

Bill

What I was telling you yesterday.

Dear [unclear]

1374

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05:23 08/13/93

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VZCZCB10550
 RR RUEHBT
 DE RUHQSGG #5367 2211042
 ZNR UUUUU
 R 091042Z AUG 93 ZYB
 FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//
 TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:RSA/DPHO-RA/DPHO-RD//
 INFO RUEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/OCS/EAM/VLC//
 RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OCJCS/J3/PW-MIA/J3-JDD//
 RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J30-M//
 RUEKJCS/USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC
 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOB//
 RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TARC-PED-M//
 RUEHBT/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//
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 BT
 UNCLAS //N03450//
 SECTION 01 OF 03
 AMPN/SUBJ/INTERVIEW OF REQUESTED SOURCE, MR. NGUYEN HUNG TRI//
 REF/A/FAX/DET 2/30DEC92//
 AMPN SUBJ: (OHR-001-92) ORAL HISTORY REPORT--MR. NGUYEN HUNG TRI
 REGARDING CASE 1274 (PRIDEMORE) AND HQ SVNLA'S U.S. POW CAMP//
 THIS IS A RETRANSMITTAL OF A PREVIOUSLY TRANSMITTED MESSAGE. SAME

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SUBJ:
 RMKS/1. SUMMARY: ON 26 DECEMBER 1992, DET 2 RESEARCHER/HISTORIAN
 (R. J. DESTAITE) AND DET 2 ANALYST (SSGT W.H. NEWELL), ACCOMPANIED BY
 THREE MEMBERS OF THE VIETNAMESE OFFICE FOR SEARCHING FOR MISSING
 PERSONS (VHOSMP), INTERVIEWED MR. NGUYEN HUNG TRI AT HIS OFFICE IN
 HANOI, VIETNAM. EARLIER INVESTIGATIONS OF CASE 1274 IDENTIFIED MR.
 TRI AS A FORMER CADRE OF THE HEADQUARTERS SOUTH VIETNAM LIBERATION
 ARMY'S (HQ SVNLA) U.S. POW CAMP DURING THE WAR. THE PRIMARY
 OBJECTIVE OF THE INTERVIEW WAS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION THAT MIGHT HELP
 RESOLVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FATE OF U.S. ARMY STAFF SERGEANT (SSG)
 DALLAS PRIDEMORE, WHO WAS CAPTURED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF SAIGON, CN 8
 SEPTEMBER 1968. MR. TRI WAS VERY OPEN AND CANDID AND DEMONSTRATED
 A CLEAR AND ACCURATE RECALL OF WAR TIME EVENTS. HE WAS CERTAIN ALL
 AMERICANS CAPTURED IN HQ SVNLA'S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (EXCLUDING
 MILITARY REGION NINE) WERE MOVED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO HQ SVNLA'S
 U.S. POW CAMP. HE RECALLED THAT THIS CAMP, WHILE MOBILE, REMAINED
 IN THE AREA ALONG BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER BETWEEN NORTHERN TAY NINH
 PROVINCE, SOUTHERN VIETNAM, AND CAMBODIA. HE WAS CERTAIN HQ SVNLA
 NEVER HAD A POW CAMP IN SVAY RIENG PROVINCE, CAMBODIA. HE WAS
 CERTAIN NO PRISONER NAMED DALLAS PRIDEMORE EVER REACHED HQ SVNLA'S

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U.S. POW CAMP. IN HIS JUDGMENT, SSG PRIDEMORE MUST HAVE DIED BEFORE
 HE COULD BE MOVED TO THE HQ SVNLA'S U.S. POW CAMP. HE DESCRIBED IN
 GENERAL TERMS PROCEDURES FOR EVACUATING U.S. POWS TO HQ SVNLA.
 HE IDENTIFIED TWO PERSONS WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
 INFORMATION REGARDING THIS CASE. HE RECALLED THE NAMES OF
 SEVERAL AMERICANS WHO WERE IN THE HQ SVNLA U.S. POW CAMP AND WHO
 HE HAD INTERVIEWED, SEEN, OR HEARD ABOUT. HE SUPPLIED LIMITED
 INFORMATION CONCERNING UNRESOLVED CASES 0043, 0050, 0099, 1410,
 1010, AND 9960.

2. SOURCE DATA:

NAME: NGUYEN HUNG TRI ((NGUYEENX HUNGF TRIS)).
 AGE: 50 YEARS (DOB: DEC 1992)
 WAR TIME POSITION:
 CPT '85-OCT '86, 2ND LIEUTENANT, PEOPLES ARMY OF
 VIETNAM (PAVN, INTERPRETER, U.S. POW CAMP UNIT TB-20.
 POLITICAL DEPARTMENT), HQ SVNLA, AKA MIEN.
 CURRENT POSITION, ADDRESS, PHONE, FAX:
 DIRECTOR, EXPORT DEPARTMENT, VIETNAM NATIONAL
 PETROLEUM IMPORT-EXPORT CORPORATION, NO. 1 KHAM THIEN
 STREET, HANOI, VIETNAM; PHONE: 84-4-268060, 84-4-

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PROSELYTING DEPARTMENT.

