



JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER
NAS BARBERS POINT, HAWAII 96862

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85-041
18 April 1985

From: CH-OPS
To: CDR, JCRC

Subj: REINTERVIEW OF VIETNAM REFUGEE VU VAN CHI (C)

Ref: (a) JCRC-LNB rpt M84-079 of 27 December 1984
(b) DIA 181717Z JAN 85

Source:

- a. Name: Vu Van Chi
- b. DOB: 25 October 1947
- c. POB: Hai Hung (P), NVN
- d. Former Position: POW 1966-1982
- e. Present Location: 919H, PRPC, Bataan, RP
- f. Identification Data: BM 13112
- g. DOI: 1966-1982
- h. Date of Interview: 30 March 1985 and 1 April 1985
- i. Interviewed by: GYSGT D. M. McIntyre, USMC

Summary: Reference (a) is initial report on source. Reference (b) is request for reinterview. Source was a member of an eleven man commando team which was infiltrated into Quang Binh (P), NVN on 23 September 1966. On 24 September 1966, the team made contact with a hostile force and suffered two KIA. The remainder of the team was captured. They were interrogated for three days at the point of capture and then marched to an unidentified headquarters area where they stayed for 15 days. They then traveled for three days on foot to Quang Binh Camp.

1. Camp Chronology. Source stated that the following dates are estimates based on memory at the time of interview and may or may not be accurate. This area was covered three times on the first interview day and again on the second. Source finally admitted that he could not be more accurate; adding that some times, much of his camp experiences were quite difficult to recall and at others they seemed to be easily remembered.

SEP 66 - NOV 66 - Quang Binh Temporary Camp, Quang Binh (P)

NOV 66 (one night) - Hoa Lo Prison, Hanoi (source walked to this prison from Quang Binh. The trip took 15 days)

DEC 66 - JUN 68 - Thanh Tri Camp, Thanh Tri (D), unknown (P). Located approximately 15 km from Hanoi.

JUN 68 - DEC 71 - Phong Quang Camp, Lao Cai (P). Located near the China-Vietnam border.

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[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
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DEC 71 - JUN 78 - Trung Uong I (Central Camp I)
AKA: WI, Phu Lu' (D), Lao Cai (P)

JUN 78 - about Tet 79 - T-52 (Trai 52) Ha Son Binh (P)

Early 79 - MAY 79 - Unknown camp in Kim Boi (D), Hoa Binh (P)

MAY 79 - JUL 82 - Thanh Phong Camp, Nhu Xuan (D), Thanh Hoa (P)

2. [REDACTED] Camp Data. Source provided the following information concerning the facilities in which he was incarcerated. See inclosures (1) thru (8) for memory sketches. NOTE: Source stated that he could not provide directions to the various camps nor was he certain of north arrows indicated on inclosures. Most travel was accomplished during hours of darkness. Attempts at map tracking were totally unsuccessful.

a. [REDACTED] Quang Binh Camp (see inclosure (1)) - Located in Quang Binh (P) (new name), Dong Hoi (P) (old name), near the border of Nghe Tinh (P). This camp was used for political prisoners, criminals and POW's. No Americans were located here. Prisoners were put in leg irons each night in cells measuring approximately 4x4 m. All prisoner quarters were covered with red tile roofs. Prisoners and cadre referred to the camp as Quang Binh Temporary Camp (Trai Tam Giam Quang Binh). Source could not remember the names of any cadre, however, he did provide the following data concerning the camp commander. He was a captain (Thuong Uy). His son, Nguyen Duc Hoan, was a commando who was captured in NVN in 1964. In the process of completing the various documents required of prisoners, Hoan indicated the identity and position of his father. According to rumor, the father was dismissed from his position for failure to inform authorities that he had a son in SVN. Source did not know the prisoner population but stated that all rooms were full. He could not provide any more data on this camp.

b. [REDACTED] Hoa Lo Prison - Source could provide no data pertaining to this facility.

c. [REDACTED] Thanh Tri Camp (see inclosure (2)) - Located in Thanh Tri (D) (old name), Thanh Liet (D) (new name), unknown (P) name. Source believes that Thanh Tri is a district of Hanoi and is approximately 15 km from the city. Prisoners and cadre referred to facility as either Thanh Tri or Thanh Liet. The facility was used for "special" SVN prisoners and for Americans. Shortly after source saw the Americans reported at reference (a), he asked the prison kitchen boy how many Americans were being held there. The answer was "too many, it makes work very hard." There were no guard posts or towers to source's knowledge. Source added that he believed the temple shown on sketch was a deception to cover the location of the facility, and that he did not think that the local populace knew of its existence. He could not provide an explanation for this opinion. Chi was unable to provide further data on this facility.

