

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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

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Principal Advisor for Prisoner of War and  
Missing in Action Affairs  
(International Security Affairs)  
Office of the Secretary of Defense

Mr. Frank A. Sleverts  
Deputy Coordinator for Prisoner of War  
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Department of State

Mr. Desaix Anderson  
Director, Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea  
Bureau of East Asia and Pacific Affairs  
Department of State

FROM :  Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT : Sighting of a Group of American Prisoners  
in Northern Socialist Republic of Vietnam

  
Attached as of possible interest to you is a report  
obtained in July 1981   
regarding the sighting of  
a group of nine to ten American prisoners at a camp in Ha  
Nui Province in Northern Socialist Republic of Vietnam.  
  
obtained the information from a direct sighting  
in March 1974. A sketch of the prison camp area is included  
with this report as an attachment.

cc: D/NFAC State/EAP DOD NSA  
NIAC/OPA State/INR DIA

ATTACHMENT: Report and sketch as stated



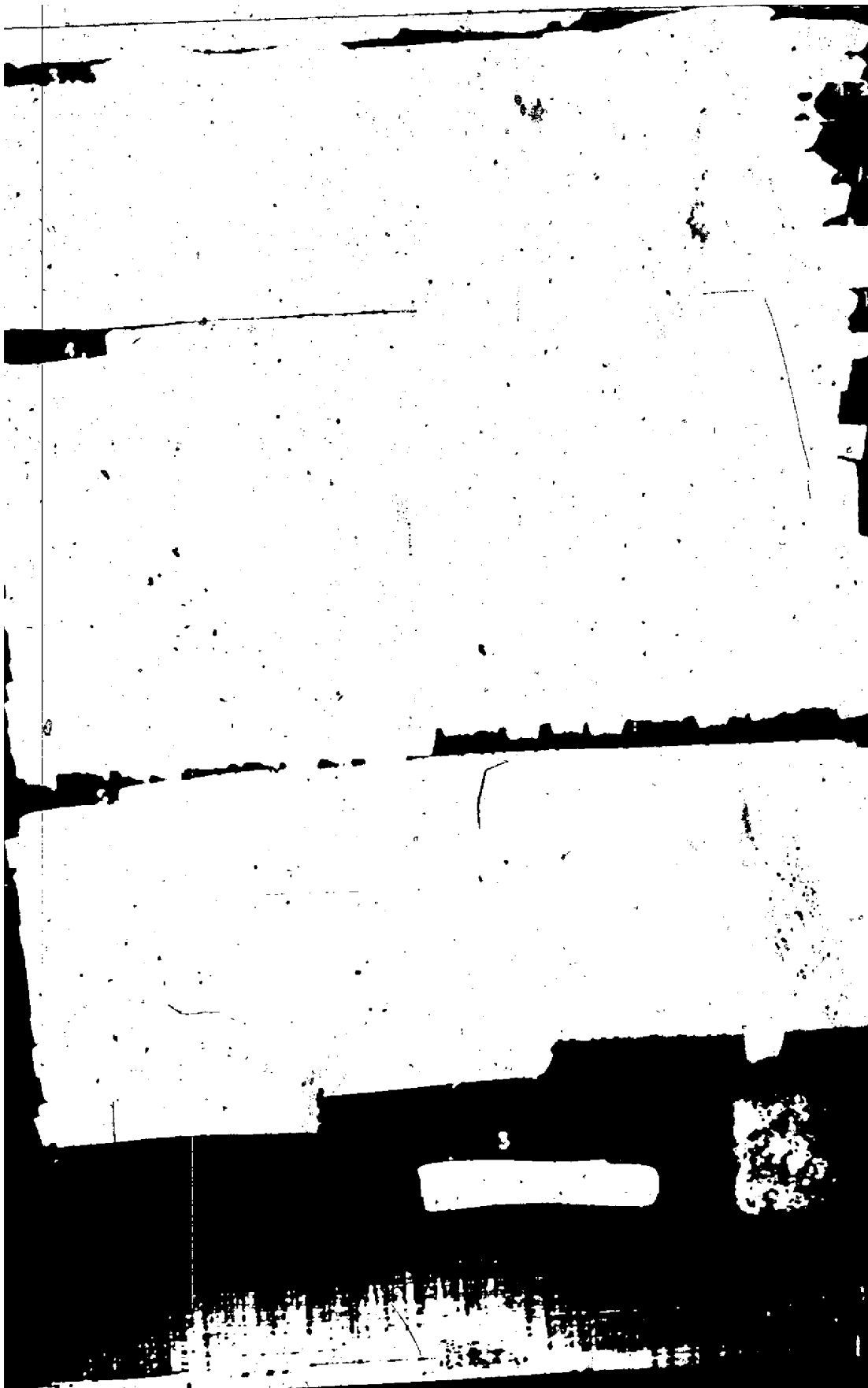
**SUBJECT:** SIGHTING OF A GROUP OF AMERICAN PRISONERS IN NORTHERN SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

