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 TO RUEKJCS / DIA WASHINGTON DC//VO-PW//
 INFO RUHQBPA / CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI
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 ET

* LIAISON BANGKOK TH 04996

CITE: [REDACTED] 3063 JAN 86

SUBJECT: JCRC REPORT T86-028, INTERVIEW OF FORMER PAVN
 SOLDIER (U)

S: A. TDFIR-314/1134/85
 P. DIA/VO-PW MSG, DTG 311443Z JUL 85, SAP
 C. DIA/VO-PW MSG, DTG 211435Z NOV 85, SAB

1. [REDACTED] REF A REPORTED INFORMATION PROVIDED BY FORMER PAVN LICH. REF B REQUESTED JCRC INTERVIEW OF SOURCE VU LICH CONCERNING (SONG BE PROVINCE). REF C REQUESTED STATUS UPDATE OF REF B.

2. [REDACTED] SOURCE: VU LICH, DPOF: AUG 61, BINH LONG TOWN, FORMER PVT PAVN RECON, CURRENTLY RESIDING IN PHANAT NIKHOM PROVINCE, I.D. #CE 100632, ARRIVED THAILAND 26 MARCH 1985.

3. [REDACTED] SOURCE WAS INTERVIEWED IN PHANAT NIKHOM CAMP ON 20 JANUARY 1986 BY JCRC REP MR. BELL AND PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

A. SOURCE STATED THAT HE HAD PASSED BY THE TONG LE CHAN RE-ED CAMP SEVERAL TIMES DURING 1982. SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE CAMP WAS LOCATED ON A HILL LOCATED [REDACTED] (XT7189)

WEST OF THE BRIDGE LOCATED VIC XT 623815. SOURCE ESTIMATED THE CENTER OF THE CAMP TO BE LOCATED VIC XT [REDACTED]. SOURCE STATED THAT THE CAMP WAS SURROUNDED BY RUBBER TREES AND CONTAINED OVER 100 HOUSES WHICH HELD APPROX 10,000 INMATES. SOURCE HEARD (COMMON RUMOR) THAT THE INMATE POPULATION CONSISTED OF FORMER ARVN MILITARY, ATTEMPTED BOAT ESCAPEES, CRIMINALS, FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS, RELIGIOUS PRISONERS, AND SOCIAL DECADENTS. SOURCE ALSO HEARD THAT THE CAMP WAS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR IN HO CHI MINH CITY. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE MAILING ADDRESS FOR INMATES WAS 'TRAI CAI TAO TONG LE CHAN, HUYEN BINH LONG, TINH SONG BE'. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE CAMP WAS DIVIDED INTO FIVE SEPARATE AREAS BUT DID NOT HEAR ABOUT THEIR DESIGNATIONS. SOURCE RECALLED AN AREA FOR CADRE WHICH CONSISTED OF APPROX 30 HOUSES AND THAT ONE LARGE HOUSE/BUILDING HAD A RADIO ANTENNA WITH A RED LIGHT ON TOP. SOURCE ESTIMATED THE HEIGHT OF THE ANTENNA AS BEING 40 TO 50 METERS. SOURCE DID NOT OBSERVE OR HEAR ABOUT ANY AMERICANS IN

1/ [REDACTED]
 TONG LE CHAN CAMP.

F. SOURCE ALSO PASSED BY ANOTHER CAMP CALLED TRAI BO LA (TRAIJ BOOSLAS) FROM 1982 TO EARLY 1985. SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE CAMP WAS LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF HIGHWAY 14 APPROX 44 KM NORTH OF THU DAU MOT IN THE AREA OF FO LA VILLAGE AKA PHU GIAO (XT 8239). SOURCE HEARD (COMMON RUMOR) THAT THE CAMP WAS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SONG BE PROVINCE PUBLIC SECURITY STATION. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE MAILING ADDRESS FOR INMATES WAS 'TRAI GIAC DUC-CAI TAO TY CONG AN SONG BE'. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE CAMP HELD APPROX 2000 INMATES BOTH MALE AND FEMALE WHO WERE CRIMINALS, RELIGIOUS PRISONERS, ATTEMPTED BOAT ESCAPEES, OR SOCIAL DECADENTS (PROSTITUTES, DRUG ADDICTS). SOURCE HEARD THAT INMATES WERE REQUIRED TO CLEAR LAND AND PLANT RUBBER TREES FOR THE SONG BE PROVINCE COMMITTEE.