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d. [REDACTED] Phong Quang Camp (see inclosure (3)) - Located in Lao Cai (P) (old name), Hoang Lien Son (P)(new name). Each building used as prisoner's quarters in the main camp area was divided into four sections. The outboard areas were the actual quarters and held 100 - 170 prisoners. The inboard areas were toilets. Prisoners were not segregated by types in the main camp area. This camp was divided into sub-areas identified alphabetically. Source was unsure of designations except for Area A, in which he was held. This area was surrounded by a 3 m high brick wall and was used for commandos only. They were divided among rooms 1 - 4 and there was a total of approximately 135 commandos held here. The toilets located around the perimeter were for daytime use only. This camp was operated by the MOI and the commander was a police captain named Tich.

e. [REDACTED] Trung Uong Camp - AKA: W-I (see inclosure (4)) - Located in Phu Lu (D)(old name), Lao Cai (D)(new name), Hoang Lien Son (P)(new name). The work area in the camp was surrounded by a 5 m high bamboo fence. The area within the x's (which represent a cut into the mountain-side) was elevated an unknown height above the rest of the camp. Prisoner quarters consisted of two rooms per building with about 80 people per room. Inmate population was approximately 1500 with 300 cadre. Source did not know the designation of the military unit in the area. The camp is 35 km from the Chinese border and 15 km from a train station in Phu Lu district. Approximately 5 km west of the camp is the Hong River.

f. [REDACTED] T-52 Camp (see inclosure (5)) - Located in Ha Tay (P)(old name), Ha Son Binh (P)(new name), approximately 25 km west of Hanoi. All buildings had red tile roofs. The empty buildings were to be used for billeting prisoners of the rank of COL and above while all others were for LTCOL and below. Each building contained about 100 - 120 prisoners in each end and contained toilets in the center. Source's quarters was called building B.K. (for Biet Kich - commandos) and held about 100 prisoners. The camp was administered by the MOI. The camp commander was a major named Dung and the deputy commander was a captain named Tu.

g. [REDACTED] Unknown camp (see inclosure (6)) - Located in Kim Boi (D), Hoa Binh (P)(old name), Ha Son Binh (P)(new name) and is about 85 km from Hanoi. Source heard that this camp was built in 1976. Source stated that he was moved to this camp when the Chinese invaded Vietnam. He heard that reeducatees were moved to Ha Son Binh Camp just prior to his arrival. The camp population was about 135 commandos and 600 criminals with 50 guards/cadre. The camp was surrounded by a 1 m high barbed wire fence while the area in which commandos were held was surrounded by a 5 m bamboo fence. It was administered by the MOI. Source stated that the camp commander was a police captain who he described as "very kind". His rationale for this statement was that prisoners were not mistreated and ate the same diet as cadre personnel. The captain reportedly did not sell off foodstuffs from the camp which was, according to source, common practice elsewhere.

h. [REDACTED] Thanh Phong Camp (see inclosure (7) and (8)) - Located in Nhu Xuan (D), Thanh Hoa (P). AKA: K-I. Source stated that he thought

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the camp was 85 km south of Thanh Hoa City and near the Trang River. Buildings in the camp were made of bamboo and separated by 2 m high barbed wire fencing. The camp was surrounded by a 5 m bamboo fence. Of the six buildings housing prisoners, the first four (from left) were for criminals and the others were mixed, political prisoners and commandos. There were 120 people in source's quarters. Camp population was approximately 178 commandos, 120 political prisoners, 400 criminals and 100 cadre. The camp was administered by the MOI. The camp commander was police LTCOL Nguyen Duy Thuy and the deputy was a police captain named Giang.

3. (C) The following is a list of commandos on source's team, the camps in which they were incarcerated with source and their current status. Source could not provide locations. To source's knowledge, commandos were never used to eavesdrop on Americans.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FORMER PSN</u>	<u>CAMPS W/SOURCE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
1. Nguyen Huu Luyen	Captain & Cdr of source's team	Quang Binh Thang Tri Phong Quang Trung Uong Thanh Phong	Prisoner as of OCT 84
2. Dang Dinh Thuy	2d LT & Deputy Cdr of source's team	Same as #1	Same as #1
3. Mai Nhue Anh	Civilian	Same as #1	Released
4. Nguyen Van Dinh	Civilian	Same as #1	Released
5. Nguyen Van Di	Civilian	Same as #1	Released
6. Le Ngoc Kien	Civilian	Same as #1	Released
7. Tong Van Thai	Civilian	Same as #1	Released
8. Tran Ngoc Nghin	Civilian	All	Released
9. Au Duong Quy	Civilian	All	Released
10. Hoang Ding Kha	Civilian	None	KIA at time of capture
11. Ha Trung Huan	Civilian	None	KIA at time of capture

NOTE: Source was asked why he gave eleven names when the team consisted of eleven men including himself. He stated that it was very difficult to recall names and camps at which co-located with these other men, as he knew of many commandos and was at several different camps with them.

