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Authority NND 967002By WC NARA Date 8/1

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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1. COUNTRY: VS, III CTZ, BINH DUONG Prov 8. REPORT NUMBER: 6 029 0647 70
 2. SUBJECT: (U) US Defector in BINH DUONG Prov, RVN 9. DATE OF REPORT: 23 Jun 70
 3. ISC NUMBER: 720.250 10. NO. OF PAGES: 5
 11. REFERENCES: DIRM: 198 BRIGHT LIGHT
 4. DATE OF INFORMATION: Jul 67 12. ORIGINATOR: US Element, CMIC, USMACV
 5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: CMIC, SAIGON, VS 13. PREPARED BY: CLAUDE R. BRODEUR
 17 Jun 70 SP6, USA
 6. EVALUATION: SOURCE P INFORMATION 6 14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: W. H. BEARDSLEY
 7. SOURCE: PW Interrogation LTC, USA
 Dir, US Elm, CMIC

15. SUMMARY:

(C) This report contains information concerning the defection of an American from his unit in BINH DUONG Prov, RVN, to include his place of surrender, the circumstances of his surrender, identification, physical condition, and disposition. THIS IS A BRIGHT LIGHT REPORT. MACV FOR JPRC.

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1. (C) Background Information:

- a. Name: HUYNH TAN THUY (HUYNHL, TAANX THUYV), aka BA THUY (BA, THUYV), CMIC 3003-70
 b. Rank: CPT
 c. Position and Unit of Assignment: Member; Combat Training Sect, Military Staff Office, SR-1
 d. DPOB: Dec 23; TAN THOI Vil, LAI THIEU Dist, BINH DUONG Prov, RVN

16. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:

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18. ATTACHMENT DATA:

None

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1 SEP 63

REPLACES DA FORM 1042, 1 AUG 60,
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JUL 2-1970

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e. Parents' Names: Father, HUYNH VAN CHI (HUYNH, VEAN CHIL), deceased; Mother, NGUYEN THI LOI (NGUYEN, THIV LOWIV), living

f. Circumstances of Capture. Source was captured at 1500 hours on 8 Apr 70, by ARVN Forces during a sweep operation near CU CHI Town, CU CHI Dist, HAU NGHIA Prov, RVN, while traveling on an inspection tour of Northern CU CHI Dist.

g. Significant Activities:

(1) 1923 to 1961. Source was born in Dec 23 at TAN THOI VIL, LAI THIEU Dist, BINH DUONG Prov, RVN. He lived with his parents and helped them farm until he reached the age of 13, at which age he began farming for a landowner in his village. He joined the VIET MINH in 1945. In Dec 54, he regrouped to NVN.

(2) 1961 to 1968. In Apr 61, source began infiltrating to the RVN with the PHONG DONG Infil Gp, which consisted only of regroupee cadre. They arrived at their final destination in the BAU CHUNG RA Area, BIEN HOA Prov, RVN, in Jul 61. Source was immediately assigned to the Combat Operations Office, Military Staff Div, R, in the BAU CO Area, TAY NINH Prov, RVN. He remained there as an advisor until 1964, at which time he was assigned to advise the newly formed 9th NVA Div. In Apr 65, he was promoted and assigned as the Bn CO, 2d Bn, SR-1. From 1965 to 1967, source's unit conducted an estimated 1,000 combat operations against the 25th US Div, 1st US Div, and 5th ARVN Div.

(3) 1968 to 1970. In Jan 68, the 2d Bn, SR-1 was ordered to attack the ARVN JGS HQ in GO VAP Dist, GIA DINH Prov, RVN, with only one or two days' notice. Source refused to take part in this operation, since there was no guide to take his unit to GIA DINH Province, and because he felt the whole operation was too hazardous. MR-4 removed source from his command position and transferred him to the Military Staff Sect, MR-4, where he was ostracized by his comrades. In Apr 68, source was assigned as Asst Chief of Staff for the HOC MON Dist Unit, GIA DINH Prov, RVN. That action made source very angry, since the assignment constituted a demotion. He refused to do anything in this position and was brought back to the Military Staff Sect, MR-4, where he was criticized for not carrying out his mission. He refused to perform any duties at MR-4; however, in Apr 69, he was assigned to the Combat Training Sect, SR-1. This transfer was the result of his being vindicated for his decision in refusing to attack HQ JGS, in Jan 68. The facts showed that the 2d Bn, when it finally did attack HQ JGS, had lost 600 of its 700 men. In Oct 69, source was assigned as Chief of the H-11 Sapper Sect, SR-1; however, when the H-11 Sapper Sect was disbanded in Dec 69, he was reassigned to the Combat Training Sect, SR-1. Source remained with the Combat Training Sect, SR-1, until his capture by an ARVN force on 8 Apr 70.

