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 Authority NND 967002
 By MC NARA Date 8/1

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROL MARKINGS

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|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. COUNTRY: VN; VS, I CTZ, QUANG TIN and QUANG DA Provinces | 8. REPORT NUMBER: 6 029 0183 70 |
| 2. SUBJECT: (U) US and Allied PW Sighting | 9. DATE OF REPORT: 20 Feb 70 |
| 3. ISC NUMBER: 723.600 723.610 | 10. NO. OF PAGES: 8 |
| 4. DATE OF INFORMATION: Mar 68, Nov 68, Mar 69 | 11. REFERENCES: DIRM: 663 SICR: D-7CX-20000 |
| 5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: CMIC, SAIGON, VS 6 Feb 70 | 12. ORIGINATOR: US Element, CMIC, USMACV |
| 6. EVALUATION: SOURCE <u>F</u> INFORMATION <u>6</u> | 13. PREPARED BY: JOSEPH N. DONNA SP4, USA |
| 7. SOURCE: PW Interrogation | 14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: <u>W.H. Beardsley</u> W. H. BEARDSLEY LTC, USA Dir, US Elm, CMIC |

18. SUMMARY: (C) This report contains information concerning the sighting of five US PWs, to include date and approx location of sighting, information on guards, and a description of the PWs. This report also contains limited information concerning the sighting of five civilian PWs, to include date and place of sighting, date and place of capture, and general information concerning the PWs. Contained herein is limited information concerning the sighting of two persons reported to be US ralliers, to include date and location of sighting and a description of the US personnel. THIS IS A BRIGHT LIGHT REPORT. MACV FOR JPRG.

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1. (C) Background Information:

- a. Name: NGUYEN VAN THANH (NGUYEENX, VEAN THANH), CMIC No 2868
- b. Rank: OPL
- c. Position and Unit of Assignment: Sqd Ldr; 4th Sqd, 1st Co, 26th Signal Bn, 44th Front, MR-5
- d. DPOB: 15 Jul 48; DANH HA VIL, BINH LUC Dist, NAM HA Prov, NVN

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18. ATTACHMENT DATA:

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e. Parents' Names: Father, NGUYEN VAN GAM (NGUYEENX, VEAN CAAMR), living; Mother, NGUYEN THI THANH (NGUYEENX, THIV THANH), living

f. Circumstances of Capture. Source was captured on 17 Nov 69, by ARVN forces in Ham No 1, BINH HOA Vil, THANG BINH Dist, QUANG TIN Prov, RVN. Source was returning to his unit after delivering a 15-watt 102E (Chicom) radio to the THANG BINH Prov Unit. Source had no weapons or documents in his possession at the time of capture. No others were captured with source.

g. Significant Activities. Source attended school at his POB from 1955 to 1963, and worked as an accountant for the NAM HA Prov Food Company until he was drafted into the NVA on 12 Aug 67. Source was assigned as a runner for the 358th Bn HQ, which was subordinate to the NAM HA Prov Unit, and was located in LE HO Vil, KIM BANG Dist, NAM HA Prov, NVN. From Aug 67 to Feb 68, the 358th Bn received basic infantry and infiltration training. On 9 Feb 68, the 358th Bn was redesignated the 1003d Infil Gp and began infiltration to the RVN. Upon completion of infiltration, source was assigned to the 4th Sqd, 1st Co, 26th Signal Bn, 44th Front, MR-5, where he remained until his capture on 17 Nov 69. For additional information concerning source's significant activities, see CMIC IR No 6 029 0130 70.

h. Additional References: CMIC Exploitation Guide

2. (C) 1st PW Sighting:

a. Circumstances/Date of Sighting. During infiltration, on 19 or 20 Mar 68, source saw a group of five US PWs who were being escorted north. Approx 15 minutes after the sighting, source's infiltration group crossed the QUANG BINH Prov, NVN/Cambodian Border (exact location of sighting unk). Neither of the two groups stopped marching.

b. Guards. The five PWs were guarded by three guards who were armed with AK-47s. One guard walked one meter to the front of the first PW, while the remaining two guards walked approx two meters to the rear of the last PW. There was an interval of one meter between each PW. Source talked to one of the guards, who was NVA, and source assumed the other two guards were also NVA.

c. Circumstances of Capture. One of the guards told source that the group had come from KHE SANH; source did not know if this had been the place of capture. Source was unable to obtain any other information concerning the PWs.

d. Clothing. Four of the PWs wore green jungle fatigues with no headgear, while one of the PWs wore camouflaged jungle fatigues with no headgear. Source did not notice what type of footwear the PWs were wearing. All patches and rank insignia had been removed from the uniforms. Source noticed the US Army insignia on the uniform of one of the PWs. The uniforms were dirty but showed no signs of excessive wear.

e. Treatment of PWs. The PWs did not appear to have been mistreated; they were not tied or blindfolded.

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f. Description of the PWs:

(1) PW No 1. PW No 1 appeared to be in good physical condition, but appeared despondent. He wore camouflage fatigues. Source was able to provide the following description:

Height: 1.75 meters

Weight: 80 kilograms

Color of Hair: Black

Color of Eyes: Unk

Race: Negro

Complexion: Dark

Nose: Medium length, broad

Scars: None noticed

Tattoos: None noticed

Birthmarks: None noticed

Build: Heavy

Age: 24 to 25

Glasses Worn: None

Rings/Watches: Plain copper-colored ring worn on right ring finger, no watch

(2) PW No 2. This PW had a wound in the left forearm which had been bandaged and supported by a sling. The bandage appeared to be clean and new, without bloodstains. The PW appeared to be tired and despondent. Source provided the following physical description:

