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Ref: RPT #M84-075
21 December 1984

FROM: JCRC-LNB
TO: Commander, JCRC

SUBJ: Live Sighting in Ha Son Binh (P)

REF: Reports by same Source: M84-076

Source:

- a. Name: Hoang Van Tai
- b. DOB: 1966
- c. POB: Ba Ria
- d. Former position: Student/net fisherman
- e. Present location: BK 385, Zone B, Pulau Bidong Refugee Camp, Malaysia
- f. Identification data: MB 008004
- g. DOI: February 1982
- h. Map used: 1:250,000, Series 1501, Sheet NF 48-15
- i. Date of interview: 6 September 1984
- j. Name of interviewer: Thomas R. McKay, CW2, USA
- k. Other: Source's final address in Vietnam was Phuoc Le (V), Chau Thanh (D), Dong Nai (P). He departed Vietnam on 23 October 1983.

Source provides first hand information of a caucasian westerner under Public Security supervision in Ha Son Binh (P).

Information:

The following information was related by Source to interviewer as fact.

While making fishing nets in February 1982 with a friend named Binh (LNU) approximately two KM south of Hoa Binh Town in the Song Da River (Source consistently called the approximate 200 M wide river that ran past Hoa Binh, the Song Hong River), Source personally observed the attempted escape of a caucasian westerner from a cave located along a dirt road approximately 10 meters inland to the west of the river bank. Directly across the river from the road and cave was Song Da Town (Thij Xar Soongs Daf) (not shown on available maps). The dirt road paralleled a small tributary which was dammed between the cave and the river by the Song Da Dam. The inclosed sketch was Source's best effort.

The westerner had walked out of the cave, evidently without permission and was captured by Public Security members just outside the cave. Approximately 30-40 PSS captured the man and loaded him into a white car (type unknown) to

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take him to Song Da Town to eventually be taken to Hanoi, Source assumed. During the capture, the man said nothing and the PSS said nothing to the man. The man was not bound after capture. The man was not mistreated, only placed into the car. Even though Source was in the "Song Hong" River, he claimed to have viewed the incident from a distance of one or two meters.

Source had no explanation how the car was going to get from the point of capture to the Song Da Town across the river, by car, with no bridge in the area.

Source described the westerner as follows: approximately 1.60 M tall, 40-45 KG in weight, a waist length black and gray beard, black hair almost waist length, brown eyes, and was balding in the front. He wore dark blue long trousers and a matching long sleeved shirt. He wore no hat or glasses. Source did not notice any peculiar gait, scars or physical abnormalities.

Background:

Source attended elementary school from 1972-1974 in Quang Minh (V), Quang Trach (D), Binh Tri Thien (P). From 1974 to 1979, Source lived in Quang Minh (V) and worked as a net fisherman until 1979 when he moved to Hanoi (address unrecalled) where he also worked as a net fisherman until the end of 1982. In early 1983, Source moved to his final address at Phuoc Le (V), Chau Thanh (D), Dong Nai (P), where he lived until 23 October 83, when he escaped. He paid nothing but fish for his passage.

Source was never married and claims the following family members.

Father, Hoang Van Toan (deceased prior to 1975, date unrecalled)
Mother, Le Thi Luong, age unknown
Sister, Hoang Thi Hien, 15 YOA
Sister, Hoang Thi Lanh, 12 YOA

Source's mother and two sisters still live in Thanh Hoi (V), Bo Trach (D), Binh Tri Thien (P).

Comment:

Source had no comment concerning the obvious illogical portions of his story nor of the improbabilities. He had no idea of what a polygraph was but eventually consented to taking a polygraph test, probably still not understanding what it is. Inclosed is Source's memory sketch, which was almost illegibly drawn with another sketch (see Rpt No. MB4-076) in the lower corner of a blank sheet of paper, leaving the remaining 3/4's blank. Source claimed he could do no better.

Paul D. Mather

PAUL D. MATHER
Lt Col, USAF
JCRC Liaison Officer

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