**SUMMARY:** IN MARCH 1974 A GROUP OF PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM OFFICER TRAINEES AT A CAMP IN NORTHERN VIETNAM, WHILE GOING ACCIDENTALLY CAME NEAR A PRISON CAMP WHERE TEN TO TEN CAUCASIAN PRISONERS WERE OBSERVED. THE TRAINEE GROUP GOT A BRIEF LOOK BEFORE PRISON GUARDS WARNED THEM AWAY. A MONTH LATER A MAN WHO SAID HE WAS A PRISON GUARD AT THIS CAMP STATED THAT HE GUARDED AMERICAN PRISONERS. THIS SAME GUARD ON LEAVE IN HO CHI MINH CITY IN MAY JUNE 1976 SAID THAT HE STILL GUARDED AMERICAN PRISONERS, BUT HE DID NOT DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION ON THEM OR THE CAMP ON GROUNDS OF SENSITIVITY. END SUMMARY.

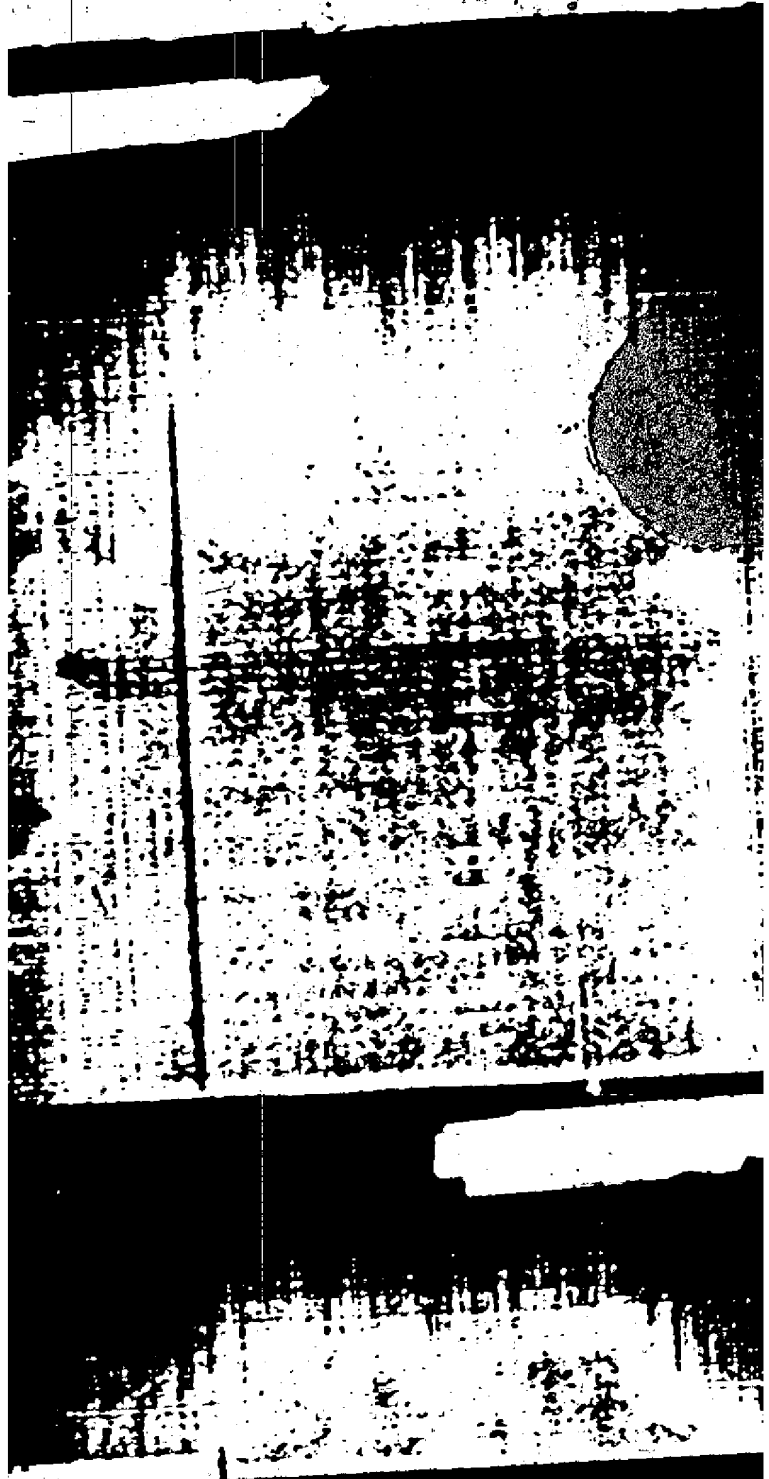
1. IN MARCH 1974 A GROUP OF NINE OR TEN CAUCASIAN MALES WAS SEEN STANDING NEAR THE BARBED WIRE OF A PRISON CAMP IN THE VICINITY OF PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) MILITARY