4. [REDACTED] Source received a letter from a friend in October 1984 which stated the current status of the personnel listed in paragraph 3.

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Additionally, according to this friend, 35 commandos are still incarcerated in Vietnam. Among them are 12 from Taiwan (NFI) and the following three individuals who were allegedly captured in 1964.

1. Trieu Chi Kien - originally from Hong Kong
2. Ly Mau An - originally from Hong Kong
3. Luong Minh Phat - originally from Indonesia
5. [REDACTED] Shortly after his release from reeducation in 1982, source met his uncle who related the following to him. This man's son, Hoang Dinh My, escaped Vietnam in 1981 and resettled in the U. S. Shortly thereafter, he was recruited by the U. S. government to return to Vietnam, which he did. He was subsequently captured by Vietnamese authorities and is currently serving a twenty year prison term. Source could provide no details.
6. [REDACTED] Source added the following data prior to termination of the interview. An individual known to source as Huyen, who is a former commando, is located in 822C, PRPC. (An attempt to locate this man was unsuccessful due to schedule at PRPC.) He further stated that he had met Le Van Ngung at PRPC and this individual told him that the two Americans which source reported at reference (a) were returned to the U. S. in 1973. Ngung departed to the U. S. on 8 January 1985.
7. [REDACTED] Comments: Source seemed to be straightforward in his answers. He often became confused when trying to remember dates and names but stated that he had a great deal of difficulty with his memory.

D. M. McIntyre
D. M. MCINTYRE
GYSGT, USMC
Chief, Operations

Inclosures

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ON

APR 1985 [REDACTED]

