



Intelligence Information Report

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PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

THIS INFORMATION REPORT IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

DATE DISTR 30 June 1971

COUNTRY North Vietnam/Laos/Cambodia

DOI March-May 1968

SUBJECT Sighting of Three Groups of American Prisoners of War on Infiltration Route in Laos and Cambodia

ACQ Vietnam, Saigon (8 May 1971)

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

Summary. While traveling south from North Vietnam (NVN) at a place in Laos approximately opposite Khe Sanh, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam (SVN), [REDACTED] passed about 40 Caucasian and Negro prisoners being led northward. They were followed by a group of civilians, including a large number of children, also heading north. In April 1968, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the infiltration trail in Laos west of Kontum Province, SVN. At this site [REDACTED] saw buildings which he was told were occupied by U.S. prisoners. [REDACTED] was taken into the area and saw a group of Caucasian prisoners. Near the K-9 commo-liaison station in Cambodia, [REDACTED] saw another group of about 20 Americans being led northward. A group of Laotian prisoners also

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[REDACTED]															

[REDACTED]

was marching in this column. End Summary.

1. In March 1968, [redacted] was traveling toward SVN on a commo-liaison trail in Laos located approximately in the same latitude as Khe Sanh, Quang Tri Province, SVN. [redacted] observed a group of 16 invalid communist soldiers, heading north. Following this group was a line of about 40 Caucasian and Negro prisoners marching in single file, bound together by metal chains attached to the left arm of each man. All the men were in uniform; about half wore solid green and the other half camouflaged jungle fatigues. The men seemed tired and had long beards, but none appeared to be wounded or sick. A commo-liaison cadre walked in front of the group and another was at the rear of the column. There were a number of guards on both sides of the prisoners carrying AK-47 automatic rifles and pistols. Each prisoner carried in his right hand a fairly large blue wooden box which appeared very heavy, but [redacted] did not know what was inside. Behind the column of prisoners was a group of 30 civilian cadres, all of whom were middle to old age, and behind them was a large number of children ranging from ages 8 to 14. The children asked some of the soldiers for candy and food and made comments about losing their families in the south. Several of the children talked to [redacted] and said they were going to Hanoi.

2. In April 1968, in Laos, west of Kontum Province, SVN, [redacted] on the "Liberation Commo-Liaison Line" (Duong Giao Lien Gai Phong), [redacted]

[redacted] was summoned to an area on the side of a hill near the commo-liaison station where 10 to 12 buildings were surrounded by barbed wire and armed guards. [redacted] was told that U.S. prisoners were kept here and that [redacted] would be allowed to observe the POWs. [redacted] were brought to each one of the houses and allowed to look at the Americans. [redacted] only saw one house where four American prisoners, one a Negro, were detained. Each of the four men wore camouflaged jungle fatigues and appeared to be in good health. Also inside the building was a North Vietnamese doctor's office and an area for food supplies. [redacted] were cautioned not to speak to the prisoners or to abuse them physically. Before entering the hut where the Americans were housed, [redacted] were searched by a guard for any objects that prisoners might be able to seize and use as weapons. [redacted] then moved into the hut and walked around the area watching the Americans. The Americans waved to them and smiled, but did not try to talk [redacted]

3. [redacted] described the huts used for detaining the POWs as approximately 10 meters long and two meters wide. Each individual prisoner was in a barbed wire enclosure inside the hut but was able to reach through to the adjoining cell. A corridor ran down one side of the hut [redacted] observed that the POWs had canned meat to eat and appeared to be in good health. The prisoners were not chained or tied and had freedom of movement within their cells. [redacted] heard that the doctor in this hut was responsible for taking care of the prisoners. (Field Comment: [redacted] rumors were being spread [redacted] nearby that Communist Chinese

advisors were working with the prisoners, but [REDACTED] did not see any.) The guards around the POW camp and at each hut entrance were North Vietnamese assigned to the Security Border Defense (Cong An Bien Phong) and were armed with AK-47 automatic weapons.

4. In May 1968 [REDACTED] nearing the K-9 commo-liaison station in Cambodia [REDACTED] saw another group of about 80 Americans, about three-quarters of them Negro, being led northward. They were tied with rope to one another by the left hand and were surrounded by guards armed with AK-47 automatic weapons. The POWs were still in uniform, most of them wearing camouflaged jungle fatigues. They appeared in good health and [REDACTED] saw no injured persons. [REDACTED] heard one of the guards talking about six Lao POWs and looked down the column where he saw six oriental soldiers, tied by their hands and feet with metal chains. These men seemed to be in poor condition and were walking rather slowly.

