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IAS [redacted] - 438/70
25 November 1970

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(b)(3)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : IAS Work Related to American POW Camps in North Vietnam

1. Since the spring of 1967 IAS has actively reported on Installations in Southeast Asia which may contain American POW's. Since that time, IAS has identified three POW installations in Hanoi from ground photography that appeared in Life Magazine and from the debriefing of returned POW's. These prisons are Cu Loc, the Citadel and Ha Lo. Models were made of each.

2. IAS has identified additional prisons in North Vietnam but we have not been able to confirm that they contain American personnel. One of these prisons, Son Tay, identified as a prison by IAS, [redacted]

[redacted] We have closely watched this prison as well as the three IAS confirmed POW camps at the request of [redacted]. We note any significant changes and report them by secure telephone and by memoranda.

3. [redacted] requested a model of the Son Tay Prison which was completed on 18 August 1970. Shortly thereafter a high priority requirement was levied for a model of the area adjacent to the prison and of a nearby bridge. These were completed on 15 September. Specific details to be included were provided by DOD representatives. A detailed study of natural and cultural features and military installations in the vicinity of Son Tay was also provided [redacted].

4. The last photography of Son Tay Prison received by IAS prior to the 21 November 1970 raid was [redacted] Mission [redacted] flown [redacted]. The only change in the camp's appearance since [redacted] was in the grass covering the open areas within the prison compound. On [redacted] these areas were heavily covered by grass. By [redacted] the open areas appeared to be only

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sparsely covered with grass indicating some type of activity within the compound during this period. The most recent photography of Son Tay Prison was flown on [redacted] and received in IAS on 24 November 1970.

5. On the afternoon of 20 November 1970 IAS called [redacted] to inform them of changes to the Cu Loc Prison. These changes may indicate a removal of prisoners. At that time the imagery analyst was asked to come to Headquarters and present a briefing to [redacted] and others concerning the level of activity at the Son Tay Prison.

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[redacted]