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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Allan G. Paulson, Rear Admiral, USN
Assistant Vice Director for Collection Management
Department of Defense

John Fer, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF
Principal Advisor for Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Affairs
(International Security Affairs)
Office of the Secretary of Defense

Mr. Frank A. Sieverts
Deputy Coordinator for Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Matters
Department of State

FROM: [REDACTED] Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT: Information on U.S. Prisoners of War Being Held in Savannakhet Province, Laos, and Svay Rieng Province, Kampuchea

Attached as of possible interest to you is a report obtained in November 1981 and January 1982 regarding [REDACTED] of alleged American prisoners in Laos and Kampuchea.

cc: [REDACTED] State, DOD, NSA, DIA
ATTACHMENT: Report as stated

INFORMATION ON U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR REPORTED IN
IN SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE, LAOS AND SVAY RIENG
PROVINCE, KAMPUCHIA

IN OR ABOUT FALL 1981

RECEIVED REPORTS OF
U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POW'S) IN THE COURSE OF CROSSING LAOS TO
ENTER VIETNAM. (ACCORDING TO THESE REPORTS 11 POW'S, INCLUDING
THREE U.S. AIR FORCE (USAF) PILOTS, WERE BEING HELD IN
SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE IN CENTRAL LAOS. [REDACTED] THE
POW'S WERE MOVED EVERY MONTH OR TWO AND WERE BEING HELD IN
UNDERGROUND BUNKERS TO HAMPER ANOTHER U.S. ATTEMPT TO RESCUE
POW'S. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: THE MISSION TO FIND U.S. POW'S
ALLEGEDLY BEING HELD IN KHAMMOUAN PROVINCE, LAOS, OCCURRED IN
SPRING 1981.) [REDACTED] HAD GATHERED INFORMATION
WHICH LED HIM TO CONCLUDE POSITIVELY THAT 200-300 POW'S,
PRIMARYLY U.S. POW'S, WERE BEING HELD IN A HIGHLY SECURE AREA
NEAR MO VET, SVAY RIENG PROVINCE, KAMPUCHIA, WHICH IS CLOSE TO
THE BORDER WITH VIETNAM. THIS AREA IS NEAR TWO LARGE RUBBER
PLANTATIONS ADJACENT TO THE TOWN OF MO VET WHICH [REDACTED]
WOULD BE ABLE TO PINPOINT [REDACTED] THE U.S. MISSION TO FIND
THE POW'S IN KHAMMOUAN PROVINCE FAILED BECAUSE [REDACTED]
MOVED IN ADVANCE. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: NO LARGE RUBBER
PLANTATIONS ARE KNOWN TO EXIST IN SVAY RIENG PROVINCE.)

AMINT-1 JANUARY 1981 [REDACTED] TO HAVE [REDACTED]
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING U.S. POW'S. HE SAID THAT
DURING THE 1950 YEARS HE HAD BEEN HELD A PRISONER BY THE NORTH
VIETNAMESE, WHEN HE HAD AT ONE POINT SHARED A CAMP WITH U.S.
POW ROBERT ((GARWOOD)). HE HAD PERSONALLY BURIED SEVERAL U.S.
POW'S WHO HAD DIED IN CAPTIVITY. WHILE HE DID NOT KNOW THE
NAMES OF THESE POW'S, HE DID KNOW THE LOCATIONS OF THE BURIAL
SITES, WHICH HE WOULD BE WILLING TO POINT OUT TO U.S. MILITARY
UNIT.

