

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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2.0 DEC 1976

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

Bruce L. Heller
Commander, USN (R)
Chief, Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Branch
Resources and Installations Division
Directorate for Intelligence (Research Center)
Defense Intelligence Agency

Mr. Roger E. Shields
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(International Security Affairs)
International Economic Affairs
and Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Affairs

FROM : William W. Wells
Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT : Sightings of Americans in Long Khanh Province
and Saigon

Attached as of possible interest to you is a report re-
sulting from the debriefings of refugees from Vietnam who left
Vietnam in early September 1976. We are giving this report no
further dissemination.

OFFICE OF SENATE SECURITY

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Attachment:
Report as Stated

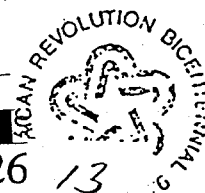
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Date NOV 1995

William W. Wells

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FIR-317/09156-76

NND 942026



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[REDACTED]

FIR-317/09156-76

COUNTRY: Vietnam

DOI : April 1975 - Mid-August 1976

SUBJECT: Sightings of Americans in Long Khanh Province and Saigon

SOURCE PROTECTION

SOURCE :

SOURCE

said that they had seen an American male at that location in January 1976. During the course of a nighttime attack by a resistance group composed of former Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) personnel on the Communist cadre in this hamlet the inhabitants were assembled to hear speeches by members of the resistance group. At this time an American described as an advisor appeared and told those gathered that because he loved the Vietnamese people and sympathized with the ex-ARVN troops, he was "staying to fight." The American was described as dressed in black clothes, wearing map cao (unidentifiable) shoes, and fluent in Vietnamese. The American withdrew with the resistance group after the latter distributed food and funds to the inhabitants. (Headquarters Comment: The SOURCE did not give [REDACTED] a physical description or other details on this American. Dong Tam Hamlet may be in a cluster of hamlets on Route 20 about 74 kilometers from Saigon. According to FIR-317/01953-76, from another refugee source who obtained the information from a friend with relatives in Long Khanh Province, a Caucasian male who might be an American was seen in Dinh Quan District of Long Khanh Province in January 1976. This Caucasian was described as unarmed, in a "very miserable condition," and living off food obtained from a settler of a New Economic Area in the province.)

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2. SOURCE around May 1975 after the fall of Saigon two Americans were reported under detention by the Communists. SOURCE said that one American male who worked SOURCE in Saigon and who lived with his wife and children on Phan Thanh Gian Street was arrested. Around this time a friend SOURCE saw a black American male in handcuffs being taken to a vehicle near Brinks Bachelor Officer Quarters on Hai Ba Trung Street. This black American was described as big, tall, and wearing a prison uniform. (Headquarters Comment: No other details on these two detained Americans are available. Possibly these and other individuals mentioned below may have been evacuated from Saigon after these sightings.)

3. In Spring 1976, the exact time unknown,

SOURCE

said that he saw a group of four or five hippy-looking male Westerners on Tu Do Street in Saigon. This group appeared like a group of five or six similarly appearing males whom SOURCE saw in front of the former GVN National Assembly building on Tu Do Street in May 1975. SOURCE was able to identify the latter group as Americans by their speech. In May 1976, SOURCE saw two black American males on the "Y" bridge in the Eighth Precinct of Saigon. Friends of SOURCE claiming to have spoken with these Americans said that the latter were seeking jobs and housing for themselves and their Vietnamese wives. (Headquarters Comment: No other physical descriptions or details are available.)

4.

SOURCE

stated that in May 1976 he had seen an American male in downtown Saigon. The latter was a Caucasian, about 40 years old, whom SOURCE had seen working in the USAID office at 85 Le Van Duyet Street prior to 29 April 1975. SOURCE had also seen this same man in May 1975 walking freely about in downtown Saigon.

5.

SOURCE

said that in mid-August 1976 he saw two or three Caucasian males, described as Americans, at an apartment-hotel building opposite the Grall Hospital on Gia Long Street. These men were moving around freely without an escort. (Headquarters Comment: SOURCE said that he recognized these men as Americans by their speech.

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On 1 August 1976 several Americans claimed by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to be the last of those Americans stranded in South Vietnam after the fall of Saigon were evacuated from Vietnam. Although some French nationals once staffed the Grall Hospital, none is believed to have been still there in August 1976.)

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