8. Field Diessen: State, USMACV 7th Air Force NAVFORV
CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC (also sent [REDACTED] Vietnamese
[REDACTED])

67



Intelligence Information Report

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PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

[REDACTED]

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

DATE DISTR 24 November 1971

COUNTRY Laos/North Vietnam/Thailand

DOI 1964 - Early 1971

- SUBJECT
1. Noe Lao Rak Set Weekly Bulletin Containing Photographs and Details of American Prisoners Captured by the Pathet Lao
 2. Location and Details of a PL Prison Near the NLSB Supreme Headquarters in Sam Nhou Province, Laos

ACQ Laos, Vientiane (22 October 1971)

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Summary. The Bao Loc Det (NVA) Headquarters published a weekly bulletin which contained photographs and names of Americans captured by the North Vietnamese. Some prisoners were reportedly turned over to the North Vietnamese. A report of 24 April 1971, a PL prison was allegedly built in the area of Ban Hui, about six kilometers east of the NVA Headquarters at Ban Hui, Ban Hui Province, Laos. As of April 1969, the prison held approximately 800 prisoners. They were all captured and held in Laos, and were to be incarcerated there.

1. A copy of the bulletin was obtained from the office of the Bao Loc Det (NVA) Headquarters. The bulletin contained photographs of American prisoners who had been captured by the North Vietnamese and a list of names listing each prisoner's name, rank, date and place of capture as well as photographs of the prisoners. The list of names and places of capture could be used to identify the prisoners.

2. In a letter to the office of the Bao Loc Det (NVA) Headquarters, dated 10 April 1969, the office of the Bao Loc Det (NVA) Headquarters requested a copy of the bulletin. The office of the Bao Loc Det (NVA) Headquarters could not recall the name of the American prisoners. The office did not personally see or know of any Americans at the PL prison located at Ban Hui (VH 247564) but had heard that all Americans captured by the PL were turned over to the North Vietnamese and sent to Hanoi.

3. During a meeting between senior NVA and North Vietnamese officials, including Hoang Van Thang and Supreme Commander of North Vietnamese Army (NVA) forces Lt. Major General Tran B. P., at Bao Loc Det (NVA) Headquarters in 1969, the North Vietnamese were shown copies of the bulletin on the American prisoners captured by the PL. Such high-level meetings of NVA and North Vietnamese officials were held about once every three months. Comment: [redacted] was not knowledgeable of the meeting agenda or whether the officials were specifically interested in the American prisoners.)

4. As of April 1969 a prison camp containing about 800 prisoners was located at Ban Hui, about six kilometers (one) east of the NVA Supreme Headquarters at Ban Hui, Ban Hui Province, Laos. The camp, which was about 1,000 meters long and 800 meters wide, was located in dense jungle and could not be seen from the air. In early 1971 NVA Headquarters officials said that the prison was still in existence.

5. (Field Comment. Current enemy Order of Battle (OB) holdings contain no information on a camp located at Ban Hui. Analysis of 12 October 1971 photography could not confirm a prison camp or a village at VH 247564. The reported area is within an area which once was cultivated but which has been covered by secondary growth vegetation. Other villages in the area, as depicted on map sheet 3849-1 at VH 241507, VH 24357c and VH 23157b, were abandoned. However, scattered huts were located in nearby rice paddies. Several buildings were located under heavy tree canopy at VH 246577. The dense canopy precluded a more accurate determination of the number of buildings or their function.)

B. A 200-man PL security force armed with pistols, AK-47 rifles and B-40 rocket grenade launchers guarded the prison. Small patrols checked 4 to five km areas surrounding the prison between 0400-0800 hours each morning and 1300-1800 hours each afternoon. Four gates led into the prison, each of which was manned by one guard during the day and two guards at night. The guard force changed hourly during the day and every two hours during the night. An estimated eight to twelve 37mm antiaircraft guns were also located around the prison complex. An alarm bell was sounded whenever aircraft approached the area. (Field Comment. According to analysis of 12 October 1971 photography, the nearest antiaircraft artillery (AAA) positions included five 37mm AAA sites in the general vicinity of VH 1937.)