h. Additional References: CMIC Exploitation Guide; US PW Photo Album; Map: VIETNAM, AMS Series L7014, Sheet No 6330 IV, dtd 1965, Scale 1:50,000

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2. (C). US Defector in BINH DUONG Prov, RVN:

a. Circumstances of Sighting. While source was the CO, 2d Bn, SR-1, he gave refuge to an American defector. Source's unit was located in Ham No 1 (vic XT803125), BINH MY VII, HOC MON Dist (sic), BINH DUONG Prov, RVN.

b. Description of Defector:

(1). Identification:

(a) Name: Unknown

(b) Rank and Branch of Service: CPL or SGT; USMC

(c) Nationality: US

(d) Physical Description:

1 Height: 1.78 meters tall2 Weight: Approx 70kg or heavier3 Color of Hair and Eyes: Blond; blue4 Race: Caucasian5 Complexion: Light6 Hair: Straight and short7 Nose: Straight and high8 Scars: None9 Tattoos: None10 Birthmarks: None visible11 Build: Medium12 Age: 23 or 2413 Glasses: None14 Rings: None15 Wristwatch: Black face, luminous dial, waterproof

(2) Clothing Worn by Defector. When source saw the American defector, the latter was wearing jungle fatigues, soft cap, and leather boots. Laces for the boots had been replaced by zippers. Source did not see any rank insignia on the defector's uniform, but identified his combat patch as being the one worn by the 3d US Marine

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Div. This patch was triangular in shape, had a red background, and had a star in the center.

(3) Physical Condition. Source believed that the defector was in good health, had suffered no injuries, and needed no medical assistance from unit medics.

(4) Personal Information. Source could provide no information concerning the defector's background, since his interpreter only had a limited knowledge of the English language. Since the prisoner had to be processed as quickly as possible, only a limited interrogation could be conducted. This provided source with information concerning the defector's past activities.

(5) Capture Data. In Jul 67, four American soldiers escaped from their base camp and attempted to reach VC/NVA forces in HOC MON Dist, BINH DUONG Prov (sic), RVN, with the desire to join and fight for the VC cause. As related to source by the defector, the defector's unit commander had been aware of the desire on the part of these four Americans to desert, because of the mistreatment they were receiving in that unit. The four Americans traveled from their base camp to the SAIGON River, where two of them were apprehended by an O-1A Helicopter (VC name) equipped with loudspeakers that broadcasted in English. These two men did not offer any resistance at their time of capture by the American unit. The two other Americans involved in the defection had crossed the SAIGON River by this time. When they had completed the crossing, they became separated, one wandering into an unknown part of the jungle and the other arriving at source's unit location. The defector that went to the jungle became lost and was picked up by another O-1A Helicopter (VC name) from the same unit that had apprehended the defectors who were not able to cross the river. These helicopters had a red star on the side of their ship and three white stripes on the bottom of their fuselages. When the defector who successfully completed desertion arrived at source's unit, he entered the hamlet with his R-15 rifle (VC name) held over his head, and surrendered himself to source. Source accepted the defector's weapon and, after a preliminary interrogation, gave the defector bread and some VC canned rations. The defector remained at source's unit location from 1730 to 2000 hours on the day he defected and was then evacuated to the PW Camp operated by R. The treatment given to this rallier was good because he had willingly joined forces with the VC. Source added that even when a US PW is captured, he is given preferential treatment because the VC know that for an American to survive in such a situation, he requires more food and comfort than would an ARVN PW. An attempt is always made by the VC to secure bread, cakes, lemonade, and hammocks for US PWs.

c. Evacuation Procedures. After the preliminary interrogation of the defector, they evacuated him to the PW camp of R by means of a sampan. The defector was escorted to the PW camp of R by two cadre from the 2d Bn, 3B-1, and an operator for the sampan. The defector was not bound or mistreated in any way. Source could not provide the location of the PW camp which belonged to R because he had never been there, but he assumed that it was located somewhere in TAY NINH Prov, RVN. Source did not believe that the defector would be imprisoned

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with other US PWs, but that he would be kept segregated and exploited at COSVN level. Source also believed that this defector would obtain an early release from COSVN and would be returned to US authorities in the RVN. Then, upon his return to the United States, he could spread propaganda by relating the excellent treatment that he had received while he had been a prisoner of the VC/NVA. This propaganda would be spread by the defector's family, friends, peace groups, and the news media in the United States. Source added that COSVN delighted in the exploitation of the freedom of speech found in the United States and believed this to be an excellent means of disseminating its propaganda to US families having sons who were PWs in NVN or in the RVN.

d. Photo Identification. Source selected photo number 37 in the US Photo Album. Photo No 37 identifies USMC member SCHRECKENGOST, FRED T.

(C) COMMENTS: Other reports based on interrogations of this source check out with information already available at the CMIC, and the interrogator feels source was telling the truth during this interrogation. Source was administered the Cross-Cultural IQ Test and scored low (15).

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