

REPORTS OF A JAPANESE INMATE AT RACH GIA

1975-1978 FRENCH-JAPANESE NAMED
"ANAMO" AND A TAIWAN-
ESE NAMED "SHI NIU"
[PHONETIC SPELLING]

"ANAMO" WAS SON OF JAPANESE FATHER AND FRENCH MOTHER. "ANAMO" HAD DARK HAIR, BROWN, WORE GLASSES, WEIGHED APPROX 55 KG, WAS ABOUT 1.60 METERS TALL, SPOKE ENGLISH, FRENCH, AND CHINESE VERY WELL, BUT SPOKE ONLY A LITTLE VIETNAMESE. "ANAMO" HAD BEEN A TRADER IN SAIGON TILL 1975. "SHI NIU" WAS A TAIWANESE FISHERMAN, ABOUT 45 YOA, 45KG 1.70 M TALL, HEAVY SET, "CHINESE" FEATURES; WAS IN CHAINS ALL THE TIME FOR REASONS UNK TO SOURCE. "ANAMO" AND "SHI NIU" WERE STILL AT RACH GIA WHEN SOURCE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE AN BIEN-U MINH REED CAMP IN 1978. SOURCE WAS HELD IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE SYSTEM FROM MAY 1975 UNTIL 1982. SOURCE WAS A THERAVADA BUDDHIST MONK AND A LEADER AMONG THE ETHNIC CAMBODIAN COMMUNITY OF KIEN GIANG PROVINCE PRIOR TO MAY 1975. HE ALSO WAS A CIA SOURCE WHO SUPPLIED INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMUNIST INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CAMBODIAN BORDER REGION.

<7/77->5/78 U/I JAPANESE

SOURCE SAID INMATE LOOKED JAPANESE. OTHER INMATES SAID HE WAS A JAPANESE STUDENT. HE WAS APPROX 24 YOA; 1.72M TALL; 56-57 KG WEIGHT; METAL RIM GLASSES--APPEARED FARSIGHTED. (REF IIR 6-014-0089-86; SOURCE 1604--PHAM TUAN LOI. MOST OF LOI'S SEVERAL STORIES ARE FICTION; HOWEVER, HE HAS ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE RACH GIA PRISON, INCLUDING THE PRESENCE OF AN INMATE WHO CLAIMED TO BE JAPANESE.)

<LATE 82->7/1983 JAPANESE NAMED
"ISAKA"

APPROX 40 YOA; PHYSICAL BUILD "LIKE A VIETNAMESE." "ISAKA" WAS A GIVEN NAME; SOURCE DID NOT KNOW THE PERSON'S SURNAME. "ISAKA" COULD SPEAK VN VERY WELL, BUT NOT WITH NATIVE FLUENCY. "ISAKA" WORE GOLD METAL RIM EYE GLASSES. ACCORDING TO INMATE GOSSIP "ISAKA" WAS A FORESTRY ENGR WHO HAD ENGAGED IN BUYING LUMBER FOR SHIPMENT TO JAPAN, BUT FLED SAIGON AND WAS ARRESTED IN RACH GIA IN MAY 75. THIS SOURCE ALSO SUPPLIED ACCURATE FIRSTHAND INFO RE GRAHAM AND KNIGHT. (REF JCRC RPT T84-250, 12NOV84; SOURCE TRAN KHAI TRI CUONG; SOURCE FILE 2695.)

78->8/78

JAPANESE-AMERICAN
NAMED "ALAMO"

