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22 April 1972

MACJ213-2

BULLETIN NO. 48,709

CAPTURED ENEMY DOCUMENTS

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SUMMARY. DISTRIBUTION: IC/SP, MR 1, MR 2, 32-34, 59-66

(214)

CAPTURE DATA

SUBJ: Prisoners of War in the VC Detention Camp in VC Military Region 5. (U)

CDEC LOG NO.

04-1527-72

(U) Item 1: (1 page, printed and handwritten; B-3) Infiltration pass 572/TB A, dated 22 Dec 60, signed by Can, authorizes Bui Van Dang, a member of Infiltration Group Z17 to go to Bao An (for B47).

15 Mar 72
A3826282,
Kontum Prov
RVN MR 2
101st RF Co,
RVN MR 2
2189/KTTL/72 &
385/QD2/P2
Received CDEC
21 Apr 72
Category: A

(U) Item 2: (117 pages, handwritten and printed; B-3) Calendar notebook, with entries dated from 19 Jan 67 to 9 Mar 71, maintained by an unidentified individual of a ((VC)) PW Camp ((possibly directly subordinate to the Enemy Proselyting Office, Political Staff Department, HQ, VC Military Region 5)), contains a resolution by Region ((5)) Party Committee ((6 pages)), a series of political reorientation lessons ((29 pages)), and diary notes describing the author's daily activities both during his infiltration to SVN and during his assignment to the PW Camp ((82 pages)).

The document indicates that early in Jan 68, the author's infiltration group ((possibly designated Infiltration Group Z17)) reached the Ta Bung Ridge where it was informed by Comrade Thai, ACofS, Group 559, that in accordance with a message from higher headquarters, ((Infiltration Group Z17)) was to continue its trip to SVN. Furthermore, Comrade Danh, Asst Field Grade Political Officer of Binh Tram ((Military Station)) 3 reminded ((Z17)) to forward its daily activity reports ((by radio message)) to TOCT ((possibly the general Political Department, NVA High Command)) regularly. Subsequently, the infiltration group stopped at the HQ of E220 ((possibly 220th Trans Regt, Rear Service Staff Dept, VC Military Region 5)) where the author met Comrade Giang, Chief, Transportation Department, ((NVA)).

Early in Apr 68, the author was assigned to the Superintendent's Office of the cited PW Camp. He reported to the PW Camp located in the Tra My area ((unlocated)) on 13 Apr 68. Between 25 Apr and 19 May 68, he was dispatched to the Duong Yen area to harvest rice.

An entry, dated 12 Sep 68, contains fragmentary notes concerning the situation of US PW's in the Camp. These notes read in part as follows: "It has been noted that few among the wounded US PW's brought to the ((author's PW)) Camp could recover and survive. Only with a special diet and exceptional medical treatment could the wounded US PW's be saved from death. Otherwise, it would

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MAY 22 1972

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be very hard for the Camp to take care of these PW's who are apt to die at any moment. The death of a US PW would seriously affect the morale of his fellow PW's. The case in point is that among the four wounded ((US)) PW's recently evacuated to the Camp, three have died. Finding adequate food for a US PW is extremely difficult, especially with the situation of the Camp which is located in the midst of the jungle. Thus, steps should be taken by higher echelon to remedy this predicament and to improve both the health and morale of the US PW's. The latter are often lazy, unaccustomed to labor duties, and stubborn. Since the beginning of 1968, two incidents involving the beating of US PW's have occurred in the Camp. Many cases of louse and intestinal disease have been noted among the US PW's. The amount of drugs required to treat the latter is three times higher than that required to treat Puppets' ((RVNAP)) PW's. The goal to be attained by the Camp's political cadre is to alleviate US prisoners' of war pessimism, rid them of any attempt to 'risk their lives' ((meaning escape)), and to nurture in them a confidence in the ((NLF/SVN's lenient)) policy."

An entry, undated, reveals that while performing farm work in the Duong Yen area ((possibly via Duong Yen 1, BT089024; Duong Yen 2, BT083019; and Duong Yen 3, BT076020)), the author learned that on 30 Jan 69, the enemy ((FMAP/RVNAP)) Special Force troops moved from Phuoc Lam ((Village, via BT061026)) to the Duong Yen area and captured a civilian in this area.

On 1 May 69, the author heard that a member of his unit had been captured by the enemy. On the same day, his camp was ordered to move to another area ((unspecified)). All PW's and cadre of his camp safely arrived at their destination. On 19 May 69, his men completed the construction of fortifications and billeting facilities at the new location. At this time, the cultivated area ((of his camp)) in the Duong Yen area was subject to an enemy sweep operation, resulting in two buffalos killed, and 50 ang ((each ang equals six kilos)) of corn and 20 ang of unhusked rice destroyed.

On 29 Jul 69, while the US PW's were attending a political indoctrination session, the Camp was sprayed with toxic chemicals by enemy aircraft ((possibly meaning defoliants)). On 9 Mar 71, the Camp area was attacked by enemy aircraft and heliborne troops; but eventually, the ((VU)) security-guards repelled the enemy.

CDEC COMMENT: (U) Extract translation will follow under IIR.

for *Carl R. Dukate, 1st*
JOHN J. TREADWELL III
LTC, USA
Dir, US Elm, CDEC

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