E. POTENTIAL WITNESSES:

(1) DANG THUAN HOA ((DANG THUAN HOA)). INTERPRETER FOR HQ SVNLA U.S. POW CAMP WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE POW EXCHANGE ON 1 JANUARY 1969. HOA CURRENTLY WORKS IN THE HO CHI MINH COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS OFFICE ((SOVA THUONG NGHIEP)). ((FIELD COMMENT: VNOSMP MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE INTERVIEW SAID IT SHOULD BE EASY TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW MR. HOA.))

(2) LUU QUANG TUYEN ((LUU QUANG TUYEN)). THE CHIEF OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING DEPARTMENT, HQ SVNLA, FROM ABOUT 1968 THROUGH 1975. AFTER THE WAR HE BECAME DEPUTY CHIEF OF LONG AN PROVINCE. CURRENTLY RETIRED, HE NOW LIVES IN SAIGON. ((FIELD COMMENT: VNOSMP MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE INTERVIEW SAID IT SHOULD BE EASY TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW MR. TUYEN.))

(3) NGO DAT TAI ((NGO DAT TAI)); AKA 10 TRAI ((TRAI)) AND 10 TAI ((TAI)). CHIEF OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING DEPARTMENT, HQ SVNLA FROM ABOUT 1967 TO 1969. HE FELL VICTIM TO POOR HEALTH AND RETURNED TO NORTH VIETNAM IN ABOUT 1969. CURRENTLY RETIRED, HE LIVES ON ONG ICH KHIEM STREET ((PHUOC DONG ICHS KHIEM)), HANOI, VIETNAM. HIS PREDECESSOR, LE HOA ((LEE HOA))

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HOA)) DIED OF OLD AGE IN ABOUT 1977 OR 1978. ((FIELD COMMENT: VNOSMP MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE INTERVIEW SAID IT SHOULD BE EASY TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW MR. TAI.))

(4) LE QUANG HUY ((LEE QUANG HUY)); AKA B HUY. COMMANDER OF THE HQ SVNLA U.S. POW CAMP FROM 1967 THROUGH 1975. ((FIELD COMMENT: THREE DIFFERENT U.S. SPECIALISTS, INCLUDING SET 2 RESEARCHER/HISTORIAN, HAVE INTERVIEWED MR. HUY. MR. HUY HAS PREVIOUSLY SHOWN HIMSELF TO BE A VERY VAIN AND UNCOOPERATIVE WITNESS. HIS ONE AND ONLY PREDECESSOR (1964-1967) WAS LE HUE ((LEE HUE)), WHO IS DECEASED. ((FIELD COMMENT: AS COMMANDER OF THE U.S. POW CAMP, LE QUANG HUY COULD BE EXPECTED TO HAVE LITTLE OR NO DIRECT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ANY AMERICANS OTHER THAN THOSE WHO WERE UNDER HIS DIRECT SUPERVISION.))

F. ENEMY PROSELYTING AND MILITARY PROSELYTING. MR. TRI DEFINED ENEMY PROSELYTING ((DICH VAAN)) AS A FUNCTION PERFORMED BY THE MILITARY AND DIRECTED AT ADVERSARY MILITARY FORCES. HE DESCRIBED MILITARY PROSELYTING ((BINH VAAN)) AS A FUNCTION CARRIED OUT BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY--IN THIS INSTANCE THE CENTRAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH VIETNAM ((CUSVN)) AND IS DIRECTED AT MOBILIZING ALL ELEMENTS OF THE SOCIETY. STATED IN OTHER WORDS,

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ACCORDING TO MESSERS TRI AND PHAM TEO, ENEMY PROSELYTING IS A SUBSET OF MILITARY PROSELYTING.

G. THE 2ND OFFICE ((PHONG 2)), AKA RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE ((PHONG TRINH SAT)), AKA MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ((QUAN BAOS)) WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERROGATING POWS FOR TACTICAL INFORMATION. THE ENEMY PROSELYTING ELEMENT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERROGATING POWS FOR PROPAGANDA AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE PURPOSES.

H. MR. TRI RECALLED HAVING HEARD ABOUT, SEEN, OR SPOKEN WITH EACH OF THE FOLLOWING U.S. POWS, IN ADDITION TO THE POWS NAMED IN PARA 38 AND 39, ABOVE.

(1) CAPTAIN (SIC) SCHUMANN (CASE 0999). MR. TRI RECALLED ((MAJOR)) SCHUMANN DIED IN CAPTIVITY. MR. TRI CITED THIS CASE TO ILLUSTRATE HIS BELIEF IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND GRAVE SITES OF THE MEN WHO DIED WHILE IN THE HQ SVNLA U.S. POW CAMP. MR. TRI NOTED THAT UNIT TB-20, THE UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CAMP, MOVED THE CAMP FREQUENTLY. HE NOTED MOST OF THE ROUTES TRAVELED BY THE UNIT WERE NARROW FOOT OR BICYCLE PATHS CUT THROUGH THE JUNGLE. HE RECALLED THE UNIT SELDOM USED THESE PATHS LONGER THAN THREE MONTHS, AFTER WHICH THEY QUICKLY REVERTED BACK TO JUNGLE GROWTH. MR. TRI STATED FIRMLY HE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE

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