

ORIGIN CJTF2 / INFO DCM POL SA DAO PW/MIA EXA DALO INHB (9)

VZCZC

RR RUHQHQE RUMTFS RUEHPF RUEKJCS RUEKJCS RUHQHQB

RUEKJCS RUEKJCS RUEAIIA RUHVAAA RUEADWW RUEHC

DE RUEHFK #6001/01 042 **

ZNR UUUUU

R 110930Z FEB 93

FM CJTF-FA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

TO RUHQHQE / CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI

INFO RUMTFS / AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTF-FA DET THREE// : NONE

RUEHPF / USMISSION PHNOM PENH//CJTFFA DET FOUR// DISTR: CJTF

RUEKJCS / JOIN STAFF WASHDC//CCJCS-PW-MIA/J5// ORGIN: OCR

RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//

RUHQHQB / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//

RUEKJCS / USCINCPAC LO WASHDC//

RUEKJCS / DIA WASHDC//POW-MIA//

RUEAIIA / CIA WASHDC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/ICOG//

RUHVAAA / CDHUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//

RUEADWW / NSC WASHDC

RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC//CA/OCS/CCS/EAP//

BT

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UNCLASSIFIED 0052 FEB 93

DIA PASS TO DOD POW-MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICE

SUBJ: SRV ORAL HISTORY, INTERVIEW WITH FORMER ENEMY
PROSELYTING CADRE NGUYEN VAN HUNG

REF: DET 1, JTFFA MSG 200341Z JAN 93

1. REF WAS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN VIETNAM BY JTFFA SPECIAL ASSISTANT, MR G.E. BELL, DURING THE PERIOD 6 TO 18 JAN 93. PARA 2F OF REF REFERS TO FORMER ENEMY PROSELYTING CADRE NGUYEN VAN HUNG, WHO WAS INTERVIEWED IN DANANG CITY ON 14 JAN 93. THE INTERVIEW WAS MONITORED BY ASSIGNED COUNTERPART AND MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (MND) REP, LTC PHAM TEO, AND MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR (MOI) REP, ME HA MINH THAN. THE FOLLOWING REPORT PROVIDES THE RESULTS OF THE INTERVIEW.

2. SOURCE, A NATIVE OF DANANG, STUDIED ENGLISH AT THE VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION (HCI VIET MY) IN HOI AN UNTIL 1964 WHEN HE DECIDED TO JOIN THE REVOLUTION. SOURCE SAID HIS ENGLISH TEACHER IN HOI AN WAS "MR BAKER". SOURCE SAID HE HAD A SECOND ENGLISH TEACHER WHOSE NAME HE COULD NOT RECALL, BUT BELIEVES THE PERSON MIGHT BE A "MR TOM MALIA" HE HAS HEARD ABOUT AROUND DANANG. (I.E. TOM MALIA WHO IS CURRENTLY WORKING FOR THE ODERLY DEPARTURE PROGRAM). SOURCE SAID THAT AFTER HE JOINED THE REVOLUTION IN 1964, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE MILITARY-ENEMY PROSELYTING OFFICE (MEPO) OF QUANG DA SPECIAL ZONE. AFTER A FEW MONTHS, SOURCE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE MEPO OF MILITARY REGION (MR) 5. AT THAT TIME THE MRS CAMP WAS LOCATED NEAR THE BORDER OF QUANG NAM (I.E. GVN QUANG TIN) PROVINCE AND QUANG NCAI PROVINCE.

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3. SOURCE SAID HE WAS RECENTLY INTERVIEWED BY JTFFA PERSONNEL IN DANANG CONCERNING THE MRS CAMP AND HAD NOTHING FURTHER TO ADD. SOURCE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW THE SPECIFIC LOCATION OF ANY GIVES CONTAINING US REMAINS. SOURCE SAID HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY US PERSONNEL REMAINING IN VIETNAM. SOURCE SAID HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING US PERSONNEL WHO WERE MOVED TO THIRD COUNTRIES AFTER BEING CAPTURED.

4. WHEN ASKED SPECIFICALLY CONCERNING CASE 1456 (SPARKS), SOURCE SAID HE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO KNOWLEDGE OF THIS CASE. AFTER HEARING THE CIRCUMSTANCES, SOURCE OPINED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE REGARDING CASE 1456, DUE TO A POLICY CHANGE THAT OCCURRED SHORTLY AFTER THE 1968 "TET" GENERAL OFFENSIVE. SOURCE EXPLAINED THAT SHORTLY AFTER "TET", INSTRUCTIONS WERE ISSUED TO THE EFFECT THAT NO MORE WOUNDED US PERSONNEL WOULD BE MOVED FROM THEIR CAPTURE POINT TO BE DETAINED IN THE MRS CAMP. SOURCE SAID THESE INSTRUCTIONS WERE ISSUED DUE TO THE FACT THAT THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO MEDICAL CARE AVAILABLE AT THE CAMP, WHICH HAD RESULTED IN THE DEATHS OF SEVERAL AMERICANS DURING EARLY 1968.