C. LOCATED APPROX ONE KM NORTH OF THE BO LA CAMP WAS ANOTHER CAMP ALSO LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF HIGHWAY 14 WHICH LOCALS CALLED 'TRAI NHA DO' (TRAIJ NHA F DDOR). AT THE NHA DO CAMP SOURCE OBSERVED APPROX SIX HOUSES APPROX 100M X 50M FOR INMATES AND FOUR SMALL HOUSES FOR CADRE. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE CAMP HELD APPROX 3000 INMATES BOTH MALE AND FEMALE, WHO CAME FROM HO CHI MINH CITY. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE INMATE POPULATION CONSISTED OF ATTEMPTED BOAT ESCAPEES, CRIMINALS, RELIGIOUS PRISONERS, AND SOCIAL DECADENTS. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE CAMP WAS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR IN HO CHI MINH CITY. SOURCE HEARD THAT INMATES WERE REQUIRED TO CLEAR LAND AND PLANT RUBBER TREES FOR THE PHUOC HOA RUBBER COMPANY ([REDACTED]) (POSSIBLY NAMED FOR FHUCC HOA [REDACTED] AT 8740).

D. SOURCE ALSO RECALLED PASSING BY ANOTHER CAMP CALLED TRAI BEN TRAM (TRAIJ BEENS TRAMS) WHICH WAS LOCATED APPROX 40 KM NORTH OF THU DAU MOT AND APPROX THREE KM EAST OF HIGHWAY 14 FROM BINH DUONG TO PHUOC LONG. SOURCE HEARD (COMMON RUMOR) THAT THE CAMP HELD APPROX 500 PAVN SOLDIERS WHO HAD DESERTED FROM VARIOUS UNITS IN THE SONG BE AREA. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE CAMP WAS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE BEN TRAM BATTALION (TIEU

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DOAN BEN TRAM) OF [REDACTED] PROVINCIAL FORCES (TINH DOI SONG PE). SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE PPN TRAM EN WAS COMMANDED BY PAVN SR CPT (DAI UY) BA (3) TIEN (TIENF) AND THAT THE DEPUTY WAS PAVN CPT (THUONG UY) UT LUM (UTS LUMF). SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE CAMP HAD APPROX 20 HOUSES FOR INMATES AND SIX HOUSES FOR CADRE. SOURCE HEARD THAT INMATES WORKED FARMING RICE CP WERE DETAILED TO WORK FOR THE PHUOC HOA RUBBER COMPANY PLANTING RUBBER TREES.

4. [REDACTED] ALTHOUGH SOURCE DID NOT OBSERVE ANY AMERICANS, EURASIANS, OR AMERASIANS IN ANY OF THE ABOVE CAMPS, HE WAS AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF ONE EURASIAN WHOM SOURCE ESTIMATED TO BE 95 PERCENT CAUCASIAN IN APPEARANCE. SOURCE RECALLED HAVING PERIODICALLY OBSERVED THE MAN SINCE SOURCE WAS A SMALL CHILD AND STATED THAT THE MAN LIVED IN A TYPICAL VIETNAMESE HOUSE WHICH WAS LOCATED APPROX 100M FROM SOURCE'S HOUSE IN HAMLET 2 (AP 2) XA GIA RAI AN VILLAGE (ACCORDING TO SOURCE THIS IS THE AREA COVERED BY AN THANH VILLAGE ON MAP VIC XT 9990). SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE MAN WAS CALLED ME (LNU). THE MAN HAD A YOUNGER SISTER (COULDN'T RECALL NAME) WHO LOOKED TO BE 100 PERCENT CAUCASIAN ACCORDING TO SOURCE. SOURCE HEARD THAT THE MAN CALLED "ME" HAD A FRENCH FATHER AND A VIETNAMESE MOTHER. SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE MAN WAS MARRIED TO A VIETNAMESE WOMAN WHO WAS PARTIALLY PARALYZED DUE TO BIRTH COMPLICATIONS. THE MAN HAD FOUR OF FIVE CHILDREN, OBVIOUSLY METIS IN APPEARANCE, WHO RANGED IN AGES OF ONE TO 10 YEARS.