REGION (MR) 3 OFFICERS' SCHOOL (TRUONG DO TUC SI QUAN LUC QUAN CUA QUAN BINH 3) AT BINH (DISTRICT SEAT) NHO QUANG IN NHO QUAN DISTRICT IN BINH BINH PROVINCE (WHICH NOW FORMS PART OF SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) HA SON BINH PROVINCE). FIVE NORTH VIETNAMESE OFFICER TRAINEES, WHO WERE EN ROUTE TO THE ENCAMPMENT OF CONVALESCENCE GROUP 583 (WHICH AN (XONG NU CAN DO BINH NAM 583), WHERE SOUTH VIETNAMESE FEMALES WORKING FOR NORTH VIETNAM WERE CONCENTRATED FOR REST AND RELAXATION, RAN INTO A THREE-MAN GUARD POST, WHICH WAS ABOUT 100 METERS AWAY FROM THE PRISON AND THE SPOT WHERE THE CAUCASIANS WERE STANDING. THE AREA OUTSIDE THE CAMP WAS FORESTED AND HAD RICE PADDIES.

(HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: ACCORDING TO THE PARIS ACCORDS OF JANUARY 1973 NORTH VIETNAM WAS TO TURN OVER THE AMERICAN PRISONERS IT HELD, AND SUCH A TURN-OVER OCCURRED IN MARCH 1973.)