ENCL (1) TO REPT AP85-041
VU VAN CHI

Bien

KUNG FOREST

NUI

SUGAR

INTERROGATION ROOMS
HOT LUNG

100M

Guard Tower
CHAI QUAC

Source held

TRAI GIAM QUANG BINH
NHA

TRAI MIA
SUGAR CANE

TRAI SACH MIE
POTATOES

NHA BEP

NHA CAO TU AN
Prisoner
Mitchell

GIAM

BOI QUAC

200M

(TRAI NHY KHONG CO' RAO)
Vegetables No Fence

NHA

Sweet Potatoes

TRAI KHUONG MIE

LINH QUAC

LINH

Guard Mitchell

BEP CO QUAN

CO QUAN

CO QUAN

LINH QUAC

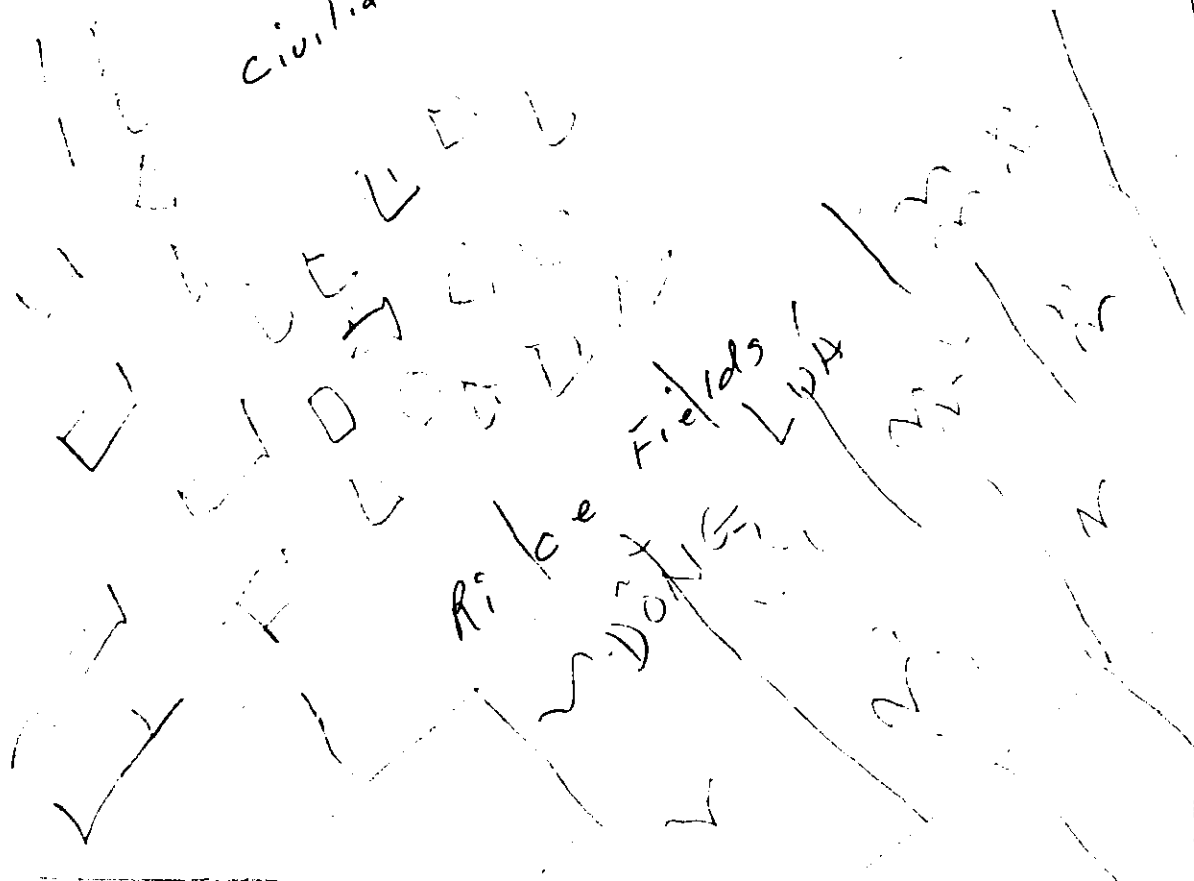
LINH QUAC

Report RP85-041
VU VAN CHI

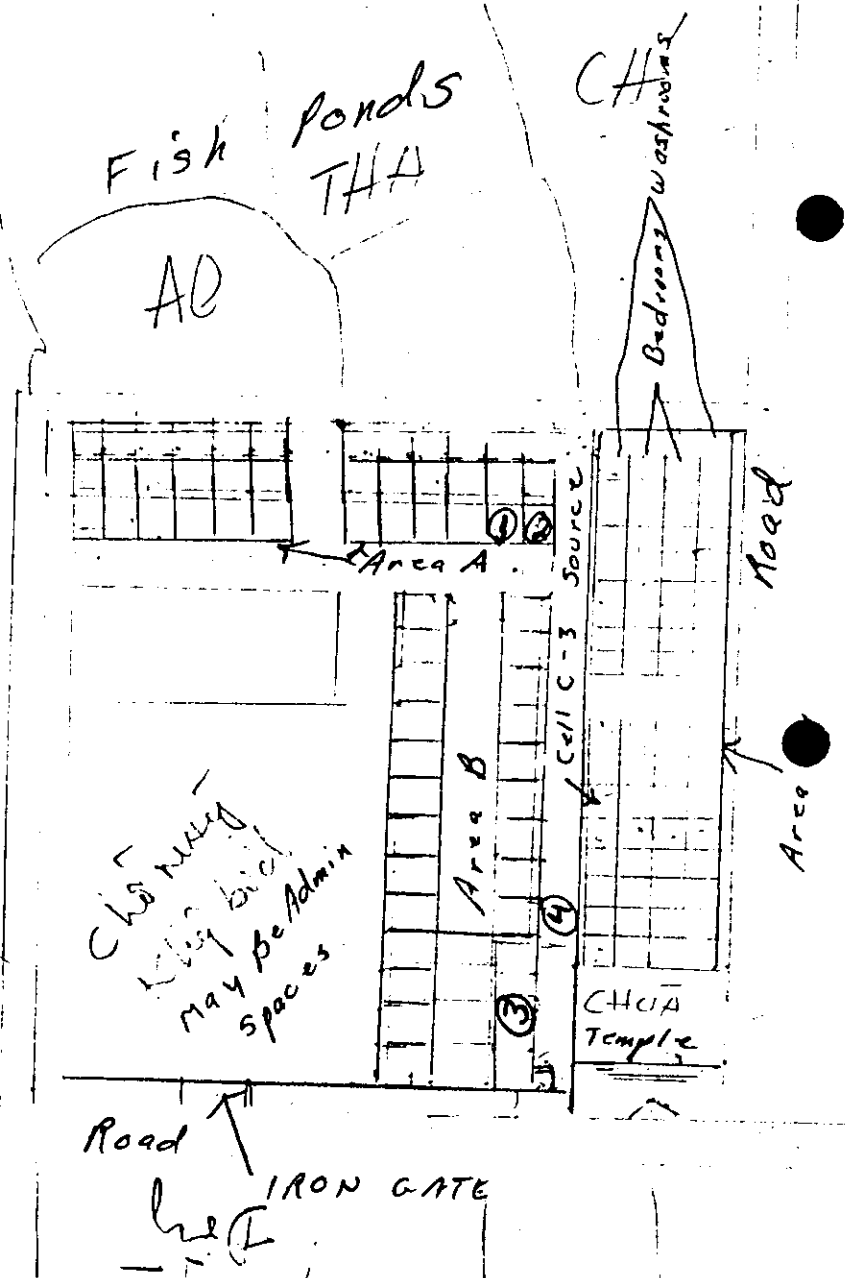
Huyen THAM - TRU - NGOAI THANH HA NOI

- 30 meter Concrete Wall Surrounds Prison
- ① Interview Room
- ② Finger Print/Photo ~~Interview Room~~
- ③ Source Held Here Also; Saw Americans From Here
- ④ 2 Americans Bathing here