6. Two unidentified NVA volunteer battalions (bns) were located at Phu (mountain) Dang (VH 2233) and were capable of acting as a reaction force if the camp were attacked. The 613th PL Mobile Infantry Bn was located in the Muonghien (UM 3021) area, about 100 km west-southwest of the prison. On occasion it operated in the general vicinity of the prison. The prison was commanded by PL Major B e n n Phommahatal, a former PL general who had been Supreme Commander of PL forces and a deputy to Kaysone Phomvihane. Bann had been demoted because of adulterous behavior. His deputy was S i n n a i Mahasoul.

7. The approximately 800 prisoners in the camp in 1968 were composed of Lao and Thai nationals and were divided into four categories. There were no known American prisoners incarcerated in the camp.

a. Category I prisoners consisted of captured Royal Lao Government (RLG) irregular forces trained to operate as small teams in the rear areas of PL-controlled territory, captured Thai soldiers who refused to cooperate with the PL, and persons suspected of being RLG intelligence agents. These maximum security prisoners were held in underground cells, were fed a small portion of rice once daily, were not allowed to bathe and were not provided medical care. They were kept shackled at all times.

b. Category II was composed of those prisoners from Category I who had repented and who cooperated with the PL. They were held separately in the rear section of a cave located on the prison grounds. They were fed a moderate amount of rice twice daily which was sometimes supplemented with locally grown vegetables and canned meat obtained from North Vietnam.

c. Category III consisted of persons arrested for minor crimes and those prisoners from Category II who the PL felt had been rehabilitated. They were kept in the forward section of the same cave which held Category II prisoners. The treatment of Category II and III prisoners was very similar.

d. Category IV was the largest category, consisting of about 600 RLG soldiers who were captured on the Ban Bac (TM 3382) battlefield in 1968. They were quartered in small Lao-style buildings scattered about the prison grounds and were allowed to leave the camp perimeter on work details. They were treated otherwise much the same as those in Categories II and III. (Field Comment. There have been many reports that prisoners taken at Ban Bac were taken to the Ban Hieu area. These prisoners were used on road construction and as coolies, and some were incorporated into Bouasist battalions. Most of the reporting, however, indicated that these prisoners were kept in the Ban Long (VH 1261) vicinity.)

8. Field Mission. State Army Air CINC PACAF PACFLT MAJVT 728AF 7/13th AF TPA/NEP 7th BA/75 C-130 base [redacted] Saigon [redacted]

Intelligence Information Report



[REDACTED]

COUNTRY LAOS/NORTH VIETNAM

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
DATE [REDACTED] 6 DECEMBER 1971

SUBJECT 4 MAY 1968 [REDACTED] SIGHTINGS OF TWO U.S. PILOTS CAPTURED BY PATHET LAO FORCES IN BAN HUA PROVINCE IN MAY 1968

ACQ LAOS, VIETNAM (26 NOVEMBER 1971)

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

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SUMMARY. ON OR ABOUT 4 MAY 1968 A U.S. PILOT WAS CAPTURED BY PATHET LAO (PL) TROOPS NEAR THE PL SUPREME COMMAND HEADQUARTERS CAVE. HE WAS INTERROGATED AND THEN DETAINED AT UNKNOWN LOCATIONS IN SAN NEUA PROVINCE. ANOTHER U.S. PILOT WAS LATER CAPTURED IN THE VICINITY OF HUONG POVA AND BROUGHT TO THE SAME DETENTION AREA. END SUMMARY.

1. ON OR ABOUT 4 MAY 1968, A U.S. PILOT WAS CAPTURED BY PATHET LAO (PL) TROOPS ON THE THIRD DAY OF A BOMBING ATTACK IN AN AREA APPROXIMATELY ONE KILOMETER NORTH OF THE PL SUPREME COMMAND HEADQUARTERS (HQS) CAVE. WHILE APPROXIMATELY TEN U.S. JET AIRCRAFT CIRCLED OVER THE AREA WHERE THE PILOT HAD LANDED AFTER PARACHUTING FROM HIS BURNING AIRCRAFT, A U.S. HELICOPTER ATTEMPTED TO RESCUE HIM. PL SOLDIERS, HOWEVER, CAPTURED THE PILOT BEFORE THE HELICOPTER ARRIVED. THE PILOT WAS OVER 66 INCHES TALL, MEDIUM BUILD, AND CLEAN SHAVEN. HE HAD A LONG FACE AND SHORT, LIGHT COLORED HAIR. HE WAS BROUGHT TO THE PL SUPREME COMMAND HQS CAVE AND THEN TAKEN TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION FOR INTERROGATION. THE INTERROGATION WAS CONDUCTED BY A LAO WHO USED AS AN INTERPRETER A FOREIGN STUDENT WHO SPOKE ENGLISH AND WHO WAS BORROWED FROM THE NEO LAO BAK SAI (NLS) CENTER. AFTER THE INTERROGATION THE PILOT WAS DETAINED AT AN UNKNOWN LOCATION IN SAN NEUA PROVINCE.

