

Page 1
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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[REDACTED]

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jerry O. Tuttle, Rear Admiral, USN
Assistant Department Director
for Defense Intelligence
Department of Defense

John Per, 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

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

FROM : [REDACTED]
Acting Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT : Sighting of an American Male Hiding in Southern
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

NO HEAD COPY FOLLOWS

Attached as of possible interest to you is a report obtained
in early April 1980 [REDACTED]
on the sighting of an American male hiding in the Seven
Mountains area of southern Socialist Republic of Vietnam. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] who sighted the
American on three occasions in 1979-80. [REDACTED]

cc: B/NFAC
NFAC/OPA

ATTACHMENT: Report as stated

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Sighting of an American Male Hiding in Southern Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

I.

[REDACTED] on three occasions in the 1979-80 period he saw an American male Caucasian, whose name he did not know, hiding in a small Buddhist pagoda in the Seven Mountains area of An Giang Province. The last visit with the American occurred about mid-February 1980. (Headquarters Comment: The source could not recall the name of the pagoda or its location. [REDACTED] stated that the ten or so monks at the pagoda were frequently harassed by local SRV Public Security officials. [REDACTED] was described as a sincere person who had had no contact with Americans before the fall of the Saigon government in 1975.)

1. Circa March 1979 the American, who spoke Vietnamese well, told [REDACTED] that he was an American who had been stranded in Vietnam after April 1975 and that he had been hidden at the pagoda for a long time. All three meetings between the American and [REDACTED] were at night because the American apparently feared discovery if he left his secret room in daylight hours. The American said that he never left the pagoda, where he slept in a secret room. He appeared to be suffering from malnutrition. (Headquarters Comment: [REDACTED] did not provide the American's physical description, background information, or reason for hiding in this particular pagoda. The relationship of [REDACTED] to the monks of the pagoda is also unknown, but it may have been connected with his [REDACTED] contacts with Buddhists the tradesman made when he attended a Hoa Hao school before 1975. The pagoda could also have been a convenient place [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]