"ALAMO" WAS APPROX 30-32 YOA; 1.75 M; 58-60KG; HAD "CHINESE" FEATURES; THICK GOLD-RIM GLASSES. "ALAMO" SPOKE WITH SOURCE IN FLUENT VIETNAMESE. "ALAMO" TOLD SOURCE HE WAS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY. SOURCE HEARD "ALAMO" SPEAK CHINESE (DIALECT UNK) WITH ANOTHER INMATE. OTHERS SAID HE SPOKE EXTREMELY GOOD CHINESE AND THAT HE ALSO SPOKE JAPANESE, ENGLISH, AND FRENCH. "ALAMO" TOLD SOURCE HE TRAVELED A LOT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND OWNED A MERCHANT SHIP THAT OFTEN TRADED AT SAIGON. ACCORDING TO INMATE GOSSIP, "ALAMO" WAS THE LONGEST HELD INMATE AT RACH GIA PRISON. THIS SOURCE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CAUCASIAN AMERICAN AT RACH GIA. (REF IIR 2 240 5028 80; SOURCE NGUYEN THANH NGOC [AKA OTS-L-021-80]; CASE FILE 0552. ALSO SEE TAB 3, CASE FILE 1503.)

<5/78->10/79

JAPANESE NAMED
"ANNAMO"

"ANNAMO" WAS ORIENTAL, BUT "OBVIOUSLY NOT PURE VIETNAMESE." "ANNAMO" WAS 1.7 METERS TALL, APPROX 25-30 YOA, HAD A HEAVY BUILD, AND WORE EYEGLASSES. "ANNAMO" COULD SPEAK VIETNAMESE, BUT NOT FLUENTLY. SOURCE PRESUMED "ANNAMO" COULD SPEAK JAPANESE. "ANNAMO" WAS HELD IN VARIOUS BLDGS--1,5,6, HOI TRUONG A & POSSIBLY B. "ANNAMO" OFTEN SPOKE ENGLISH WITH A CATHOLIC PRIEST NAMED PHAN VAN RI. RI WAS APPROX 32 YOA IN 1979; WAS A PRIEST AT "TERESA" SEMINARY NEAR RACH GIA; REPORTEDLY FLED TO FRANCE, CA. 1979-80. (REF JCRC REPT T85-298, 5 NOV 85, AND JCRC LNO MSGS 110737Z MAR 86 & 241445Z APR 86--SOURCE DANH RIENG, CASE FILE 3969. THIS SOURCE SUPPLIED INFO CONCERNING LARGE NUMBER NON-WESTERN (THAI, CAMBODIAN) INMATES. HE WAS CONVINCED HE WOULD HAVE KNOWN ABOUT ANY AMERICAN INMATES AT RACH GIA. HE INSISTED THERE WERE NO AMERICANS OR PERSONS WHO MIGHT BE MISTAKEN TO BE AMERICANS AT RACH GIA DURING HIS STAY. OF POSSIBLE INTEREST, HE DESCRIBED A HIGH PROFILE SOUTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY OFFICER NAMED NGUYEN ANH HUNG WHO SAID HE HAD A FRENCH WIFE AND WHOSE MOTHER BROUGHT HIM MONEY RECEIVED FROM HIS WIFE IN FRANCE. 1LT HUNG WAS EXECUTED IN 1979. MISCONSTRUED HEARSAY INFORMATION ABOUT 1LT HUNG COULD BE THE BASIS FOR SOME MISTAKEN REPORTS ABOUT AN AMERICAN INMATE AT RACH GIA; E.G., SOURCES DUONG KET AND LE VAN TUNG, DESCRIBED ABOVE.)

79r->4/80

JAPANESE NAMED
"ADAMO"

"ADAMO" AND A CHINESE MAN NAMED "SANH NHU" WERE THE ONLY FOREIGN INMATES AT RACH GIA. "ADAMO" CLAIMED TO BE JAPANESE. "SANH NHU" SAID HE WAS FROM HONG KONG. ACCORDING TO INMATE GOSSIP, THE MAN WHO SAID HE WAS FROM HONG KONG WAS TAKE TO CHI HOA WHERE HE DIED. NO FURTHER INFO. (REF IIR 6-024-0274-90, 07 FEB 90; SOURCE NGUYEN THANH RANG--OTS 6-024-3024-90.)

