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 DP RUEKJCS RUEFAAA RUEKJCS RUEHC RUEKJCS RUEHCPQA  
 RUEHMCY RUEFAIA RUHONQA RUEHKL RUEHKK RUEHPP  
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 DE RUEHPP #1763/01 1451201  
 ZNR UUUUU  
 P 281201Z MAY 92  
 FM USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//  
 TO RUEKJCS / DIA WASHINGTON IC//PW-MIA/DOF/DOF-3//  
 INFO RUEFAAA / WHITEHOUSE WASHDC//NSC//  
 RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//  
 RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC//EAP/VLC/EAP LAS QUINN//  
 RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC//J5/OJCS-PW-MIA//  
 RUEHCPQA / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J233/J3/J36//  
 RUEHMCY / JICPAC HONOLULU HI//CTC/OBU//  
 RUEFAIA / CIA WASHDC//EDO/FCS/LCG/MIL/FA/ICOG POW//  
 RUHONQA / CIP JTF-FA HONOLULU HI  
 RUEHKL / USDAO KUALA LUMPUR//SE//  
 RUEHPP / USDAO HONG KONG//PW-MIA//  
 RUEHPP / COMMISSION PENOM FEINH//JTF-FA DET 4//  
 RUEHFS / AMEMBASSY WASHINGTON//JTF-FA DET 3//  
 BT  
 UNCLAS SECTICN 01 OF 04 BANGKOK TH 25763

UNCLASSIFIED  
 THIS IS A STONY BEACH MESSAGE  
 SERIAL: IIP 6 024 0203 92.  
 COUNTRY: VIETNAM (VM).  
 SUBJECT: IIP 6 024 0203 92/RESULTS OF LIVE SIGHTING  
 INVESTIGATION CASE A-027; BAT PAT PRISON.

WARNING: THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY  
 EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT UNCLASSIFIED.

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 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
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DOI: 920429.

REQS: I-VOP-2430-03-90.

SOURCE: //OIS 6-024-5036-92//TWO PAVN OFFICERS WHO  
 MANAGE THE BAT PAT MILITARY PRISON, ONE OF WHOM HAS  
 WORKED IN THE FACILITY SINCE 1972. SOURCE RELIABILITY  
 HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED.

SUMMARY: THIS IS A STONY BEACH REPORT. IT PROVIDES A  
 LIMITED DESCRIPTION OF THE RESULTS OF A SHORT-NOTICE  
 LIVE SIGHTING INVESTIGATION (A-027) THAT WAS CONDUCTED  
 AT BAT PAT MILITARY PRISON NORTHWEST OF HANOI, SRV  
 REGARDING AMERICANS HELD CAPTIVE AT THE FACILITY.

CASE SUMMARY: CASE AS PROVIDED - ACCORDING TO SOURCE  
 0969, BETWEEN 1973 AND 1979, HE PERSONALLY OBSERVED  
 60-70 CAUCASIAN PRISONERS IN BAT PAT. THE FIRST

SIGHTING OCCURRED IN OCTOBER 1973. SOURCE OBSERVED 15-  
 20 AMERICAN POWS. THE AMERICANS LIVED IN HUTS PLACED  
 IN FOUR ROWS OF FOUR HUTS EACH. EACH HUT WAS  
 APPROXIMATELY 50 FEET FROM THE OTHER. ALL THE  
 PRISONERS HAD PEARLS AND WERE ELDERLY (IN THE 40S).  
 SOURCE OBSERVED THE PRISONERS FROM A NEARBY HILL. THE  
 SECOND SIGHTING OCCURRED IN MARCH 1975. SOURCE  
 OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY 20 AMERICANS PLANTING  
 VEGETABLES ALONG THE ROCK RIVER.