5. SOURCE DID VAGUELY RECALL ONE OCCASSION SOMETIME DURING 1969 WHEN HE WAS TASKED TO PROVIDE INTERPRETER SERVICES FOR A WOUNDED AMERICAN POW. SOURCE SAID HE TRAVELED ON FOOT TO A POW TRANSFER POINT WHICH WAS LOCATED ABOUT THREE TO FOUR HOURS WALKING DISTANCE FROM THE MRS CAMP. SOURCE SAID HE INTERPRETED FOR PERSONNEL OF THE CAPTURING UNIT (DESIGNATION NOT RECALLED BUT POSSIBLY THE PAVN 2ND DIV) FOR ONE BRIEF PERIOD. SOURCE CLAIMED TO BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE A PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AMERICAN, AND COULD ONLY RECALL THAT THE AMERICAN WAS A MALE CAUCASIAN. SOURCE RECALLED THE MAN WAS BADLY WOUNDED, BUT COULD NOT RECALL THE NATURE OF HIS WOUNDS. SOURCE ALSO COULD NOT RECALL THE NAME OF THE PERSON WHO GUIDED HIM TO THE TRANSFER POINT, OR THE IDENTIES OF ANY OF THE PERSONNEL WHO WERE PRESENT AT THE TRANSFER POINT, INCLUDING GUARDS. AFTER A BRIEF PERIOD OF INTERPRETING FOR THE WOUNDED AMERICAN, SOURCE RETURNED TO THE MRS CAMP AND DID SEE OR HEAR ABOUT THE AMERICAN AGAIN. SOURCE CLAIMED HE WAS UNFAMILIAR WITH THE AREA AND COULD NOT EVEN SPECULATE AS TO WHERE THE AMERICAN WAS TAKEN. SOURCE SAID HE COULD NOT RECALL ANY MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE AREA.

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6. WHEN ASKED CONCERNING ANY OTHER WARTIME CADRE WHO MIGHT BE CAPABLE OF PROVIDING INFORMATION REGARDING US PERSONNEL SOURCE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING:

A. MR PHAN TAN TRINH, A NATIVE OF QUANG NAM-DANANG, WAS THE CHIEF OF THE MRS MILITARY PROSELYTING ELEMENT OF THE MEPO. MR TRINH IS CURRENTLY ASSIGNED AS THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE DAC LAC PROVINCE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE AND RESIDES IN BAN ME THUAT CITY.

B. MR THAN DANG, A NATIVE OF QUANG NAM-DANANG, WAS THE COMMANDER OF THE MRS CAMP. SOURCE IS NOT SURE CONCERNING THE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OR EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF MR DANG BUT BELIEVES HE MAY BE RETIRED AND RESIDING IN DANANG.

C. MR MAI PHUONG, A NATIVE OF QUANG NGAI PROVINCE, WAS THE DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE MRS CAMP. SOURCE BELIEVES MR DANG IS NOW RETIRED AND RESIDING IN QUANG NGAI TOWN.

7. COMMENT:

A. SOURCE WAS PROFESSIONALLY EVASIVE AND MAINTAINED HIS COMPOSURE THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW, BUT AT TIMES DID SEEM EMBARRASSED TO STATE HIS LACK OF KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING SUBJECTS HE COULD REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO HAVE A GOOD GRASP OF. SOURCE'S ATTITUDE GAVE THE IMPRESSION HE EXPECTS TO BE INTERVIEWED AGAIN. AS INDICATED IN PREVIOUS INTERVIEWS, SOURCE WAS FAMILIAR WITH US PERSONNEL IN THE MRS CAMP ASSOCIATED WITH ALREADY RESOLVED CASES.

B. IN ADDITION TO NOT BEING WILLING TO PROVIDE DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE WARTIME APPARATUS IN MRS, SOURCE WAS ALSO NOT WILLING TO DISCUSS HIS POST WAR TRAVELS IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION. SOURCE WOULD ONLY STATE THAT HE SPENT TWO YEARS IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION STUDYING PHILOSOPHY. SOURCE IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AS AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DANANG. ALTHOUGH DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WITH ONLY THIS LIMITED CONTACT WITH SOURCE, HE DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE A GOOD COMMAND OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

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