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 Authority NND 967002
 By MC NARA Date 8/1

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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2. SUBJECT: (U) Operations of the Propaganda Subsection, Military Proselyting Section, QUANG DA Special Zone	9. DATE OF REPORT: 27 Oct 70
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7. SOURCE: PW Interrogation	14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: W. H. BEARDSLEY LTC, USA Dir, US Elm, CMIC

15. SUMMARY: (Leave Blank)

(C) This report contains information on the Propaganda Subsection, Military Proselyting Section, QUANG DA Special Zone, to include personnel and missions, propaganda themes, and means of dissemination of propaganda.

1. (C) Background Information:

- a. Name: DANG NGOC TOA (DEANGV, NGOCV TOAL), aka LAM (LAAM), CMIC 2891-70
- b. Rank: LTC (The ARVN Element, CMIC, considers Source to be a Major)
- c. VC/NVA Position and Unit of Assignment: Staff Officer; Combat Staff, QUANG DA Special Zone
- d. DPOB: 1928; HUONG LAM Hamlet, HOA LUONG Village, HIEU DUC District, QUANG NAM Province, RVN

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e. Parents' Names: Father, DANG VAN PHO (DEANGV, VEAN FOL), living; Mother, NGUYEN THI TAN (NGUYEENX, THIV TAAN), living

f. Circumstances of Capture. In Dec 69, while Source was assigned to the QUANG DA Special Zone, he heard from his cousin that his father was sick, and he went to visit him at HOA LUONG Village, HIEU DUC District, QUANG NAM Province, RVN. On 13 Jan 70, US/ARVN forces surrounded Source's house and captured him. Source had in his possession one .45 cal pistol (Colt-US).

g. Significant Activities:

(1) Aug 45 to Oct 67. In Aug 45, Source joined the VIET MINH to fight the French forces in BAN ME THUOT District, DANLAC Province, RVN. In 1954, he regrouped to NVN and was assigned as battalion XO of the cadre group located in DAI TU District, THAI NGUYEN Province, NVN. In Oct 54, Source joined the 108th Regt, 96th Regt, and the 210th Regt, which formed the 305th Div, located in THANH HOA Province, NVN. In Sep 57, Source was assigned as the commander of the 343d Bn, 305th Div, located in THANH BA District, PHU THO Province, NVN. In Nov 58, Source was promoted to major. In Feb 59, he was transferred to the THAI NGUYEN Cast Iron Factory, located in THAI NGUYEN Province, NVN. In Sep 59, Source was transferred to the University of HANOI, where he studied medicine. In Apr 61, Source submitted a request to attend the Economics University of HANOI, located in HANOI City. In Jun 64, Source received the Economic University Certificate and was assigned as an assistant in the Import and Export Plans Department for Technical Material. In Dec 67, the Ministry of National Defense recalled Source into the Army, and he was assigned to the cadre group of the Joint General Staff, located in HANOI City.

(2) Oct 67 to DOC. In mid-Oct 67, the cadre group, consisting of 30 men, was redesignated the 20th Infil Gp and began its infiltration from HANOI City, arriving in the RVN, on the border of QUANG NAM and QUANG NGAI Provinces, in Dec 67. Source was then assigned to the Military Proselyting Section, MR-5, as executive officer, Propaganda Subsection. Ten days later, Source received orders assigning him to the High Command, QUANG DA Special Zone, located in DIEN BAN District, QUANG NAM Province, RVN. On the fourth day of Tet 68, Source was assigned to the Headquarters of the 2d Regt, Main Force, MR-5, as an advisor to the regimental commander. In early Apr 68, Source received orders assigning him to the Military Proselyting Section, QUANG DA Special Zone, near the GO NOI Area, QUANG NAM Province, RVN. In Nov 69, Source was promoted to lieutenant colonel and was assigned to the High Command, QUANG DA Special Zone, remaining with that unit until his capture.

h. Additional References: CMIC PW/Rallier Exploitation Guide; IR 6 029 0259 70

2. (C) Proselyting Operations of the Propaganda Subsection, Military Proselyting Section.

a. Location. The Propaganda Subsection was mobile, changing location every seven to 10 days. The subsection moved around in the jungle of THUA THIEN Province, RVN (NFI).

