

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, SECTION 3.3, NND PROJECT
NUMBER NND 937597, BY RB/USW, DATE 11/23/96

205 executed
Phu Vang Thien Thien
Mar 67

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
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CONFIDENTIAL A L (Classification and Control Markings)		
1. COUNTRY: VS, RVN MR-1, THUA THIEN Province	6. REPORT NUMBER: 6 029 0803 71	RAND OCT 8 1971 W31437 WASH. OFFICE
2. SUBJECT: (U) PW Sighting in THUA THIEN Province, RVN	9. DATE OF REPORT: 26 Jul 71	
3. ISC NUMBER: 723.600	10. NO. OF PAGES: 5	
	11. REFERENCES: DIRM: 6G3 BRIGHT LIGHT	
4. DATE OF INFORMATION: Mar 67	12. ORIGINATOR: US Element, CMIC, USMACV	
5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: CMIC, SAIGON, VS 14 Jul 71	13. PREPARED BY: ARTHUR A. BOULETTE SP4, USA	
8. EVALUATION: SOURCE <u>F</u> INFORMATION <u>6</u>	14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: <i>Paul G. Speer</i> PAUL G. SPEER LTC, USA Dir, US Elm, CMIC	
7. SOURCE: Returnee Interrogation		
15. SUMMARY:		(Leave Blank)
(C) This report contains information concerning the sighting of two US PW in THUA THIEN Province, RVN, to include circumstances of sighting, description, clothing worn by PW, physical condition, personal information, capture data, and photo identification. Special attention is drawn to the fact that the PW were executed shortly after being captured. THIS IS A BRIGHT LIGHT REPORT. MACV FOR JPRC.		
1. (C) Background Information:		
a. Name: TRAN VAN TU (TRAANL, VEAN TUWS), aka TRAN VAN HONG (TRAANL, VEAN HOONG), CMIC 0269-71 b. Rank: GPT c. Position and Unit of Assignment: XO; 804th Inf Bn, HUE City Unit d. DPOB: Oct 45; THIEN LOC Village, CAN LOC District, HA TINH Province, NVN		
16. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:	17. DOWNGRADING DATA:	18. ATTACHMENT DATA:
DIA 1 cy DIRNSA 1 cy SAC 1 cy CINCPAC 1 cy CINCPAC AF 2 cys CINCUSARPAC 2 cys COMUSMACHTAI 1 cy MACJ212-2 2 cys MACJ213-1 1 cy MACJ23 1 cy MACJ231 10 cys	GROUP 3 DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS NOT AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED THIS DOCUMENT IS RELEASABLE TO REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND FREE WORLD MILITARY ASSISTANCE FORCES	None
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DD FORM 1396

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1969 OF-718-517

REPLACES DA FORM 1045, 1 AUG 60,
OPNAV FORM 3520 (Rev 10-61),
AF FORM 112, JUL 61, WHICH MAY BE
USED UNTIL 1 JAN 62.

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ORIGINATOR COMUSMACV (CMIC)

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e. Parents' Names: Father, TRAN VAN HANG (TRAANL, VEAN HEANGL), deceased; Mother, VO THI NIEM (VOX, THIV NIEEM), living

f. Circumstances of Return. On 8 Mar 71, Source went to LOC AN Village, PHU LOC District, THUA THIEN Province, on his regular visit to the village to buy rice for his unit. Source decided that it was an opportune time to carry out his previous plans to take advantage of the CHIEU HOI Program; therefore, he rallied to an unidentified ARVN unit in the area. Source turned in one K-54 pistol with 14 rounds of ammunition at the time he rallied.

g. Significant Activities:

(1) DOB to Oct 65. Source attended village and district schools near his POB from 1955 to 1962. On 22 Jun 62, Source was drafted into the NVA and assigned to the 2d Co, 8th Bn, 18th Regt, 325th Inf Div, in LOC NINH District (sic), QUANG BINH Province, NVN. While with this unit, Source received one year of basic training. In Jan 64, Source was reassigned to the 2d Co, 804th Inf Bn, HUE City Unit (NFI). The battalion reviewed training in preparation for infiltration until Jun 64. From Jun to Sep 64, the unit infiltrated to QUANG TRI Province, RVN, in a series of small moves accompanied by frequent rests. From Sep 64 to Apr 65, the battalion carried out many successful attacks on ARVN outposts in TRIEU PHONG and CAM LO (VC) Districts, QUANG TRI Province. In Apr 65, the unit moved to HAI LANG District, QUANG TRI Province, to continue attacking outposts. In Jun 65, the battalion moved to HUONG HOA District, QUANG TRI Province, to gain control of Highway 9. The battalion stayed here until Oct 65.

