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 PP FUHQEPA RUHQHQA RUEKJCS RUFADWW
 DE RUEHOK #8963/01 105 **
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 P 150916Z APR 86
 FM JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH
 TO RUHQEPA / CDR JCRC BARPEPS PT HI PRIORITY
 INFO RUHQHQA / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J3/J36// PRIORITY
 RUEKJCS / DIA WASHINGTON DC//DC-2// PRIORITY
 RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA// PRIORITY
 RUFADWW / WHITEHOUSE WASHDC//NSC/MR CHILDRESS// PRIORITY
 RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC//J5// PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASS: [REDACTED]
 CHGGE: JCRC 86/15/04
 APPRV: JCRC:PDM
 DRFTD: JCRC:GEB
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 DISTR: JCRC2 AMR DCM2
 POL SA2 DAO
 HRON

LIAISON BANGKOK TH 18963

CITE: [REDACTED] 3303 APP 86

SUBJECT: JCRC REPORT #86-023, BLIND AMERICAN LIVING WITH BAHNAR TRIBESMEN IN GIA LAI-KONTUM (U)

- A. HK86-024 (REPORT BY SAME SOURCE)
- B. HK86-025 (REPORT BY SAME SOURCE)

1. [REDACTED] SOURCE: NAME: NGUYEN DANG HICH; DOB: 2 FEB 57; POB: THUY BIEU (V) HUONG THUY (D) THUA THIEN (P); FORMER POSITION: CIVIL SERVANT; PRESENT LOCATION: CHIMAWAN, HONG KONG; IDENTIFICATION DATA: I.D. 10378, BOAT LM 2134; DOI: 1983; MAP USED: 6536-4; SFRIES L7014; DATE OF INTERVIEW: 12 MAR 86; NAME OF INTERVIEWER: MR G. F. BELL, GS-13 DOD; OTHER: ARRIVED HONG KONG 7 OCT 85.

2. [REDACTED] SUMMARY: SOURCE, A 29 YOA MALF VM REFUGEE, PROVIDED HEARSAY INFORMATION CONCERNING AN ALLEGED BLIND AMERICAN LIVING WITH BAHNAR TRIBESMEN IN DUC CO VILLAGE (YA 8425) GIA LAI-KONTUM PROVINCE. END SUMMARY.

3. [REDACTED] SOURCE STATED THAT DURING 1983 WHILE VISITING HIS AUNT IN PLEIKU CITY, GIA LAI-KONTUM PROVINCE HE HEARD ABOUT AN AMERICAN WHO WAS LIVING WITH ETHNIC MINORITY HILLTRIBESMEN. SOURCE STATED THAT HE HEARD THE STORY FROM A MEMBER OF THE BAHNAR TRIBE (IDENTITY UNKNOWN, POB UNKNOWN BUT SPEAKS VN WITH SOUTH CENTRAL DIALECT, APPROX 30 YOA) WHO RESIDED IN THE AREA OF DUC CO VILLAGE (YA 8425) GIA LAI-KONTUM. SOURCE HEARD FROM THE MAN THAT BAHNAR TRIBESMEN FROM DUC CO HAD DISCOVERED AN AMERICAN CAUCASIAN IN THE FOREST AND HAD TAKEN HIM TO DUC CO WHERE THEY WERE CARING FOR HIM SINCE HE WAS BLIND. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE AMERICAN PAISED CHICKENS AND PIGS IN DUC CO AND THAT HE WAS ABLE TO SPEAK THE BAHNAR LANGUAGE.

4. [REDACTED] SOURCE HEARD FROM THE UNIDENTIFIED BAHNAP MAN, WHO ACCORDING TO SOURCE OFTEN GOES TO PLEIKU TO SELL SCRAP METAL, THAT THE BAHNAR VILLAGERS WANTED TO TURN THE BLIND AMERICAN OVER TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN RETURN FOR 20 TAELS OF GOLD. SOURCE STATED THAT THE BAHNAR MAN PROPOSED TO SOURCE THAT SOURCE PROVIDE

