

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

27 JUN 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. STEPHEN R. LYNE
DIRECTOR, VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA
BUREAU OF EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MR. FRANK A. STEVERTS
DEPUTY COORDINATOR FOR PRISONER OF WAR
AND MISSING IN ACTION MATTERS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MR. CHARLES F. THORNBURGH
CHIEF, PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION BRANCH
RESOURCES AND INSTALLATIONS DIVISION
DIRECTORATE FOR INTELLIGENCE (RESEARCH CENTER)

RAYMOND VONDEN, CAPTAIN, USN
PRINCIPAL ADVISOR FOR PRISONER OF WAR AND
MISSING IN ACTION AFFAIRS
(INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS)
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM : JOHN N. McMAHON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS

SUBJECT : SIGHTING OF DETAINED CAUCASIANS NEAR LOC
NINH, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM SONG
BE PROVINCE

NO HARD COPY FOLLOWS

ATTACHED AS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO YOU IS A REPORT
OBTAINED IN MID-JULY 1979 FROM [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WE ARE GIVING THIS REPORT NO FURTHER DISSEMINATION.

CC: D/NEAC
NEAC/OPA

JUN 1982

RELEASED

ATTACHMENT:
REPORT AS STATED

JOHN N. McMAHON

FIR-317/09170-79

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[REDACTED] I
SUBJECT: SIGHTING OF DETAINED CAUCASIANS NEAR LOC NINH,
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM SONG BE PROVINCE

1. IN LATE OCTOBER 1978, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] B
[REDACTED] SPOTTED THREE PRESUMED
AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR APPROXIMATELY 30 MILES WEST OF THE
FORMER LOC NINH AIRFIELD. [REDACTED] B

A CAMP CONSISTING OF FOUR CANVAS TENTS GUARDED BY FOUR VIETNAMESE
SOLDIERS DRESSED IN BLACK UNIFORMS WITH TRIANGULAR YELLOW INSIGNIAS
AND WEARING WHITE RUBBER SANDALS. [REDACTED] WERE DETAINED B

IN ONE OF THE TENTS BY THE SOLDIERS. WHILE IN CUSTODY, [REDACTED] B

[REDACTED] COULD SEE THROUGH A PARTLY OPEN FLAP INTO A NEIGHBORING TENT B
IN WHICH WERE THREE CAUCASIANS. ONE OF THE CAUCASIANS TRIED TO
PASS A MESSAGE BY PUTTING HIS FOOT OUT OF THE TENT AND WRITING
WITH A TOE IN THE SAND. THE MAN DREW A "A", NEXT AN "I", THEN
STARTED TO TRACE A THIRD LETTER WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN AN "L" OR
A "U" BUT STOPPED WHEN THE GUARD SEEMED TO NOTICE HIS ACTIONS.

2. THE THREE CAUCASIAN PRISONERS WERE SITTING INSIDE A
DARKENED TENT AND NO FURTHER DETAILS COULD BE OBTAINED. [REDACTED] B

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WERNED NOT TO DISCUSS WHAT THEY HAD WITNESSED WITH ANYONE.

[REDACTED]

(HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: [REDACTED] DID NOT PROVIDE
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS OR OTHER MEANS OF IDENTIFYING THE
CAUCASIAN DETAINEES.)

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[REDACTED]