(2) Oct 65 to Date of Return. In Oct 65, the unit moved to the BA LONG area, TRIEU PHONG District, QUANG TRI Province. It remained there, attacking small ARVN units in the area, until Jan 67. In Jan 67, the battalion moved to PHONG DIEN District, THUA THIEN Province. At this time, Source was promoted to assistant platoon leader of the 3d Plat, 2d Co, 804th Inf Bn. The battalion continued operations throughout THUA THIEN Province, frequently attacking Allied units and periodically attacking HUE City. In Jan 68, Source was promoted to executive officer of the 2d Co, 804th Inf Bn. During the 1968 Tet Offensive, the battalion participated in massive attacks on HUE City, and subsequently returned to PHONG DIEN District, THUA THIEN Province. In Nov 68, Source was promoted to commanding officer of the 2d Co, 804th Inf Bn. In early 1969, the battalion moved to the jungle areas of PHU LOC District, THUA THIEN Province. The unit remained in this area for the remainder of the time Source was with the unit. In Jul 70, Source was promoted to executive officer of the 804th Infantry Battalion. Source was still in this position at the time he rallied.

h. Additional References: CMIC PW/Rallier Exploitation Guide; 525 MI Group PW Photo Album, dtd 10 Nov 68

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2. (C) PW Sighting in THUA THIEN Province, RVN:

a. Circumstances of Sighting. In Mar 67, after attacking an ARVN base camp of the 3d Regt, 1st ARVN Div, Source sighted two US PW and six ARVN PW in VIEN TRINH Hamlet, PHU DA Village, PHU VANG District, THUA THIEN Province, RVN. The PW had been captured during this attack and had been transported to VIEN TRINH Hamlet (NFI). Six members of the 804th Bn, armed with AK-47s, were guarding the PW. After having been at VIEN TRINH Hamlet for several hours, the two US PW attempted to escape. They were caught, and all eight PW were executed because the VC feared the compromise of their base camp if the PW escaped. The guards executed the PW, but Source did not know where the bodies were buried. Source was in the area where the PW were kept for only an hour; all information concerning execution and disposition of the PW is hearsay. During this time, Source had the opportunity to talk with one of the US PW for a few minutes.

b. Description of Two PW:

(1) Identification of PW No 1:

- (a) Name: Unknown
- (b) Rank and Branch of Service: 1LT; Unknown
- (c) Nationality: American (Assumed)
- (d) Physical Description:
 - 1 Height: 1.72m
 - 2 Weight: 80kg
 - 3 Color of Hair and Eyes: Brown; Hazel
 - 4 Race: Caucasian
 - 5 Complexion: Light
 - 6 Hair Length: Short
 - 7 Nose: Medium
 - 8 Scars: None visible
 - 9 Tattoos: None visible
 - 10 Birthmarks: None visible
 - 11 Build: Medium
 - 12 Age: 27

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13 Glasses Worn: None14 Rings/Watches: Watch with silver band; no rings

(2) Identification of PW No 2:

(a) Name: Unknown

(b) Rank and Branch of Service: SFC; Army

(c) Nationality: American (Assumed)

(d) Physical Description:

1 Height: 1.70m2 Weight: 70kg3 Color of Hair and Eyes: Brown; Hazel4 Race: Caucasian5 Complexion: Light6 Hair Length: Medium7 Nose: Small8 Scars: None visible9 Tattoos: None visible10 Birthmarks: None visible11 Build: Small12 Age: 3013 Glasses Worn: None14 Rings/Watches: Watch with silver band; no rings

(2) Clothing Worn by PW. Both PW wore jungle fatigues and jungle combat boots. Both PW wore rank insignia on their collars and had a unit patch on their left shoulder. Source stated that these patches were black and that he could not remember the design.

(3) Physical Condition. Source stated that the physical condition of the two US PW was good. He did not notice any bloodstains or bandages on the PW.

(4) Personal Information. Source could not provide any personal information concerning the lieutenant. He stated that the sergeant spoke Vietnamese, was a military advisor, and had two children (NFI).

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(5) Capture Data. The two PW were captured while the 804th Bn was attacking an unidentified ARVN battalion base camp of the 3d Regt, 1st ARVN Div. Approximately 200 members of the 804th Bn took part in this attack.

c. Photo Identification. Source was shown the US PW Photo Album but could not make any identifications from these photographs.

d. General Information. The following is a description of the interrogator, by the Source, provided for comparative purposes:

	<u>Estimated</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Height	1.80m	1.94m
Age	26	23
Weight	70kg	80kg
Build	Large	Medium

(C) COMMENTS: Source was cooperative and appeared to be of average intelligence. When asked control questions, Source responded favorably. Current OB holdings do not mention the HUE City Unit. They show the parent unit of the 804th Inf Bn to be the 5th NVA Regiment. However, an aka for the 5th NVA Regt is the HUE City Group 5.

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