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HIM WITH A CAMERA AND CASSETTE RECORDER IN OFFER FOR THE MAN TO PHOTOGRAPH THE AMERICAN AND RECORD HIS VOICE. THE BAHNAR MAN TOLD SOURCE THAT SOURCE WOULD BE ABLE TO LOOK AT THE PHOTOGRAPH AND LISTEN TO THE RECORDING AND IF HE BELIEVED THE MAN REALLY WAS AN AMERICAN HE COULD PAY THE 20 TAELS OF GOLD AND ACCEPT CUSTODY OF THE AMERICAN. SOURCE STATED THAT HE BELIEVED THE STORY BUT COULD NOT PURSUE THE MATTER BECAUSE HE HAD NEITHER THE GOLD NOR EQUIPMENT REQUESTED BY THE BAHNAR MAN. SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ALLEGED BLIND AMERICAN. SOURCE SPECULATED THAT BECAUSE THE AMERICAN WAS BLIND, HE HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN AN AIRCRAFT CRASH. SOURCE ALSO DID NOT HEAR ABOUT ANY FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE ALLEGED BLIND AMERICAN OR ANY OTHER AMERICANS REMAINING IN VIETNAM.

5. [REDACTED] SOURCE RESIDED AT HIS POB FROM BIRTH UNTIL 1975. SOURCE ATTENDED THE THON LUONG QUAN VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FROM 1962 TO 1967 AND THE BO DE HIGH SCHOOL IN HUE CITY FROM 1967 TO 1974. SOURCE ATTENDED THE HUE UNIVERSITY OF LETTERS FROM 1974 TO DECEMBER 1975. DUE TO THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER, SOURCE WENT TO WORK IN DECEMBER 1975 AS A CIVIL SERVANT (GRADE 2 STP 7) IN A GOVERNMENT ROCK QUARRY OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILROADS LOCATED IN LOC HAI (V) PHU LOC (D) BINH-TRI-THIEN (AREA FORMERLY PART OF THUA THIEN). IN APRIL 1977 SOURCE WAS REASSIGNED AS A GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION CADRE WITH HIS OFFICE LOCATED AT #18 PHAN CHU TRINH, HUE CITY. IN EARLY 1983 SOURCE WAS AFRAID THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO BE DRAFTED AND FLED FROM HUE TO RESIDE WITH HIS AUNT, MRS. TON NU THI HOA, WHO RESIDED AT #211 HAI PA TRUNG STREET, PLEIKU CITY. IN JUNE 1984 SOURCE RETURNED TO HUE CITY WHERE HE RESIDED AT HIS WIFE'S HOUSE (LOCATED AT 5B PHU THO XUAN, CHI LANG STREET. SOURCE ESCAPED BY BOAT FROM HA TINH ON 27 JULY 1985. SOURCE'S WIFE (NGUYEN THI TRINH, DPOB 1961, HUE CITY) AND SON (NGUYEN DANG HONG, DPOB 1985, HUE CITY) ARE STILL IN VIETNAM AND RESIDING IN HUE CITY. SOURCE GAVE A POSSIBLE FORWARDING ADDRESS AS: C/O HUYNH VAN LAM, 4477 LACRESTA #1, STOCKTON, CA 95208.

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6. [REDACTED] COMMENT SOURCE ALSO PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING ALLEGED U.S. REMAINS, A DOGTAG, AND AN I.D. CARD (REFS A AND B). SOURCE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN RESETTLEMENT TO THE U.S. AND STATED THAT AFTER HE ARRIVED IN THE U.S. HE WOULD VOLUNTEER TO RETURN TO VIETNAM TO HELP THE USG LOCATE REMAINS.

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10-JAN-87 TOR: 14:50
CN: 15661
CHRG: JCRC
DIST: JCRC

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FM CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI
TO RUEHBK/JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH
INFO RUEHQQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3E//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//VO-PW//
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//
RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
RUEKJCS/JCS WASHINGTON DC//J5/OCJCS-PW-MIA//

[REDACTED]//N03450//
SUEJ: [REDACTED] (U)
NSC FDR MR. CHILDRESS

- A. JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH 150916Z APR 86
- 1. [REDACTED] NGUYEN DANG HIGH, SOURCE OF REF A, (HK86-023), PROVIDES LIMITED HEARSAY INFORMATION CONCERNING A BLIND AMERICAN WHO LIVES WITH ETNIC MINORITIES IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGION OF VIETNAM.
- 2. [REDACTED] WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS REPORTS CONCERNING A BLIND AMERICAN RESIDING IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGION, THE LIMITED INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THESE REPORTS HAS PRECLUDED CORRELATION TO ANY KNOWN U.S. PERSONNEL.

PAGE 02 RUHQSGG2678 [REDACTED]
3. (U) THIS IS A PRELIMINARY ANALYTICAL POSITION AND NOT A FINAL EVALUATION. EVAL - DWA. DECL: OADR

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