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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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JAN 18 1 52 PM '74

17 JAN 1974

MIA  
Case No. 2  
Document No. #13

1) WTS  
2) POWS  
3) 8/16?

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major General William R. Wolfe, Jr.  
Deputy Director for Operations  
Counterinsurgency and Special Activities

SUBJECT : Statement by General Vang Pao Concerning  
MIA's Held in North Vietnam

1. We have been advised [REDACTED] that during a meeting in Laos on 16 January 1974 between General Vang Pao and Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman General Vang Pao stated he had information concerning U.S. personnel still being held in North Vietnam. According to General Vang Pao between eight and ten U.S. airmen are being detained in North Vietnam in groups of two to three men. The General stated he did not possess details concerning locations, sightings and so forth, but claimed he expected to have additional information within two months. Colonel Thomas H. Henry of the JCRC was present during the meeting.

1.3(a)(4)

2. We are unable to substantiate the General Vang Pao statement. General Vang Pao had not previously indicated [REDACTED] that he possessed new information on MIA's. As recently as 17 October 1973 he informed a visiting delegation from the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia that while he believed it possible the North Vietnamese may still be holding some American prisoners in North Vietnam, he had no firm information.

1.3(a)(4)

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

26 OCT 1992

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EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF E.O. 11652, APRIL 14, 1965, AND E.O. 11652, SEPTEMBER 17, 1965, OR (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100) (101) (102) (103) (104) (105) (106) (107) (108) (109) (110) (111) (112) (113) (114) (115) (116) (117) (118) (119) (120) (121) (122) (123) (124) (125) (126) (127) (128) (129) (130) (131) (132) (133) (134) (135) (136) (137) (138) (139) (140) (141) (142) (143) (144) (145) (146) (147) (148) (149) (150) (151) (152) (153) (154) (155) (156) (157) (158) (159) (160) (161) (162) 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3. We are presently attempting to determine the basis of General Vang Pao's statement and will advise you if we find that there is substance to his report.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS:

-- Theodore G. Shackley

Theodore G. Shackley

cc: Mr. Lloyd M. Rives  
Director, EA/LC  
Department of State

Mr. William Stearman  
Staff Member  
National Security Council