5. SOURCE STATED THAT "ME", ALONG WITH SOURCE AND OTHER VILLAGERS OF THANH AN, HAD BEEN EVACUATED DURING THE 1972 BATTLE OF BINH LONG. THE VILLAGERS INCLUDING ME RESIDED TEMPORARILY IN PINH DUONG UNTIL SOMETIME DURING 1973 WHEN A CATHOLIC PRIEST ARRANGED FOR THEM TO BE RESETTLED IN AP TAN HOI HAMLET, XA GIA RAI VILLAGE (NOW CALLED XUAN THANH VILLAGE) XUAN LOC DISTRICT, DONG NAI PROVINCE. SOURCE CONTINUED TO PERIODICALLY OBSERVE "ME" IN GIA RAI VILLAGE UNTIL SOMETIME DURING 1978 WHEN SOURCE WENT TO SAIGON FOR WORKING AS A SHIP WELDER. IN 1979 SOURCE'S FAMILY, AND THE OTHER VILLAGERS WERE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THANH AN VILLAGE TO RESETTLE THERE AND TO WORK IN THE RUBBER PLANTATION. SOURCE RETURNED TO THANH AN IN 1982 AND OBSERVED THAT ME WAS STILL RESIDING THERE. SOURCE HEARD FROM LOCAL VILLAGERS THAT ME HAD FOUND THE WRECKAGE OF AN AIRCRAFT SOMEWHERE IN THE AREA (DIDN'T HEAR SPECIFIC LOCATION OR TYPE OF AIRCRAFT) AND THAT HE HAD RECOVERED SOME BODIES FROM THE AIRCRAFT. SOURCE ALSO HEARD THAT ME HAD BEEN ARRESTED SOMETIME DURING 1983 AND THAT HE HAD BEEN DETAINED FOR A BRIEF PERIOD (NOT ABLE TO RECALL LENGTH OF DETENTION BUT THOUGHT THAT IT WAS SEVERAL DAYS) IN THE BINH LONG DISTRICT JAIL WHICH WAS LOCATED WEST OF THE ROAD WHICH WENT FROM PINH PHU VILLAGE (XT 7189) TO PHU LO VILLAGE (XT 6990). SOURCE DID NOT HEAR ABOUT ME BEING DETAINED OR IMPRISONED IN GIA RAI XUAN LOC OR ANY OTHER LOCATION. SOURCE HEARD

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THAT ME HAD BEEN IN THE MILITARY SERVICE BUT WAS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE MORE DETAILS. SOURCE DESCRIBED ME AS BEING ABOUT 95 PERCENT CAUCASIAN, 1.8-1.85 METERS TALL, SLIM BUILD, BLONDE MUSTACHE ON UPPER LIP WITH STUBBLE FEARD OF HIS FACE AND CHIN, HIGH NOSE, FLONDE OR LIGHT BROWN MEDIUM LENGTH HAIR AND LIGHT BROWN EYES. SOURCE STATED THAT ME WORE NORMAL VIETNAMESE CIVILIAN CLOTHING AND WAS APPROX 35-36 YEARS OLD. SOURCE RECALLED THAT ME WORKED AS A FARMER AND HANDYMAN. SOURCE HEARD THAT ME HAD APPLIED FOR THE ORDERLY DEPARTURE PROGRAM (ODP) BUT DID NOT HEAR TO WHICH COUNTRY ME INTENDED TO RESETTLE. SOURCE HEARD THAT ME'S SISTER WHO LOOKED LIKE A CAUCASIAN HAD MARRIED AND MOVED TO RESIDE WITH HER HUSBAND IN TAY NINH PROVINCE SOMETIME DURING 1979. SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE HALE FRENCHMAN [REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED] CONCERNING OTHER CAUCASIANS IN THE SONG BE AREA, SOURCE STATED THAT FROM 1983 TO 1985 HE HAD OBSERVED PERIODICALLY MILITARY COMMAND CAR VEHICLES WITH CAUCASIAN PASSENGERS IN THE AREA OF THE PAVN 7TH DIV HQ LOCATED APPROX FIVE KM FROM SONG BE TOWN. SOURCE RECALLED HAVING SEEN CAUCASIANS AT LEAST THREE TIMES AND ESTIMATED THAT THE VEHICLES CARRIED THREE OR FOUR CAUCASIAN PASSENGERS WITH A VIETNAMESE DRIVER. SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE CAUCASIANS WERE ALL MALES AND WORE ONLY CIVILIAN TYPE