<2/79->4/79

U/I JAPANESE

THIS MAN WAS APPROX 32 YOA; SPOKE VN WITH A SOUTHERN ACCENT. THE MAN TOLD SOURCE HE WAS THE MANAGER OF THE SINGER SEWING MACHINE COMPANY IN THU DUC, NEAR SAIGON, AND THAT HE WAS ARRESTED IN ABOUT 1976. (REF SOURCE 1503--HUYNH NGOC THEM; POLY SHOWED NO DECEPTION. THIS SOURCE CLAIMED THAT ONE U.S. CAUCASIAN, WHO HE DESCRIBED AS YOUNG AND APPROX 5'10" TO 6' TALL, WAS STILL HELD AT RACH GIA WHEN SOURCE LEFT IN APRIL 1979. SOURCE DID NOT TALK WITH OR KNOW ANYTHING MORE ABOUT THIS ALLEGED AMERICAN. THIS SOURCE WAS AT RACH GIA FOR ONLY ABOUT 50 DAYS. OTHER SOURCES WHO WERE WELL-INFORMED ABOUT THIS PRISON AND APPEAR TO BE RELIABLE WERE CERTAIN THAT NO AMERICANS WERE HELD HERE IN EARLY 1979. THERE IS ONE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION THAT CANNOT BE EVALUATED WITH PRECISION. WE HAVE RECEIVED A SMALL NUMBER OF APPARENTLY ACCURATE REPORTS THAT AN AMERICAN PRIVATE SAILBOAT AND ITS TWO MAN CREW WERE ARRESTED NEAR PHU QUOC ISLAND SOMETIME IN 1979. PHU QUOC ISLAND IS ADMINISTRATIVELY SUBORDINATE TO KIEN GIANG PROVINCE. THE RACH GIA PRISON, IN 1979, WAS THE MAIN PROVINCE PRISON FOR KIEN GIANG; THUS, IT IS POSSIBLE THE CREW WAS HELD AT THIS PRISON FOR SOME PERIOD OF TIME--PROBABLY A FEW DAYS TO A FEW WEEKS--BEFORE BEING MOVED TO HCMC OR RELEASED. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE VESSEL OR THE TWO CREWMEMBERS AND HANOI HAS REFUSED TO RESPOND TO INQUIRIES ABOUT THIS INCIDENT.)

<1/81->1/81

U/I JAPANESE

APPROX 30-35 YOA; 1.6 METERS; AVERAGE WEIGHT; "JAPANESE" FEATURES. SOURCE SAW SUBJECT ONLY ONCE AS SUBJECT WAS ON HIS WAY TO WASH UP ONE MORNING. SOURCE ASSUMED THE MAN HE SAW WAS JAPANESE BASED ON INMATE GOSSIP AND THE MAN'S APPEARANCE. INMATE GOSSIP INDICATED THE MAN COULD SPEAK ENGLISH AND HAD BEEN AT RACH GIA SINCE 1975. SOURCE WAS AT RACH GIA ONLY FOR A FEW DAYS. HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CAUCASIAN AMERICAN AT RACH GIA. (REF JCRC REPT I84-051, SOURCE HUYNH ANH DUNG, CASE FILE 2937.)

U/I JAPANESE

SOURCE NGUYEN NHU DE, WHILE HELD AT TA NIEN FOR ABOUT 2 MONTHS IN '83, HEARD A JAPANESE ONCE HAD BEEN HELD AT TA NIEN, BUT HAD SINCE BEEN SENT TO CHAU THANH (SIC) REED CAMP. THIS SOURCE SPENT ONLY ONE NIGHT AT RACH GIA PRISON BEFORE HE WAS MOVED TO TA NIEN. NOTE: RACH GIA PRISON, TA NIEN, CANAL 7, AND SEVERAL OTHER DETENTION FACILITIES ARE UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE KIEN GIANG PUBLIC SECURITY SERVICE. THE SUBJECT OF THIS HEARSAY REPORT QUITE POSSIBLY IS THE SAME PERSON WHO WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE REPORTS ABOUT A JAPANESE NAMED "ANAMO" AT RACH GIA. (REF MFR AT TAB 27, SOURCE FILE 1503.)