2. (FIELD COMMENT: [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] IDENTIFIED THE LOCATION OF THE PL SUPREME COMMAND CAVE AT VN 15 05 FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS. ANALYSIS OF PHOTOGRAPHY DATED 16 SEPTEMBER 1971 HAS REVEALED A CAVE LOCATED AT VN 193566. THIS CAVE HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS THE HEADQUARTERS.)

3. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

WHEN THE PILOT WAS ASKED ABOUT TACTICAL MILITARY INFORMATION, HE SAID HE KNEW NOTHING. HE TOLD THE INTERROGATOR TO ASK THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR THE ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS. WHEN ASKED WHAT HE WAS THINKING ABOUT WITH REGARD TO HIS CAPTURE, THE PILOT SAID THAT HE THOUGHT MOSTLY ABOUT HIS WIFE AND SON. HE GAVE HIS AGE AS 36 AND SAID THAT HIS SON WAS 15 YEARS OLD.

[REDACTED]

4. TWO OR THREE MONTHS LATER ANOTHER U.S. PILOT WAS CAPTURED IN THE VICINITY OF HUONG POLUA. (FIELD COMMENT: A HUONG POLUA IS LOCATED AT VM 8864.)

[REDACTED] THIS PILOT HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THE SAME DETENTION AREA AS THE FIRST PILOT.

5. ABOUT ONE MONTH AFTER THE SECOND PILOT WAS CAPTURED, PL CAPTAIN KU - T H O N G, WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPRISONED PILOTS, CAME TO THE SUPREME COMMAND HQS CAVE [REDACTED] TO TELL S A M A N, WHO AT THAT TIME WAS 1ST DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDER OF PL FORCES AND CHIEF OF THE SUPREME COMMAND POLITICAL OFFICER, THAT THE PILOTS WERE HAVING DIFFICULTY ADJUSTING TO A DIET OF LAO FOOD. SAMAN TOLD KU-THONG TO TRY DIFFERENT FOODS IN ORDER TO FIND OUT WHAT THE PILOTS COULD EAT. HE SUGGESTED CHICKEN, SUGAR AND MILK. HE TOLD KU-THONG TO ASK THE PILOTS WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO EAT AND THEN TO REQUISITION THE FOOD FROM THE QUARTERMASTER OFFICE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] HAD NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE PILOTS.) (FIELD COMMENT: KU-THONG MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH THONGKHAM WHO IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN POLICE CHIEF IN XIENG KHOUANG PROVINCE AND WHO WAS TRANSFERRED TO HOUA PHAN

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

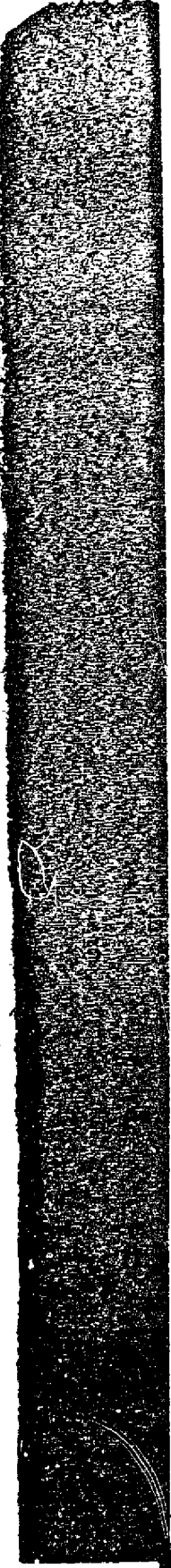
[REDACTED]

PROVINCE IN LATE 1968. IN LATE 1971 THONGKHAM REPORTEDLY
WAS CHIEF OF THE SECURITY OFFICE IN THE BAKAY AREA (VE 1849).
SAHAN MAY BE SAHAN VIRAKHET WHO IS CONFIRMED AS SUPPINE
COMMANDER OF THE SOUTH LAOS REGION (SLR) HQS AND WHO

SUCCEEDED GENERAL PHOUA H A BOUANGHALLA. (PHOUA H A BOUANGHALLA
SAHAN VIRAKHET FORMERLY WAS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE
HQS OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY AND CHIEF OF POLITICAL
AFFAIRS OF THE XIENG KHOUANG REGIONAL HQS.)