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED  
 ORG: IAO:05/27/92  
 APPRV: DAO:JMCOLF  
 RFTD: DAO:TRMCKAY:TIO  
 CLEAR: IAC:JMCOLF  
 LISTR: CHON FA32 AMB  
 ICM PCL SA  
 EX/A IATL CJTF  
 ORGIN: CCP

TEXT: 1. ON 29 APR 92, RC PROPOSED A SHORT-NOTICE  
 VISIT TO THE PRISON IN CASE A-027. RC WAS ADVISED  
 THAT BECAUSE THE PRISON WAS A RESTRICTED AREA  
 CONTROLLED BY THE MILITARY, THAT PERMISSION FROM THE  
 MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WAS NECESSARY AND PERMISSION WOULD  
 PROBABLY NOT BE FORTHCOMING UNTIL THE FOLLOWING DAY,  
 30 APR 92.

2. AT 0250 HOURS ON 29 APR 92, RC RECEIVED A CALL  
 FROM COUNTERPARTS WHO STATED THAT THE PRISON COULD BE  
 VISITED. AT 0230 HOURS, RC (LIVE SIGHTING  
 INVESTIGATOR) AND COUNTERPART PHAM LUNG, ACCOMPANIED  
 BY PAVN LTC PHAM TEO AND JTF-FA SPECIAL ASSISTANT  
 ARNETT FEIL, TRAVELING BY DET 2 LAND CRUISER TO THE  
 AT BAT PRISON, ARRIVING AT 1045 HOURS. UPON ARRIVAL  
 AND AFTER A 15 MINUTE WAIT, THE GROUP WAS ESCORTED  
 INTO THE PRISON AND LED TO THE PRISON WARDEN'S OFFICE.  
 THE GROUP MET THE WARDEN (PAVN COL) AND THE PRISON  
 COMMANDER (PAVN MAJOR) AND DISCUSSED AMERICANS WHO  
 WERE HELD IN THE CAMP BOTH PRIOR TO AND AFTER APRIL  
 1975. THE GROUP WAS TOLD AT THE ONSET THAT NO PHOTOS  
 COULD BE PERMITTED.

3. ACCORDING TO THE WARDEN, THE PRISON WAS BUILT IN  
 060. (RC COMMENT - THE DESIGNATION DON VI 771 WAS  
 INSCRIBED ON A WALL OF A BUILDING CLOSE TO THE  
 COMMANDER'S OFFICE, INDICATING THE PRISON IS  
 COORDINATE TO UNIT 771, WHICH HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY  
 REPORTED BY FORMER INMATES). THIS IS THE ONLY PRISON  
 IN THE AREA, AND THE FACILITY IS A MILITARY PRISON AND  
 INMATES ARE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY OR EMPLOYERS OF  
 THE SRV GOVERNMENT. THE PRISON FORMERLY CONSISTED OF

FIVE APFAS, KHU A, P, C, KHE SANH AND DAM LONG. NOW IT CONSISTS OF KHU A AND E (KHU B CONTAINS NO INMATES) AND KHE SANH, WHICH IS A LABOR PRODUCTION AREA LOCATED APPROXIMATELY ONE KM NORTHEAST OF THE CAMP AND IS USED TO PRODUCE BRICKS AND TO GROW VEGETABLES.

