

A

New File

502-02.3C

"ENEMY TREATMENT OF RELEASED PW" OF CINCPAC 8290

1.31/14

1.31/14

COUNTRY : NORTH VIETNAM (NVN)

SUBJECT : Treatment of Released NVN POW's Upon Return to NVN

DATE OF INFO : October 1966

DATE OF REPORT : 11/10/67

DATE AND PLACE : 3 October 1967 (I-B)
OF ACQUISITION : DA NANG, Vietnam

NO. OF PAGES : 2

1.31/14

SOURCE:

1.31/14

SUMMARY

1.31/14

returned NVN POW's were either executed or imprisoned for the duration of the war, depending on the amount of information and cooperation they had given to the enemy. All returned POW's had to write a complete statement of their activities after capture.

DISTRIBUTION:

US MACV

US EMBASSY (OSA)

ATTACHMENTS:

None

1.31/14

ENCL(S) 1 TO IR 6 227 8290 67

Approved for Release
Date August 1973

1.3(a)(4)

1. In October 1966 [] attempted to desert his unit and return to his native hamlet; he was apprehended in his attempt to escape and was severely criticized by the Company Political Officer LE VAN THIEN who told him that when NVN POW's were released by the GVN on special Vietnamese holidays, such as TET (Lunar New Year), they were compelled, when they returned to NVN, to write a complete statement describing the circumstances under which they were captured, all statements made to enemy captors, all persons who had interrogated them and where he had been taken after capture.
2. This statement was then reviewed by the NVN authorities, and a decision was made as to the disposal of each individual case. If a former POW admitted to revealing important information to the enemy under interrogation, he would probably be executed. All POW's, however, were confined to concentration camps in NVN for the duration of the war, since the NVN government regarded them as untrustworthy.

[]

[]

1.3(a)(4)

1.3(a)(4)

1. Sometime in early 1965, Source saw an American officer POW in PHU LY City, CHAU THANH District, NAM HA Province, NVN. The American had light colored hair, white skin, was heavy set, and was approximately 1.80 meters tall. There were no evidences of injury, and the American appeared to be in good health and walked rapidly. He was wearing a white shirt and dark pants.

1.3(a)(4)

2. Source believed the military truck carrying the prisoner had come from THANH HOA Province to NAM DINH Province and was headed in the direction of HANOI. The truck carrying the prisoner and five or six NVA guards had stopped near the local PHU LY City Police Station where two or three NVN local policemen were picked up before the group entered a restaurant. The restaurant was approximately one-half kilometer from the PHU LY City market on the east side of an eight-meter wide asphalt road in a residential section near the police station. The unmarked military four-wheel truck was dark green and had a canvas cover over the rear portion. When the prisoner stepped down from the truck, a crowd began to surround him, but the people were directed away from the prisoner to avoid any possible harm to the man. The guards carried no weapons and permitted the prisoner, who was not tied in any way to enter the restaurant in front of them. The guards appeared friendly towards the POW although there was no conversation between them nor was there any conversation between the local populace and the American.

3. Source had not heard of any Vietnamese civilians being kept in VC or NVA detention camps with captured Allied military POW's nor had he heard of rewards being offered for assisting Allied prisoners to escape.

4

1.3(a)(4)