U.S. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR CINCPAC ASFPAC PACAF
PACFLT MACV IN AF W/STH AF 15A/BEP (ALSO SENT [REDACTED])
SAIGON [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Intelligence Information Report

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

DATE DIST. 10 December 1971

COUNTRY Laos

DCI 1965 - mid-1970

SUBJECT Capture of American Civilian Pilot in Northwest Laos in 1965. PL Radio Report of Captured Americans, and PL Briefings on Treatment of Captured Americans

ACQ Laos, Vientiane (23 Oct - 9 Nov 1971)

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

Both the First and Second Companies of the 408th BN were involved in a 1965 operation which resulted in the capture of the American

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pilot of a Porter aircraft at Boum Lao (QC 800808) airstrip in Luang Prabang Province. A Thai crewman who accompanied the American ran from the PL, saw capture was inevitable, and took his own life by detonating an M-26 hand grenade on his belt rather than be captured. The captured American was taken away from the area on a northerly route. [REDACTED] who was subsequently killed in action, believed the American was taken to Sam Nua. There are no known American prisoners of war in Luang Prabang Province, and it is fairly common knowledge within the PL military structure that Lao, Thai, and American airmen shot down over PL territory are held captive near Sam Nua. [REDACTED] said that the American and the Thai landed at the airstrip which they apparently did not know PL forces occupied during the night.

2. Field Comment. The incident described probably refers to the 25 May 1965 capture of Bird and Sons pilot Captain Ernie B r a c e at the Boum Lao airstrip. Brace, accompanied by one Thai "kicker" crewman, flew to the site to pick up an individual supposed to be there but who fled the site during the night in the face of enemy attack and was later picked up by helicopter. Despite the absence of a safety signal, probably observing soldiers but no out of the ordinary or hostile activity from the air, and probably strongly motivated by a desire to pick up the individual in the face of known nearby enemy activity, Brace landed and was captured along with the Thai crewman.

3. In mid-1970 the PL radio at Sam Nua, Supreme Headquarters broadcast a report that an American pilot shot down in Xieng Khouang Province was captured and sent to Sam Nua. Also in mid-1970 the 408th PL Bn commander Colonel K h a m p h e u y mentioned without giving dates in a battalion briefing that "two or three" American prisoners of war had been sent to Sam Nua from Xieng Khouang Province.

4. 408th Bn commanders and platoon leaders were usually briefed prior to entering combat operations on the importance of capturing any foreigners, namely Americans, alive. Any man not adhering to that rule was liable to punishment. Assistant instructor Colonel K h a m l u i told students from the 408th Bn during political training in 1968 - 1969 in Nuong Sai (RC 1290) that American and Lao pilots captured in action were sent to Sam Nua. Part of the training dealt with actions to be taken upon capturing prisoners, and Khamlui stressed that foreign pilots were to be taken alive and subjected to political indoctrination. All men were responsible for preventing the killing of foreign prisoners. Any American captured would stand a good chance of staying alive, since the capturing unit would probably receive material rewards for his capture.

5. Field DISSEM. State Army Air CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC MACV/JPRC 7TH AF 7/13TH AF DIA/NKP RRFs (Also sent [REDACTED] Saigon).