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b. Organization of the Propaganda Subsection. The subsection had eight members. Source was the only member who wrote propaganda. Two men translated the material, one into Korean and the other into English. The remaining five members printed the propaganda in leaflet form.

c. Personalities. Source was the Chief of the Propaganda Subsection. He recalled the following personalities in the subsection:

PHAM CHINH (FAMV, CHINHS); VC, age 40, 1.60m, 50kg, light complexion, English language translator

Sr LT NGUYEN VAN HOAT (NGUYEENX, VEAN HOATV); NVA, age 30, 1.60m, 55kg, light complexion, Korean language translator

NGUYEN LAM (NGUYEENX, LAAMS); VC, worked with the printing and reproduction machines

PHAN TRONG (FAN, TRONGV); VC, worked with the printing and reproduction machines

NGUYEN LUC (NGUYEENX, LUCV); VC, worked with the printing and reproduction machines

TRAN THUONG (TRAANL, THUOWNG); VC, worked with the printing and reproduction machines

LE THI MINH (LEE, THIV MINH); VC, worked as a paper cutter

d. Mission and Method of Operation. The mission of the Propaganda Subsection was to print leaflets with messages directed at US/ARVN and Korean soldiers. The subsection had one portable printing machine (Chicom) and one portable copying machine (West German) with which to print. Propaganda was printed during a 15-day period. During that period, 10,000 Korean language leaflets, 100,000 Vietnamese language leaflets, and 100,000 English language leaflets were printed. In addition to writing propaganda, Source also traveled to various districts and villages to gather current news. This news, together with the three basic propaganda themes (para e) was incorporated in the leaflets. Source went on such missions once every two or three months, remaining in one village for four or five days. If any of the news was of extreme propaganda value, Source sent it immediately to the nearest village, district, or province level Printing Section, to be printed in the form of a newsletter or bulletin. This information was sent by commo-liaison runners. Prior to some of Source's missions to villages or districts, he received information from the Military Proselyting Section of activity which would be effective propaganda; at other times, he embarked without any special news to investigate.

e. Propaganda Themes. The principal themes for propaganda were received approximately once every month from the Chief of the Military Proselyting Section by liaison runners. Subsequent current themes were added by Source.

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(1) ARVN Propaganda Themes. The following themes were used in propagandizing ARVN: request the support of ARVN and their families in combating the pacification program in hamlets and villages; persuade the ARVN to stop firing and cease their destruction of the property and lives of Vietnamese people; persuade the Vietnamese people to demonstrate against the war and demand peace; all demonstrations would be VC-supported.

(2) US Propaganda Themes. The following themes were contained in propaganda leaflets directed at American soldiers: the soldiers should refuse to continue their mission; they should request that the US government allow them to return home to their families; they should stop firing and cease their destruction of Vietnamese homes and lives. Propaganda themes directed toward Korean soldiers were the same as those directed toward US troops.

f. Dissemination of Propaganda. Once the leaflets were printed, they were carried to various districts and villages by liaison personnel. When an Allied (ARVN, US, Korean) operation was expected in one or more villages, the leaflets were left in the predicted path of the unit's movement. Another means of dissemination was employed if an Allied base camp was in an area which afforded close observation by VC/NVA. A number of leaflets were thrown into the base camp from a close distance (sic).

g. Effectiveness of Mission. Source did not know the extent of success of the Propaganda Subsection's mission. He said that the effectiveness of the leaflets was difficult to determine because the subsection never received any information on the results of the leaflets.

h. Morale and Weapons. Source believed that the morale of the Propaganda Subsection was high, though it was constantly bothered by US/ARVN operations. The members were, at times, required to abandon the subsection for as long as one month. The subsection was non-combatant in nature; Source was the only member who carried a weapon.

(C) COMMENTS: Source was cooperative throughout the interrogation, but his sincerity was questionable. Source was at one time given HQT CHANH status, but subsequently lost the privilege without explanation. Source was administered the Cross-Cultural IQ Test and scored average (22).

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