Civilian Housing



← To Hanoi - 15 KM



LINH LAO KAY - TRAI PHONG QUANG

Guard

Guard

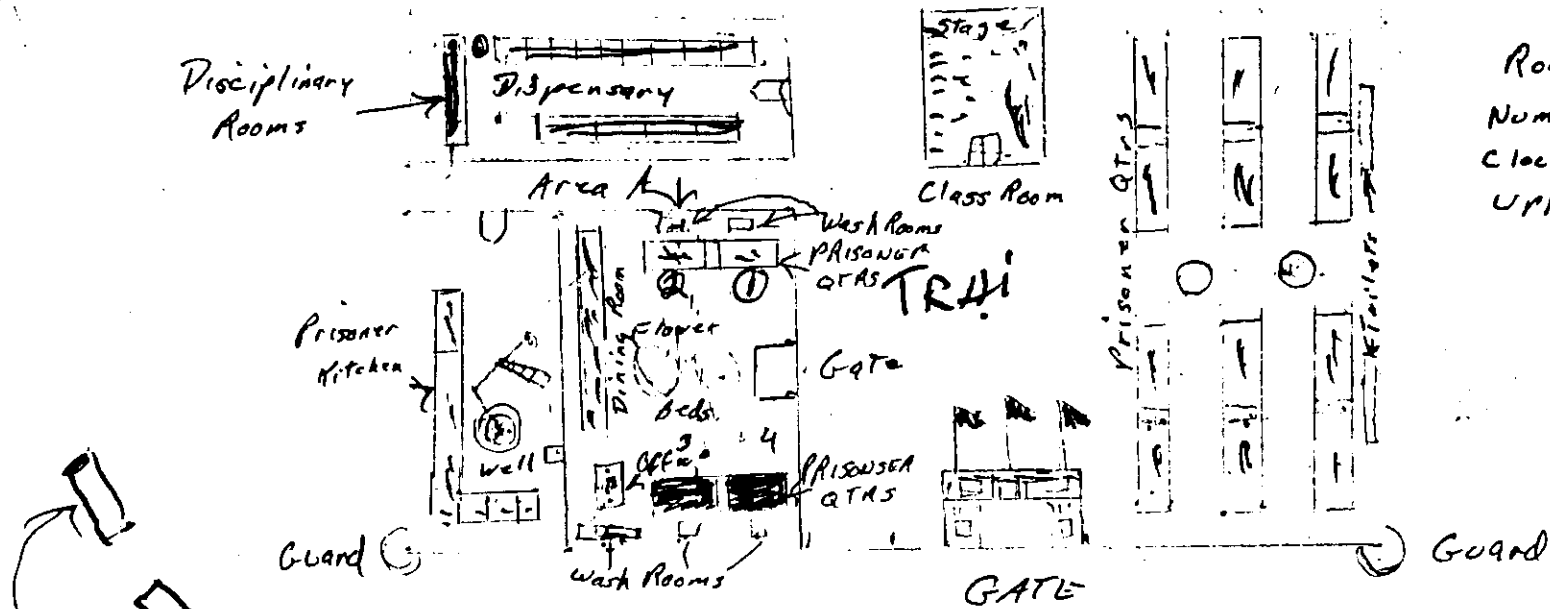
Wells

3M Brick Wall All Around

Source Here INITIALLY
Room # 1

Rooms In Area A
Numbered 1-4 Counter
Clockwise Starting At
Upper Right.