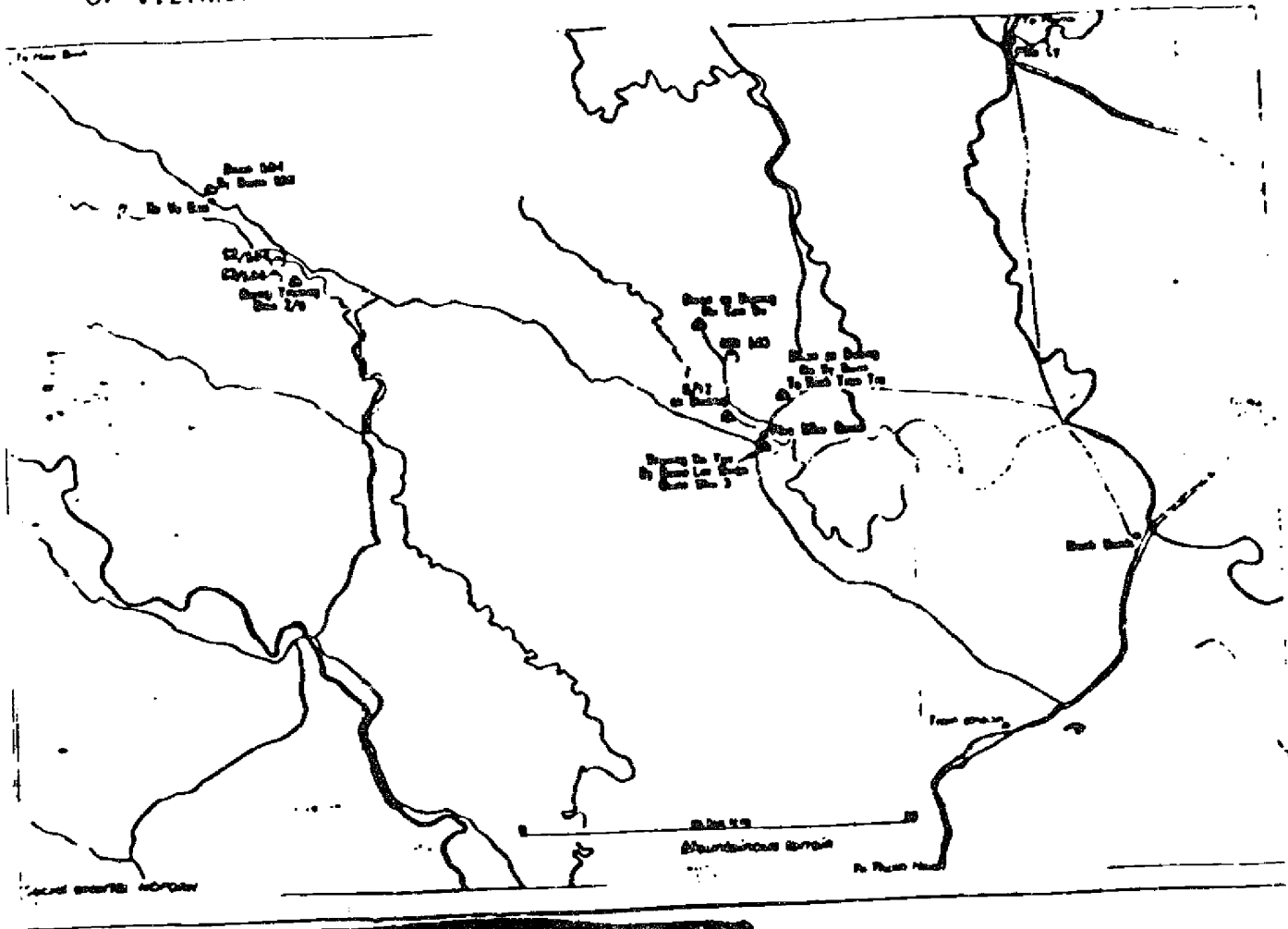
2. THE PRISON CAMP WAS MADE UP OF SEVERAL THATCHED WALLED UNITS WITH TIN ROOFS. THE CAMP WAS SITUATED AT THE END OF A FOREST AT THE FOOT OF A MOUNTAIN RANGE. THE GUARDS AT THE CAMP GUARD POST TOLD THE GROUP OF TRAINEES TO MOVE OUT OF THE AREA; AND THE GROUP MOVED OUT AFTER BEING TOLD TO DO SO. THE CAUCASIANS OBSERVED IN THE CAMP WERE TALL, HAD CREW-CUT HAIR AND WORE PRISON-TYPE PANTALONS WITH DARK BLUE STRIPES. THE GROUP OF TRAINEES CONCLUDED THAT THE IMPRISONED CAUCASIANS MUST BE AMERICANS.



ACIMENT: SKETCH OF PRISON CAMP AREA



SKETCH OF PRISON CAMP IN HA SON BINH PROVINCE, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM



ATTACHMENT