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CLOTHING. SOURCE SPECULATED THAT THE MEN WERE SOVIET MILITARY ADVISORS BASED ON THEIR APPEARANCE SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE VEHICLES WERE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO OR THREE PAVN ESCORT VEHICLES.

7. (C) SOURCE STATED THAT FROM 1982 TO 1985 HE ALSO PERIODICALLY OBSERVED CAUCASIANS IN THE BINH LONG RUBBER PLANTATION (XT 7989). SOURCE RECALLED THAT WHEN THE DIRECTOR OF THE RUBBER PLANTATION MR DAT (LNU) DIED DURING 1982 OR 1983 (NOT SURE OF YEAR) HE OBSERVED APPROX 20 CAUCASIANS WHO ATTENDED THE FUNERAL HELD IN QUAN LOI (XT 8290). SOURCE HEARD FROM LOCAL VILLAGERS THAT THE CAUCASIANS WERE RUBBER SPECIALISTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION, EAST GERMANY, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

8. SOURCE STATED THAT DURING 1982 AND 1983 HE WENT ON THREE OCCASIONS TO BUY OIL FROM A POL OUTLET IN [REDACTED] VILLAGE (YT 0397). SOURCE STATED THAT ON ONE OCCASION HE SAW APPROX FIVE OR SIX CAUCASIANS NEAR THE OFFICE OF A RUBBER PLANTATION LOCATED THERE CALLED "NGUNG TRUONG VIET-XO". SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE CAUCASIANS WORE NORMAL CIVILIAN CLOTHING AND HE DID NOT OBSERVE ANY MILITARY UNIFORMS. SOURCE HEARD FROM LOCAL VILLAGERS THAT THE CAUCASIANS WERE SOVIET SPECIALISTS. ON ONE OCCASION SOURCE OBSERVED THE CAUCASIANS USING INSTRUMENTS MOUNTED ON TRIPODS WHILE SURVEYING THE AREA. SOURCE HEARD FROM LOCALS THAT THE MEN WERE SURVEYING THE AREA TO CONSTRUCT A DAM FOR A RESERVOIR TO BE USED FOR WATER IN THE RUBBER PLANTATION THERE. SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING FOREIGNERS OR CAUCASIANS.

9. JCRC LNO COMMENT: LNO RESIDED FOR A YEAR DURING THE 1969-1970 TIMEFRAME IN AN LOC TOWN (XT 7688). AT THAT TIME THERE WAS A YOUNG VIETNAMESE MAN (ABOUT 20-22 YEARS OLD) WHO WORKED FOR THE BINH LONG PROVINCE INFORMATION SERVICE AS A CADREMAN. THIS MAN HAD WHITE SKIN, VERY LIGHT COLORED EYES, AND BLOND (ALMOST WHITE) HAIR. LNO SEEMS TO RECALL THAT THE MAN'S FEATURES WERE NOT EUROPEAN OR WESTERN, BUT WERE MORE VIETNAMESE. LNO HAD THE IMPRESSION THE MAN WAS ALBINO, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF HIS VERY WHITE (SLIGHTLY PINKISH) SKIN. LNO DOES NOT RECALL ANYONE SAYING THE MAN WAS OF MIXED PARENTAGE. IN 1969-70 THE MAN WAS NOT MARRIED. LNO IS NOT AWARE OF ANY SIBLINGS OF THIS MAN. LNO DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS CADREMAN COULD BE THE "ME" DESCRIBED ABOVE, BUT OFFERS THIS INFO FOR WHATEVER IT MAY BE WORTH.

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