→ 2



Guard

Guard

STAFF &
FAMILY
HOUSING

CAMP
ADMIN
SPACES

CỔ QUẢN

CONFERENCE
HALL

HQ

To Phu Lu Camp
3 hours By
car

INCL 3 TO
Report AP85-041
VU VAN CHI

Report RP85-041

VU VAN CHI

Bridge

- ① Wash area / Water Tanks
- ② Prisoner Qtrs
- ③ Toilets
- ④ Work areas

POTATOES Khoai MUY
 PRODUCE PROCESS AREA
 Fish Pond
 R. CULTIVAT

STREAM

STOCK YARD
ADMIN AREA

PRODUCE PROCESS AREA

10th MID
 Sugar cane

⑤ Source Held Here Bldg F-2

PHU LU - WI TRAY
 GUARD TOWER
 BACK GATE
 OVERWELL
 KITCHEN
 STOCK YARD
 OFFICE
 LAO HAY
 GUARD TOWER

Soccer field
 PRISONER QTRS
 EMPTY AREA
 DISCIPLINE AREA
 WORK AREA
 PRISONER WORK AREA
 GUARD TOWER
 WASH AREA

Warehouse

Kho Hoa road

SAN PHOI
 Rice Drying Area

NLO KHU

Supply Warehouse

Rice Cleaning
 Rice Warehouse
 Rice Drying Area
 Potatoes

CAMP ADMIN AREA
 GATE
 Fish Ponds
 DINING ROOM
 MITCHEN
 OFFICE
 HQ
 HALL
 BARRACKS
 BLDG
 OFFICE
 CHS

ROAD
 ROAD 5 KM
 KITCHEN
 OFFICE
 DINING ROOM
 Soccer Field
 MILITARY QUARTERS

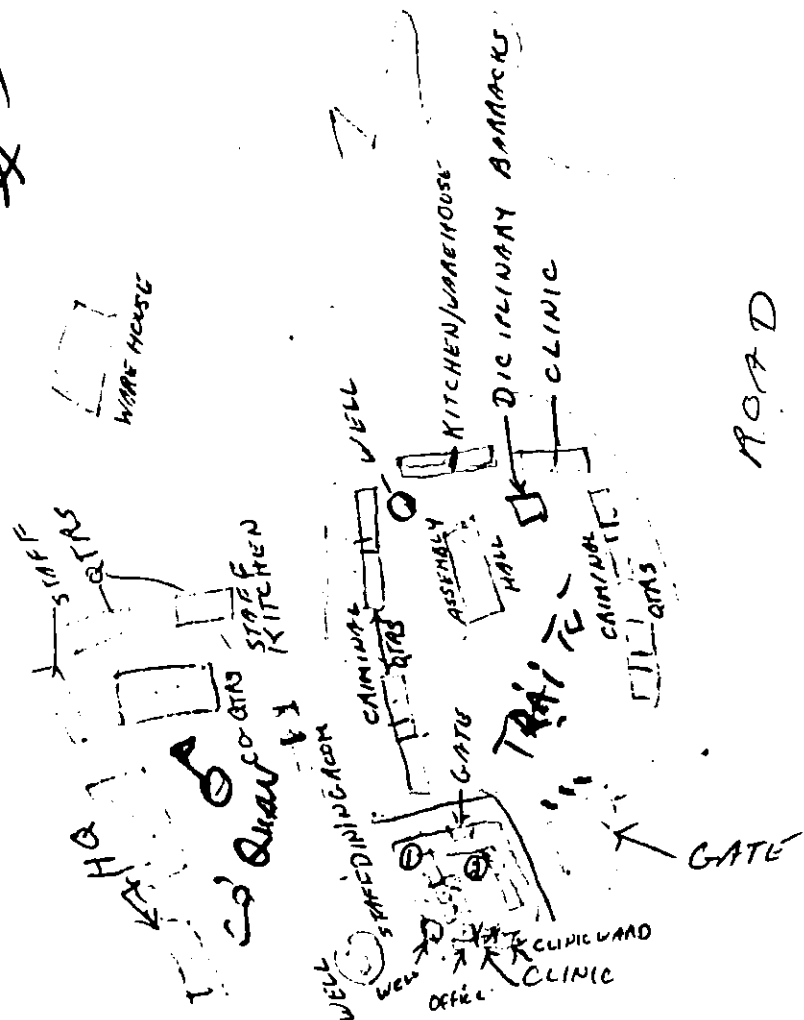
Military Quarters

Kim bai - Hoa Binh

INCL 6 TO
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VU VAN CHI

MOUNTAINS
HANG DA
STONE CAVES



MOUNTAINS

HANG DA
STONE CAVES

ROAD

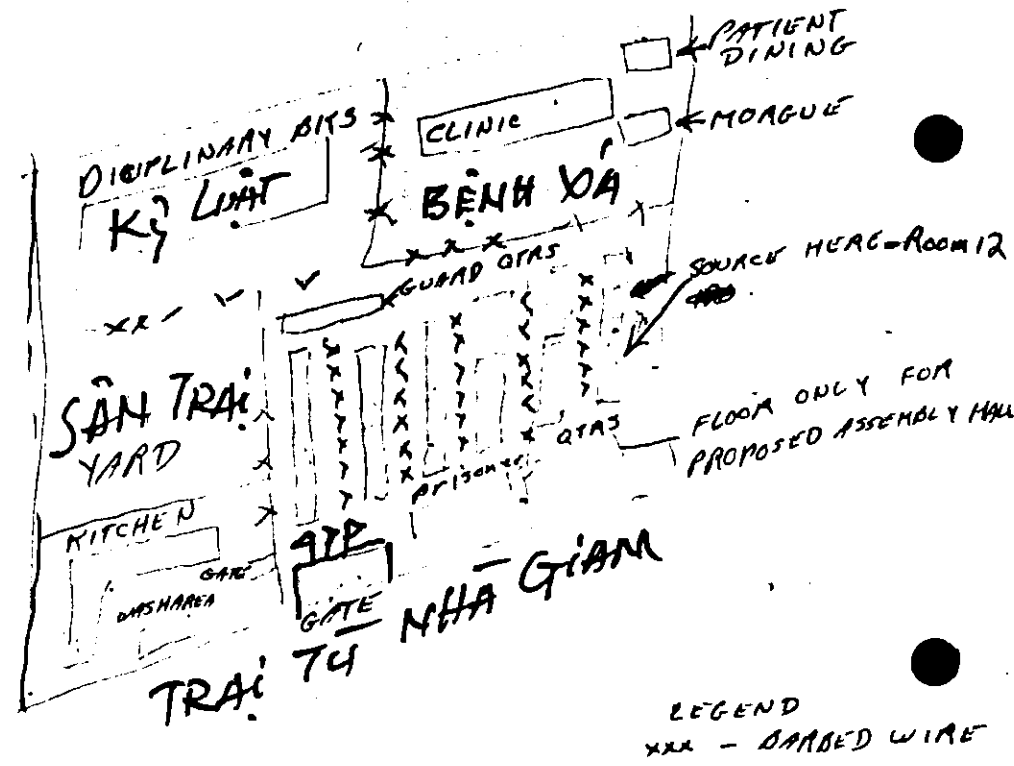
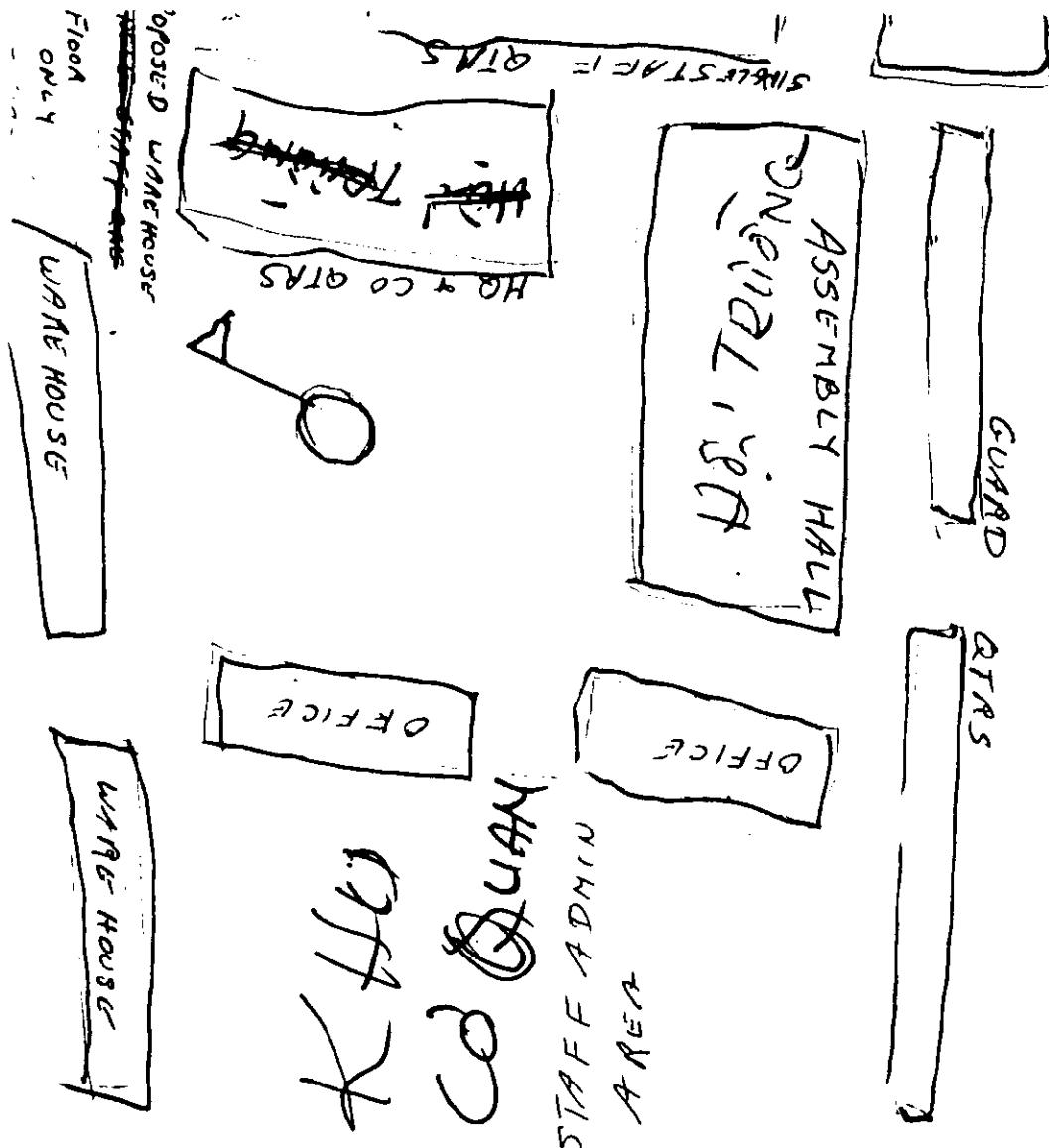
→ To Hanoi