4. BOTH THE WARDEN AND PRISON COMMANDER STATED THAT THERE HAD NEVER BEEN ANY AMERICANS HELD IN THE PRISON PRIOR TO APRIL 1975, BUT THE PRISON COMMANDER, WHO HAD WORKED IN THE PRISON SINCE 1972, RECALLED THREE AMERICANS WHO WERE CONFINED IN THE FACILITY AFTER APRIL 1975. ONE WAS HELD IN 1976 OR 1977 ON THE SMALL ISLAND WHICH WAS SURROUNDED BY FISH PONDS, WAS APPROXIMATELY 45 YEARS OLD, HAD A CHINSTRAP BEARD, AND HAD AT ONE TIME ESCAPED FROM THE PRISON AND HID FOR TWENTY DAYS BEFORE TURNING HIMSELF IN. HE WAS RELEASED SOMETIME IN 1977, AS BEST THE COMMANDER COULD RECALL. THIS CASE IS WELL KNOWN TO ALL IN THE AREA (RO NOTE - SEE THE ACCOUNT OF RELEASED CIVILIAN ARLO GAY). THE OTHER TWO WERE CAPTURED AFTER APRIL 1975 BUT THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES WERE NOT SO CLEARLY RECALLED BY THE COMMANDER. BOTH WERE CAUCASIAN MEN WHO WERE HELD TOGETHER IN CELL K3, A CELL WHICH OPENS TO THE OUTSIDE OF KHU A (RO COMMENT - ACCESS IS NOT FROM THE INSIDE OF KHU A, A FEATURE WHICH ENABLES ENTRANCE AND EXIT WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF OTHER INMATES HELD IN KHU A. RO WAS ALLOWED TO VIEW THIS CELL). ONE OF THE MEN WAS SLIM AND SEEMED PRELIMINARY VIETNAMESE. BOTH WERE RELEASED, DATE NOT RECALLED BY EITHER THE COL OR THE MAJOR (RO COMMENT - SEE THE CASES OF STRUHARIK AND LEWIS). ALL THREE OF THESE MEN WERE CAPTURED AFTER APRIL 1975. NEITHER OFFICIAL CLAIMED TO EVER HEAR OF AN AMERICAN NAMED NGUYEN VIET NAM HAVING BEEN IN THE APFA (RO COMMENT - NAME USED BY ROBERT GARWOOD).

5. INITIALLY, NEITHER OFFICIAL COULD RELATE ANY MEMORIES TO THE CASES OF COTTON AND INGRAM WHO, ACCORDING TO US RECORDS, WERE HELD IN BAI BAI SOMETIME DURING 1977 AND DEC 1978. AFTER A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CASE, THE WARDEN DID SEEM TO RECALL SOMETHING ABOUT THE TWO AND RECALLED THEY HAD BOTH BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE PRISON AT THANH TRI (RO COMMENT - RO COULD NOT TELL IF THESE OFFICIALS ACTUALLY RECALLED THE INCIDENT OR WERE MERELY ENTERTAINING RO). COUNTPART DUNG STATED HE WOULD SEARCH RECORDS OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS IN AN ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A CONFINEMENT CHRONOLOGY OF THE TWO, AS THE MATTER WOULD CERTAINLY BE A MOI AND POLICE MATTER. GIVEN THE CHRONOLOGY AS THE US KNOWS IT, DUNG STATED HE WOULD BEGIN WITH THE MOI/POLICE IN HO CHI MINH CITY.

6. WHEN ASKED ABOUT RECORDS, BOTH OFFICIALS CLAIMED THAT NO RECORDS OF ANY OF THE THREE CAPTIVES HAD EVER BEEN HELD LOCALLY AND COULD PROVIDE NO DIRECTION ON WHERE RECORDS OF THE THREE MIGHT CURRENTLY BE STORED. THE MAJOR INITIALLY STATED THAT THE RECORDS WOULD BE HELD BY THE ENEMY PROSELYTIZING DEPARTMENT (CUCJ LICHJ

VAANJ), BUT HE WAS INTERRUPTED AND IMMEDIATELY CORRECTED BY THE COLONEL, WHO STATED THAT THE RECORDS WERE GONE AND NO ONE KNEW WHERE THEY WERE. THE OFFICIALS WERE QUERIED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF TRACKING PAPERS ON THE COTTON AND INGRAM INCIDENT BASED ON THE FINANCIAL RECORDS AND HANDLING OF THE FINE THEY PAID FOR RELEASE. THE COLONEL RESPONDED THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY TO PROVIDE ANY CLUES, AS THAT WOULD BE STRICTLY A FINANCIAL MATTER AND WOULD BE HANDLED AS SUCH.

