING TO THE PRISON GUARDS, DURING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS AFTER THEIR CAPTURE ALL THREE PRISONERS WERE KEPT IN THE SAME CELL AND NONE OF THEM WOULD COOPERATE WITH THEIR INTERROGATORS. AFTER THEY WERE PUT INTO SEPARATE CELLS THE LIEUTENANT AND THE SERGEANT WERE COOPERATIVE TO SOME DEGREE AND GAVE THEIR INTERROGATORS SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THEMSELVES AND THEIR UNITS. THE CAPTAIN STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO GIVE THEM ANY INFORMATION AT ALL, INCLUDING HIS NAME OR RANK, AND THE ONLY WAY THE VC GOT ANY INFORMATION ON HIM WAS BY ASKING THE OTHER TWO PRISONERS ABOUT HIM. AT TIMES, THE INTERROGATORS INSTRUCTED THE GUARDS TO BEAT THE CAPTAIN WITH THEIR RIFLES AND FISTS FOR HIS LACK OF COOPERATION BUT THE BEATINGS WERE HALFHEARTED AS ALL OF THE GUARDS WERE AFRAID OF THE CAPTAIN BECAUSE OF HIS SIZE AND SURLY DISPOSITION. HE REFUSED TO LET ANYONE TAKE HIS PICTURE AND WAS BEATEN FOR THIS. HE ESCAPED

RECEIVED FROM BARRBY

TWICE AND BOTH TIMES WAS CAUGHT. AS OF FEBRUARY 1978, HE STILL WAS NOT COOPERATIVE WITH THE VC.

3. THERE WERE SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE PRISON OFFICE STAFF AND 13 PERSONNEL IN THE FORCE THAT GUARDED THE PRISONERS AND THE CAMP SITE. ALL ENTRANCES TO THE PRISON CAMP AREA WERE POSTED WITH NOTICES THAT THE AREA WAS STRICTLY OUT OF BOUNDS. ALL OFFICE AND GUARD PERSONNEL WERE CAUTIONED AGAINST REVEALING ANYTHING TO PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF THE CAMP TO INDICATE ITS EXISTENCE. THE PRISON CAMP COMMANDER WAS PHOI HUNG AND HIS DEPUTY WAS PHOI VE. THE CHIEF INTERROGATOR WAS BA SAH, WHO HAD FORMERLY BEEN A TEACHER IN A CAO LAMN HIGH SCHOOL, KIEN PHONG PROVINCE, AND WAS FLUENT IN ENGLISH.

4. DISSEM — STATE, USMACV, USAID, CORDS, DIR/JUSPAD, /MR. NICKEL ONLY/, 7TH AIR FORCE, USARV, NAVFORV, 1821 FAS, OSI, 325TH MI GP, CINCPAC, PACFLT, PACAF, ARPAC.