ROAD

① KITCHEN/WAREHOUSE

② COMMANDO QTRS - SOURCE HERE

TỔNG QUẢN LÝ
THANH HOÁ



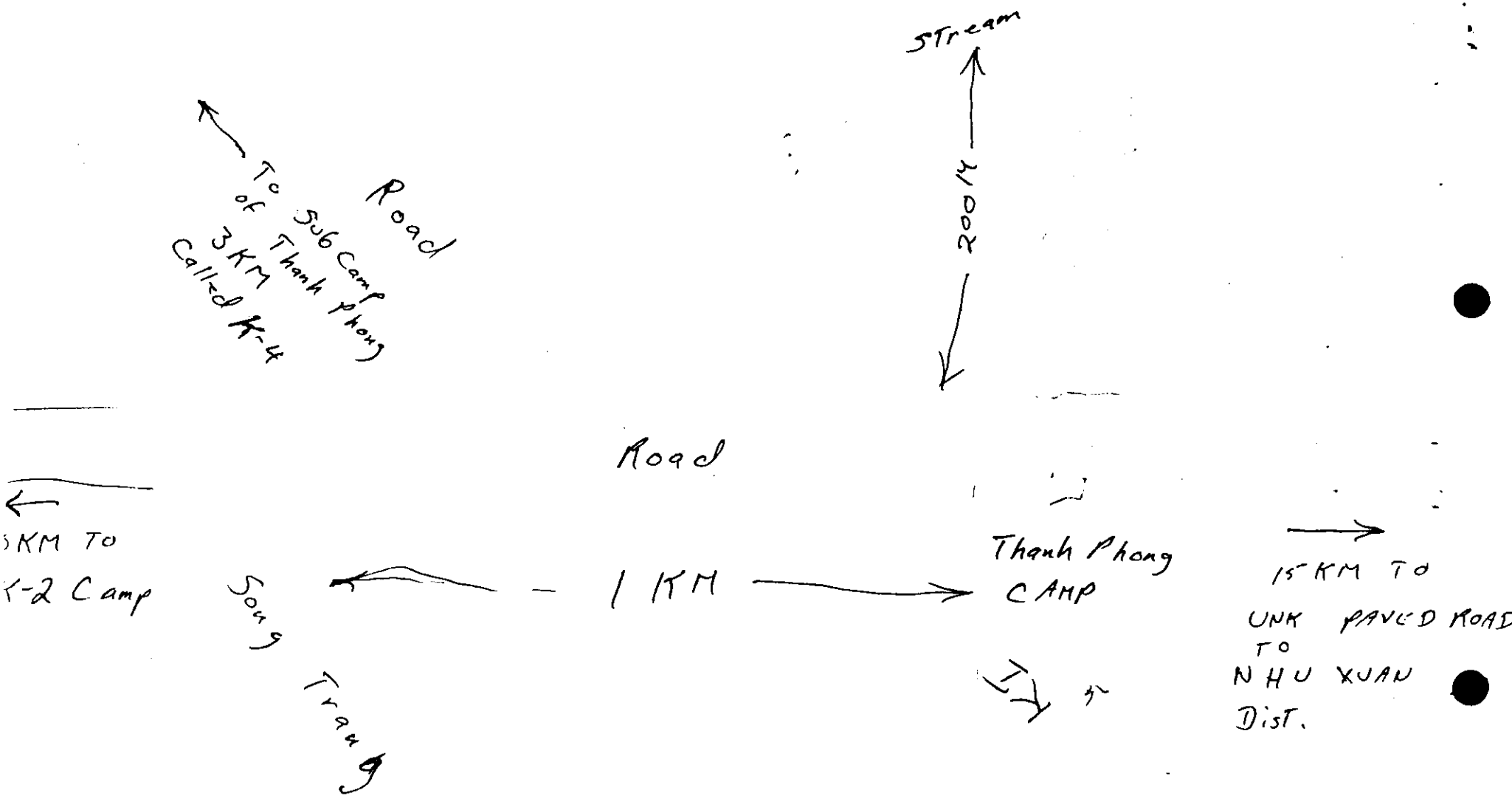
INCL 7 TO
REPORT AP85-041
VU VAN CHI

KHU GIẢ
DINH CÁN BỐ
NHA BINH
CO QUAN
STAFF DINING
ROOM

KITCHEN
NHA BINH

ROAD

* SURROUNDING AREA



INCL 8 TO
REPORT AP95-041
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