7. THE INVESTIGATION GROUP WAS ALLOWED AN ESCORTED TOUR OF THE PRISON, TO INCLUDE THE FORMER DETENTION APFAS OF THE THREE AMERICANS. RO WAS ALLOWED TO ENTER ANY AREA HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO SEE. AFTER VISITING THE "ISLAND" AREA WHERE ARLO GAY WAS HELD (THE BUILDING HAS SINCE BEEN TORN DOWN), RO EXAMINED THE KHU F AREA WHERE IT WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THAT REMAINS HAD BEEN STORED. THIS REPORTED AREA WAS JUST OVER A WALL LOCATED ON THE RIGHT AS ONE ENTERS THE KHU

\* COMPOUND. UPON ENTERING THE COMPOUND, IT WAS NOTED THAT IT NO LONGER HOLDS INMATES AND THAT BUILDINGS IN THE ZHU ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF BEING TORN DOWN. THERE WAS A WALL TO THE RIGHT AS ONE ENTERS AND THERE WERE TREES NEXT TO THE WALL, BUT THE TREES WERE JACKFRUIT TREES AND NOT ALMOND OR PAPAYA TREES AS WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. ALTHOUGH THE JACKFRUIT TREES WERE TALL ENOUGH, IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER OR NOT THEY WERE STRONG ENOUGH TO SUPPORT A PERSON HIGH ENOUGH TO CLIMB OVER THE WALL. THE BUILDING IN QUESTION ALSO WAS OBVIOUS A CONFINEMENT BUILDING CONSISTING OF TWO CELLS OF TYPICAL DESIGN. THE CEILING WAS DOME-SHAPED AND IN ONE THE WALLS WERE STUCCO DESIGN EITHER TO PREVENT INMATES FROM WRITING ON THE WALLS, TO COVER UP INMATE WRITING ON THE WALLS, OR BOTH. BOTH CELLS WERE COMPARTMENTALIZED AND NEITHER HAD WINDOWS ON THE WALL SIDE WHERE IT WAS REPORTED THAT AN INMATE HAD LOOKED THROUGH AFTER CLIMBING THE TREES. NEITHER CELL HAD BEEN USED FOR A LONG TIME AND THE GENERAL AREA OF THEIR LOCATION WAS USED AS A CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS STORAGE SITE FOR LUMBER, BRICK, AND THE LIKE.

COMMENTS: 1. DURING THE VISIT, RO CARRIED ALONG SKETCHES DRAWN BY FORMER INMATES OF THE PRISON, SOURCE OTS 1042-91 AND THE SOURCE OF JCRC REPORTS TR5-103, TR5-104, TR5-237 AND TR5-238. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE SKETCHES OF KPH E AS DRAWN BY THE SOURCE OF THE JCRC THAILAND REPORTS IS THE MORE ACCURATE OF THE TWO. THIS SOURCE (ALSO INTERVIEWED BY RO WHEN RO WAS ASSIGNED TO JCRC) DEPICTED THE SEALED BUILDING IN QUESTION EXACTLY AS IT WAS DURING RO'S VISIT TO THE CAMP. THE SKETCH OF KPH E AS DRAWN BY OTS 1042-91 IS NOT ACCURATE.

2. AS SOME REMAINS RETURNED BY THE VIETNAMESE HAVE SHOWN EVIDENCE OF CHARRING AFTER SKELTONIZATION, RO FIRST LOCKER FOR EVIDENCE OF ANY FIRES IN THE PRISON. NO EVIDENCE, CHARRING OF CONSTRUCTION, OR SMOKE DAMAGE WAS FOUND. AFTER SEARCHING FOR EVIDENCE OF FIRE, RO ASKED THE PRISON OFFICIALS WHO AFFIRMED THAT THERE HAD NEVER BEEN A FIRE IN THE PRISON.

