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COUNTRY : SOUTH VIETNAM (SVN)
CAMBODIA

SUBJECT : Three POWs Seen in HONG NGU
District, KIEN PHONG Province, DATE OF REPORT: 2/1/68
Enroute to Cambodia

DATE OF INFO : 22 July 1968 NO. OF PAGES : 2

DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION : 19 December 1968 (F-U) REF:

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S U M M A R Y

One U.S. and two Korean POWs were observed at VC commo-liaison Station A-55 in HONG NGU District, KIEN PHONG Province on or about 22 July 1968. The station chief identified the American and one of the Koreans as sergeants and said the remaining Korean was a doctor. The chief said they were being sent to Cambodia to be held as POWs. He said all of the POWs had been captured at MY THO City during the TET offensive.

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ATTACHMENTS:

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None

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1. On or about 22 July 1968, one U.S. and two Korean POWs were observed at VC commo liaison Station A-55 in HONG NGU District, KIEN PHONG Province. The station chief, named SAU THANH, identified the U.S. POW and one of the Koreans as Sergeants and said the remaining Korean was a doctor (he did not say whether military or civilian) and said that all of them had been captured at MY THO City (DINH TUONG Province) during the TET Offensive. The station chief said that the POWs were going to be taken to Cambodia and held there as POWs. He also said that other POWs had passed through his station at infrequent intervals but did not elaborate.
2. None of the POWs was tied but they were made to lie down together on a small un-enclosed bamboo mat. They were not permitted to talk to each other but it was observed that they sometimes did. During the hours of darkness one armed VC stood guard over them but during the daylight hours the guard was removed and they became the responsibility of eight sentries who were posted around the area for station security. They were given the same diet of rice and fish twice a day (0800 and 1500 hours) that VC station personnel received. They were not physically mistreated.
3. None of the POWs appeared to be wounded or sick but they all looked tired. All of them wore black pajamas and were barefooted; They did not wear rings or watches. Description of the POWs was as follows:
 - a. The U.S. POW was about 2.0 meters tall, had a heavy build and weighed about 80 kilograms, had short cut brown hair, blue eyes, a light red complexion, a long face and long sideburns. He shaved but had a heavy beard. He had no visible scars or marks.
 - b. The Korean sergeant was about 1.55 meters tall, had a heavy build and weighed about 55 kilograms, had black hair, black eyes, a light complexion, and a long face. He had an old 5 centimeter long scar near his left wrist.
 - c. The Korean doctor was about 1.70 meters tall, had a medium build and weighed about 68 kilograms, had short cut black hair, brown eyes, a light complexion and a round face. He had no visible scars or marks.
4. Because of the language barrier, none of the VC talked with the POWs. Sign language was used to give them instructions to eat or move. Station personnel said that the POWs had been brought to the station 2 days before the observation and that it was expected that they would be held at the station for 4-5 days longer awaiting the arrival of a commo-liaison escort.