Height: 1.90 meters

Weight: 100 kilograms

Color of Hair: Unk

Color of Eyes: Unk

Race: Caucasian

Complexion: Fair

Scars: None noticed

Tattoos: None noticed

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Birthmarks: None noticed

Build: Medium

Age: 30

Glasses Worn: None

Rings/Watches: None

(3) PW No 3. This PW appeared to be in good physical condition. He had a US Army tag on his uniform. Source provided the following description:

Height: 1.70 meters

Weight: 90 kilograms

Color of Hair: Unk

Color of Eyes: Brown

Race: Caucasian

Complexion: Ruddy

Nose: Medium length, straight

Scars: None noticed

Tattoos: Blue-colored rose approx (12cm x 6cm) on right forearm

Birthmarks: None noticed

Build: Very fat

Age: 30

Glasses Worn: None

Rings/Watches: None

(4) PW No 4. This PW appeared to be in good physical condition. Source provided the following description:

Height: 1.85 meters

Weight: 80 kilograms

Color of Hair: Unk

Color of Eyes: Unk

Race: Caucasian

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Complexion: Very light

Nose: Short, turned-up

Scars: None noticed

Tattoos: None noticed

Birthmarks: None noticed

Build: Medium

Age: 24 to 25

Glasses Worn: None

Rings/Watches: No rings, watch, with black face and silver numbers, worn on left arm

(5) PW No 5. This PW appeared to be very sad but in good physical condition. Source was able to provide the following physical description:

Height: 1.80 meters

Weight: 90 kilograms

Color of Hair: Unk

Color of Eyes: Unk

Race: Caucasian

Complexion: Ruddy

Nose: Long, pointed

Scars: None noticed

Tattoos: None noticed

Birthmarks: None noticed

Build: Heavy (had round, double chin)

Age: 25

Glasses worn: None

Rings/Watches: None

(Interrogator's Note: Source was not able to identify any of the PWs from the US PW Photo Album.)

3. (C) 2d PW Sighting:

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a. Date/Place of Sighting: In late Mar 69 (exact date unk), source was traveling to his company, located with the 44th Front HQ in KHUONG BINH Vil, QUE SON Dist, QUANG TIN Prov, RVN, when he passed through SON PHUC Vil, QUE SON Dist. There, he noticed two VC guards standing outside of a building. Source was told by one of the guards that they were holding five PWs inside the building. Source was only able to catch a short glimpse of one of the PWs, a female, through the doorway of the building.

b. Date/Place of Capture. Source was told by one of the guards that the five PWs (four males and one female) were captured in late Mar 69 (exact date unk) in SON KHUONG Vil, QUE SON Dist, by the VC unit of that village (eize of capture force unk). The PWs were swimming in a stream at the time of capture. The PWs had an unknown type vehicle which was not captured by the VC.

c. General Information Concerning PWs. The only information source could provide concerning description was that the female PW had short hair (color unk). Source was unable to see the male PWs. Source was told by one of the guards that some of the PWs were Australian, but source did not how many were Australian, nor did he know the nationality of the others. All of the PWs were civilian medical personnel (hearsay). The female was a Red Cross worker (hearsay). Source also heard that the PWs would be taken to the 44th Front HQ, and then, to MR-5 HQ (hearsay). Source was unable to provide any information concerning the treatment of the PWs.

d. Guards. There were two guards, outside the building, who were each armed with an M-16. Source also saw one guard, standing inside the doorway of the building, who was armed with an AK-47. Source was told there were two guards inside the building.

4. (C) US Rallier Sighting:

a. Date/Location of Sighting. In Oct or Nov 68, source was on a rice-procurement mission in PHU THUAN Market, DAI LOG Dist, QUANG DA Prov, RVN, when he saw two US ralliers. The US personnel were walking approx 200 meters ahead of three NVA soldiers. The US personnel were unarmed but were carrying empty ruck sacks. One of the NVA soldiers (unit unk) was armed with an AK-47. The only information that source gained from the NVA soldiers was that the US personnel had surrendered (date and place unk) and were working as rice porters (hearsay).

b. Description. The two US personnel wore old US jungle fatigues and jungle boots and had no headgear. All tags, insignia, and patches had been removed from their uniforms. Source was able to provide the following descriptions:

(1) 1st Person:

Height: 1.86 meters

Weight: 95 kilograms

Color of Hair: Unk

Color of Eyes: Unk

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Race: Caucasian

Complexion: Ruddy

Scars: None noticed

Tattoos: None noticed

Birthmarks: None noticed

Build: Medium

Age: 30

Glasses worn: None

Rings/Watches: None

(2) 2d Person:

Height: 1.85 meters

Weight: 85 kilograms

Color of Hair: Unk

Color of Eyes: Unk

Race: Caucasian

Complexion: Fair

Nose: Short, flat

Scars: None noticed

Tattoos: None noticed

Birthmarks: Dark spot, approx the size of a quarter, between the eye and ear, on left side of face

Build: Medium

Age: 25

Glasses worn: None

Rings/Watches: None

(Interrogator's Note: Source was unable to identify either alleged rallier from the US PW Photo Album.)

c. Miscellaneous. Source had heard of numerous instances of US personnel rallying to the VC/NVA. Source heard that, on one occasion, an entire squad of US Marines had rallied (date, location unk). The

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villages of HOA VANG Dist, QUANG DA Prov, RVN, were considered to be safe rally points for US personnel. A majority of the instances occurred after the Tet 68 Offensive, and after the May 68 Offensive. US ralliers are allegedly not forced to work or participate in any combat activities. They are also allegedly allowed to go to NVN and, eventually, to FRANCE (hearsay).

(C) COMMENTS: Source appeared to be of above average intelligence and frequently volunteered information. This report partially satisfies the requirements of SICR D-7CX-20000. Collection action continues.

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