3. NEITHER OFFICIAL RECALLED THE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED NAMES OF FORMER PRISON CAMP COMMANDER MAJOR SANG OR HIS DEPUTY, PAVN CAPTAIN HANG BUT PROVIDED THE NAME QUYNH (QUYNH) AS HAVING BEEN A PREVIOUS PRISON COMMANDER.

4. ENROUTE TO THE PRISON, THE DRIVER TOOK A WRONG TURN TO THE NORTH FROM SHOI HAI LAKE. AFTER TRAVELLING A KILOMETER, RO POINTED THE ERROR OUT TO THE DRIVER. RO IS UNSURE IF THIS WAS A TEST TO SEE IF HE KNEW THE LOCATION OF THE PRISON, IF IT WAS AN HONEST MISTAKE, OR IF THE PURPOSE WAS TO SHOW THAT THEY THEMSELVES WERE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE LOCATION OF THE PRISON.

5. THE TWO OFFICIALS EXPLAINED THAT THE MAJOR WAS THE PRISON COMMANDER IN CHARGE OF THE GUARD FORCE, LOGISTICS, AND ADMINISTRATION, WHILE THE COLONEL WAS THE CHIEF INVESTIGATOR IN CHARGE OF CONFINEMENT PROCEDURES AND INVESTIGATIONS.

6. RO BELIEVES THE SOURCE WHO ORIGINALLY REPORTED REMAINS STORAGE AT THE PRISON. HIS SKETCHES ARE ACCURATE AND HE WAS PROVEN RELIABLE THROUGH POLYGRAPH TESTING. THE SOURCE OF JCRC REPORT TR5-037 AND TR5-78 (ALSO INTERVIEWED BY RO) SEEMS TO BE LESS ACCURATE AND MAY BE MISREPRESENTATION OF THE OPINIONS OF THE ORIGINAL SOURCE. RO FEELS THERE WAS SOME EARLY REMAINS ACTIVITY TO INCLUDE AT LEAST STORAGE OF THE BOXES MADE BY THE PRISON BLACKSMITH IN THE PRISON. BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION, RO FEELS CONFIDENT THAT THERE ARE NOT NOW AND HAVE NOT BEEN FOR SOME TIME ANY REMAINS STORED AT THE PRISON.

7. RO FOUND NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE ACCOUNT OF 60

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 04 BANGKOK TH 25763

TO 70 PRISONERS HELD BETWEEN 1973 AND 1978. SENIOR ANALYST CO-LOCATED AT THE OFFICE IN HANOI STATED HE WAS UNSURE AS TO WHY THIS CASE WAS NOMINATED. RECOMMEND THIS CASE A-007, AS WAS PROVIDED AND NOMINATED, BE CLOSED.

8. DURING THE INVESTIGATION, COUNTERPART DUNG MENTIONED THE CASE OF A BOAT NAMED OCEAN KING WHICH HE HAD HEARD HAD BEEN DETAINED BY THE VIETNAMESE AND WHICH HAD AN AMERICAN ON BOARD. HE HEARD THAT THE AMERICAN WAS ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH SMUGGLING DRUGS SOMETIME IN 1980 BUT HAD BEEN RELEASED (KFI). THIS MAY RELATE TO THE ACCOUNT REPORTED IN JCRC REPORT TR5-031 WHICH INVOLVES A LIVE SIGHTING IN NAI HIEN DONG (NAI HIEN DOONG) IN 1977.

//IPSP: (U) PG 2430//.  
 //COMSOBJ:(U) 521//.  
 PROJ: (U) 6999-15.  
 COLL: (U) AC.  
 INSTR: (U) US - NO.  
 PREP: (U) 6-01599.  
 ACC: (U) VIETNAM, HANOI MUNICIPALITY, BAT BAT  
 - MILITARY PRISON (920429).  
 DISSEM: (U) FIELD - AMEMBASSY BANGKOK (AMB, DCM,  
 - PCL, SA, DATIC, EY/A, CJTF).  
 WARNING: (U) THIS REPORT UNCLASSIFIED.

BT  
 #5763

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