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Intelligence Information Report

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
DATE DUE: 21 JULY 1973

COUNTRY : LAOS/NORTH VIETNAM

DOI : JULY 1966 - NOVEMBER 1967

SUBJECT : 1. SIGHTING OF 19 U.S. POW'S ON THE PAUL HOOPER BRIDGE IN NAROI IN NOVEMBER 1967
2. SIGHTING OF DEAD U.S. PILOT IN THE SAN HIEVA AREA OF LAOS IN JULY 1966

ACB : LAOS, VIENTIANE (85 JUNE, 18 JULY 1978)

SOURCE :

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. IN EARLY NOVEMBER 1967 WHILE TRAVELLING THROUGH HANOI

[REDACTED]

OBSERVED 18 MEN, SOME OF WHOM WERE STANDING AND OTHERS SITTING ON THE WESTERN END OF THE PAUL DOUMER BRIDGE AT UJ 80182638. TWO POLICEMEN GUARDED THE MEN [REDACTED] TOLD [REDACTED] THAT THE MEN WERE U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POW'S) REPAIRING THE BRIDGE. FROM UJ 88982638 KHANPREVANE OBSERVED THE POW'S FOR ALMOST 30 MINUTES AND DID NOT SEE THEM DO ANY WORK. HE REMARKED THAT IT APPEARED MORE LIKE "TAKING IN FRESH AIR". [REDACTED] ASKED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WHERE THE U.S. POW CAMP WAS LOCATED. [REDACTED] ANSWERED BY POINTING TO THE SOUTHEAST.

2. IN MID-JULY 1966 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WAS TAKEN TO VIEW THE BODY OF A U.S. PILOT WHOSE AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA) FIRE. THE BODY WAS LYING ABOUT 50 METERS SOUTHWEST OF A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 65 AT VN 1859, ABOUT 17 KILOMETERS EAST OF SAN HEMA TOWN (VN 8197). THE PILOT WAS ABOUT 23 YEARS OLD, HAD A BIG BUILD, A SHORT NOSE, NEATLY TRIMMED RED HAIR, AND WORE GRAY TROUSERS AND A WHITE T-SHIRT. ON THE BACK OF THE T-SHIRT WAS PRINTED "U.S. 2" FOLLOWED BY NUMBERS OR LETTERS THAT COULD NOT BE READ. THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT WAS ABOUT 200 METERS SOUTHWEST OF THE PILOT'S BODY. ONLY THE WINGS AND TAIL OF THE TWIN ENGINE PLANE REMAINED AS THE FUSELAGE WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE.

[REDACTED]

MAY 2 09 4 1960

[REDACTED]

A. FIELD DIRECTOR [REDACTED] AMBASSY, AIRATT BY [REDACTED] VIETNAM
SEND TO CINCPAC, ARPAC, PACAF, PACFLT, MACV, THE AF, 7/15TH
OF, TPA/REP, [REDACTED] SAIGON, [REDACTED]

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Intelligence Information Report

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PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

DATE DATE 16 AUGUST 1972

COUNTRY Laos/north Vietnam

DOI December 1971

SUBJECT Sighting of Two Captured American Pilots Northwest of Tchepone, Laos

ACQ Laos, Vientiane(7-9 August 1972)

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

1. In mid-December 1971 two captured American prisoners of war (POW's) were brought to the Savannakhet Provincial Military Headquarters (Hqs) of the Pathet Lao (PL) in the vicinity of WD 90R2, about 60 kilometers northwest of Tchepone (WD 3244). The POW's were guarded by the four PL policemen who were assigned to the Provincial Hqs and worked in the Tchepone area. About 50 villagers from Ban Dongbang (WD 8580) and Ban Nam Maeng (WD 8878) were assembled at the Hqs at 1200 hours where they viewed the POW's and heard a short speech from **L i n t h o n g**, the commander of the Provincial Military Hqs. Linthong stated

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that the POW's were American pilots who had been captured by the PL after they had parachuted from their jet aircraft which had been shot down in the Tchepone area. Linihong stated that the Americans were committing acts of aggression against the Lao people, and the proof of this was the presence of the American POW's.

2. The POW's remained in the area for one hour and were observed from a distance of ten yards. No one in the assembled group was allowed to speak with the POW's. They were closely guarded by the PL policemen but were not tied or restrained in any manner. Linihong said that the POW's were to be taken by vehicle to Binh Tram 32 at 1500 hours on the same day from where they were to be taken to North Vietnam. H g a r n, the Savannakhet Provincial Hqs Chief of Police, said that the POW's had been in the Provincial Hqs area for one day after their arrival from Tchepone and had been fed rice and canned meat while there.

3. Both POW's were dressed in green PL uniforms which Ngern said were provided by the policemen in Tchepone. The uniforms were the largest size available to the PL and appeared to fit fairly well. The POW's were not wearing shoes, eyeglasses, hats or jewelry of any type. Both were Caucasians. One was about 30 years old and had a heavy build. He weighed about 80 kilograms and was about 1.70 meters tall. He had short light brown hair, light complexion with a round face and a pointed nose. He did not have a beard or mustache. The second POW was about 35 years old and had a thin build. He weighed about 65 kilograms and was about 1.70 meters tall. He had light brown hair, a ruddy complexion, a narrow face with a sharp nose which was slightly bent. His hair was about six centimeters long, and he wore a mustache and a beard which was about two and one-half centimeters long. It appeared that he had not shaven for a few days although his mustache and beard appeared well trimmed. Both POW's were in good physical condition.

4. Field Dissem. Embassy, ARMATT, AIRATT at Vientiane. Sent to CINCPAC, ARPAC, PACAF, PACFLT, MACV, 7TH AF, 7/13th AF, TFA/NKP. Saigon.

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Intelligence Information Report

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PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

DATE DISTR. 15 JANUARY 1973

COUNTRY LAOS/NORTH VIETNAM
 DOI LATE JULY 1971
 SUBJECT SIGHTING OF FIVE U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR IN SOUTHERN LAOS
 ACO VIETNAM, SAIGON (21 DECEMBER 1972) [REDACTED]

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

1. AT 1200 HOURS ONE DAY IN LATE JULY 1971, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OBSERVED FIVE UNITED STATES (U.S.) PRISONERS OF WAR (POW'S) FOR ABOUT 40 MINUTES WHILE THE POW'S WERE EATING LUNCH AT COMMO-LIAISON STATION 64 IN SOUTHERN LAOS ON THE 559TH COMMO-LIAISON ROUTE. THE POW'S WERE ESCORTED BY 12 SOLDIERS WHO WERE ARMED WITH AK-47 ASSAULT RIFLES. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE POW'S HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN THE VIET CONG B-3 FRONT AREA AND THAT THEY WERE TRAVELLING TO NORTH VIETNAM. (FIELD COMMENT: THE VIET CONG B-3 FRONT CONSISTS OF KONTUM, PLEIKU, AND DARLAC PROVINCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM.) THE POW'S WERE NOT TIED AND THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY VISIBLE WOUNDS.

2. ONE POW WAS A NEGRO ABOUT 23 YEARS OLD. HE WEIGHED ABOUT 80 KILOS, WAS ABOUT 1.78 METERS TALL, AND WAS WEARING BLACK PAJAMAS AND BOOTS.

3. ANOTHER POW WAS A CAUCASIAN ABOUT 23 YEARS OLD. HE HAD A MUSKY BUILD, WAS ABOUT 1.88 METERS TALL, AND WEIGHED ABOUT 80 KILOS. HE HAD HAZEL EYES, A RUDDY COMPLEXION, BROWN HAIR AND WAS WEARING A GREEN UNIFORM AND BOOTS.

4. THE OTHER THREE POW'S WERE CAUCASIANS WITH SIMILAR BUILDS, EACH BEING ABOUT 1.78 METERS TALL AND WEIGHING ABOUT 75 KILOS. ONE POW WAS WEARING A GREEN UNIFORM AND THE OTHER TWO WERE DRESSED IN BLACK PAJAMAS. ALL THREE WERE WEARING BLACK BOOTS.

5. (FIELD COMMENT: [REDACTED] WAS SHOWN THE JOINT PERSONNEL RECOVERY CENTER (JPRC) "ALBUM OF MISSING AND CAPTURED PERSONNEL IN SOUTHEAST ASIA" AND IDENTIFIED PHOTO NO. C141 ON PAGE 1 A 478 AS RESEMBLING THE NEGRO POW; PHOTO NO. G438 ON PAGE 1 A 193 AS RESEMBLING THE MUSKY POW; AND PHOTOS NO. B886 ON PAGE 1 A 198, 8087 ON PAGE 1 A 193, AND NO. C883 ON PAGE 1 A 152 AS RESEMBLING THE THREE POW'S WHO HAD SIMILAR BUILDS.)

6. (FIELD COMMENT: THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS CORRELATED WITH JPRC WHICH MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS: SCREENING OF JPRC RECORDS INDICATES THAT BEFORE THE DATE OF SIGHT [REDACTED], FROM 30 TO 40 INDIVIDUALS HAD BEEN LOST IN THE AREA MENTIONED. SEVERAL OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN CAPTURED AND OTHERS ARE BELIEVED TO BE HELD CAPTIVE BECAUSE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THEIR DISAPPEARANCES.)

DENY THIS

~~SECRET~~
PAGE

[REDACTED]

PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES

[REDACTED]

B. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY USMACV JPRC 3TH AIR FORCE
USARV NAVFORV. 925TH MI GP 7602ND AIG OSI AT SAIGON;
SENT TO CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC [REDACTED] VIENTIANE.

[REDACTED]

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Intelligence Information Report

[REDACTED]

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT A FULLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

[REDACTED]

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
DATE DISTR. 5 FEBRUARY 1973

COUNTRY NORTH VIETNAM/LAOS
DOI FEBRUARY 1973 AND MAY 1971
SUBJECT SIGHTING OF U.S. PRISONER OF WAR GROUPS IN NORTH VIETNAM AND LAOS

ACQ VIETNAM, SAIGON (1 FEBRUARY 1973) [REDACTED]

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

1. IN FEBRUARY 1970, [REDACTED] SAW A GROUP OF ABOUT 23 U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POW) ESCORTED BY TEN ARMED

[REDACTED]

CLASS	DIS	INFO	[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
PUBLIC SECURITY PERSONNEL ON YEN PHU STREET, AT THE END OF LONG BIEN BRIDGE, IN HANOI, NORTH VIETNAM. THEY HAD JUST WALKED ACROSS THE BRIDGE FROM THE DIRECTION OF BIA LAM. THE POW'S WERE ALL DRESSED IN NAVY BLUE TROUSERS AND BLUE OR WHITE SHIRTS AND WORE SHOES. SOME OF THEM CARRIED A NOTEBOOK AND MADE OCCASIONAL NOTATIONS. THEY WERE ALL CAUCASIANS AND ALL APPEARED HEALTHY AND AT EASE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: BASED ON WHAT [REDACTED] OBSERVED, HE BELIEVED THAT THE POW'S WERE TAKEN TO HANOI FOR A SIGHTSEEING TOUR ON THE OCCASION OF LUNAR YET.)

8. AT ABOUT 1800 HOURS ONE DAY IN MAY 1971, [REDACTED] OBSERVED A GROUP OF TWELVE U.S. POW'S AT COMMO-LIAISON STATION 19A ON INFILTRATION ROUTE 959 IN LAOS. THEY WERE ESCORTED BY SIX RECONNAISSANCE AGENTS ARMED WITH AK RIFLES UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF A COMMO-LIAISON AGENT. THE POW'S WERE ALL CAUCASIANS; SOME WORE A GREEN FATIGUE UNIFORM; THE OTHERS WORE AN UNDERSKIRT AND GREEN TROUSERS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THEY WERE CAPTURED DURING THE LAN SON OPERATION IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF LAOS AND THAT ONE OF THE POW'S WAS A NEW ZEALANDER. THE POW'S WERE NOT TIED UP OR BLINDFOLDED.

9. (FIELD COMMENT: [REDACTED] WAS SHOWN THE JOINT PERSONNEL RECOVERY CENTER "ALBUM OF MISSING AND CAPTURED PERSONNEL IN SOUTHEAST ASIA" VOLUME 1 AND IDENTIFIED THREE PHOTOGRAPHS AS BEING SIMILAR TO THE POW'S HE HAD SEEN - THE FIRST TWO IN HANOI, AND THE THIRD IN LAOS. A PHOTOGRAPH MARKED MO 88, PAGE 1A 203, CORRESPONDS TO MORRILL, MERVIN L., 03, AF, DOI 678821, AND ONE MARKED EO 23, PAGE 1A 322, CORRESPONDS TO ENGLANDER, LAWRENCE J., E-5, AR, DOI 680502, BOTH OF WHOM [REDACTED] SAID HE SAW IN THE HANOI GROUP. A PHOTOGRAPH MARKED EO 05, PAGE 1A, 106 CORRESPONDS TO ECHEVARRIA, RAYMOND L., E-8, AR DOI 661803, WHOM [REDACTED] SAID HE SAW IN LAOS. NONE OF THESE NAMES APPEARS ON THE LISTS OF POW'S PROVIDED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS AS POW'S SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE TO U.S. AUTHORITIES.)

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[REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

5. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY USMACV JCRC 7TH AIR FORCE
USARV BAVFORV 925TH MI GP 762ND AIG OSI AT SAIGON: SENT TO
CIBCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC [REDACTED] VIENTIANE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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