

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION

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1. COUNTRY: VN, HANOI Prov

8. REPORT NUMBER: 6 029 0278-70

2. SUBJECT: (U) HANOI Office of Public Security

9. DATE OF REPORT: 14 Mar 70

3. ISC NUMBER: 159.100

10. NO. OF PAGES: 5

11. REFERENCES: DIRM: 6B1

4. DATE OF INFORMATION: Nov 61 to May 66

12. ORIGINATOR: US Element, CMIC, USMACV

5. PLACE AND DATE OF ACQ: NCHG, SAIGON, VS  
5 Mar 70

13. PREPARED BY: THOMAS F. CAUGHEY  
SP5, USA

6. EVALUATION: SOURCE F INFORMATION 6

14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: *[Signature]*  
W. H. BEARDSLEY  
LTC, USA  
Dir, US Elm, CMIC

7. SOURCE: Returnee Interrogation

15. SUMMARY:

(C) This report contains limited information concerning the penal system in the HANOI Office of Public Security, to include mission, organization, court system, location of prisons, types of crimes and punishments, rank structure, pay, and living conditions.

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1. (C) Background Information:

- a. Name: DANG VAN PHONG (DEANGV, VEAN FONG), aka THANH PHONG (THANH, FONG), CMIC 2894-70
- b. Rank: None
- c. VC/NVA Position and Unit of Assignment: Security Cadreman; Security Sect, SR-3
- d. DPOB: 1936; AN HOA VII, HOA LAC Dist, GO CONG Prov, RVN

16. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR:

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18. ATTACHMENT DATA:

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REPLACES DA FORM 1049, 1 AUG 69.  
OPNAV FORM 3820 (Rev 10-61),  
AF FORM 112, JUL 61, WHICH MAY BE  
USED UNTIL 1 JAN 68.

DD FORM 1396  
1 SEP 62

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e. Parents' Names: Father, DANG VAN PHUONG (DEANGV, VEAN FUOWNO), deceased; Mother, HUYNH THI GIAU (HUYNHL, THIV JAUL), living

f. Circumstances of Return. Source returned to the Pacification Cadre in TAN PHUOC VII, TAN TRU Dist, LONG AN Prov, RVN, on 29 Dec 69. At the time of source's return, he was on a mission to establish security forces in the villages in LONG AN Prov. Source returned with one K-54 pistol in his possession.

g. Significant Activities. Source was born in AN HOA VII, HOA LAC Dist, GO CONG Prov, RVN, in Dec 36. He attended school for three years and worked as a farmer at his POB until he joined the VIET MINH in Jun 53. From Jun 53 until Oct 54, source remained in the RVN. In Oct 54, source regrouped to NVN and received additional infantry training. In Nov 61, source was assigned to the Fingerprint Cell of the Record Section, Public Security Office, Public Security Ministry, HANOI City, NVN. This was a government position and source was no longer associated with the army. Source remained in this capacity until Sep 65, at which time he underwent security training. In May 66, source began infiltrating to the RVN, arriving in mid-Oct 66. Upon his arrival in the RVN, source was assigned to the Security Sect, LONG AN (VC) Prov, LONG AN Prov Committee, subordinate to T-2. In 1967, T-2 became part of SR-2 and SR-3. Source remained in this capacity until his return on 29 Dec 69. For further information concerning source's significant activities, see CMIC IR 6 029 0215 70.

h. Additional References: CMIC Exploitation Guide

2. (C) Penal System in HANOI City:

a. Mission. While working for the Public Security Force in HANOI City, source was assigned to the Fingerprinting Cell of the Record Sect, Office of Public Security. Source remained in this capacity from Nov 61 until May 66. During this period, source was responsible for fingerprinting each criminal who had been arrested in the HANOI City Area; these fingerprints were placed on permanent record in the Record Sect. The Public Security Force had been formed early in 1959 and, at that time, was composed of a number of units under Army control. The purpose of the Public Security Force was to maintain peace and order and, specifically, to provide security for industries, border and coastal regions, and for each individual citizen. The responsibilities of the Public Security Force overlapped with those of the militia forces. The HANOI City Office of Public Security was established to facilitate administration and control. In each of the other larger cities in NVN, an Office of Public Security had been established to provide more efficient administrative control; all of them were subordinate to the Ministry of Public Security.

b. Organization. The Ministry of Public Security was the highest administrative organization responsible for internal security. Subordinate to the Ministry of Public Security was the Public Security Force, and subordinate to the Public Security Force was the HANOI Office of Public Security. Source could not provide information concerning other city security units or the lateral structure of the Public Security Force. Subordinate to the HANOI Office of Public Security were eight separate

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sections. Office No 1 was responsible for the organization of cadre members, including housing, meals, and uniforms. Office No 2 was divided into three sections. The first section was responsible for correspondence and research, the second section for administrative activities, and the third section for criminal records. Office No 3 was responsible for public security within HANOI City. Subordinate to this office was a Criminal Affairs Sect, an Identification Card Sect, a Fire Control Sect, a Police Sect, and a Maintenance of Civil Order Sect. The Police Sect was responsible for controlling traffic, while the Civil Order Sect was responsible for arrests of criminals and control of any civil disorders. Office No 4 was responsible for interrogating all persons arrested in the HANOI City Area. Office No 5 was actually a detention house in which all persons who had been arrested remained until the time of their trial. Office No 6-1 was responsible for political indoctrination and propaganda in HANOI. Source could provide no information concerning the exact responsibilities of this office. Office No 6-2 was responsible for the economic and financial expenditures of the Office of Security. Source could provide no information concerning the exact responsibilities of this office. Office No 8 was responsible for cultural control in HANOI. Source explained that this meant the control of information contained in the newspapers and the ideas expressed in literature. To enable the HANOI Office of Public Security to maintain administrative control, HANOI Municipality was divided into four regions, designated the HOAN KIEM, BA DINH, HANG CO, and HAI BA Regions. Source could not provide the organizational structure of the regions, but assumed it was the same as that of the HANOI Office. Each of the four districts in HANOI Prov, GIA LAM, DONG ANH, TU LIEM, and THANH TRI Districts, was organized for public security in a similar manner. However, source could provide no information concerning the organization of these districts. (See page 5 for an organizational chart.)

c. Penal System. Source felt the basis behind the penal system in NVN was to rehabilitate the criminal through political indoctrination. Upon arrest, a person was sent to the Records Sect where his background, the nature of his offense, and his fingerprints were recorded. This record was compared to records on file to see if the person had been arrested previously. The accused was then taken to Office No 5, where he would await his trial. Source could provide no information concerning the length of time the defendants were detained before trial and he knew nothing of the living conditions in the detention house. Source had never heard of bail being posted for the criminals.

(1) Court System. Source could provide only limited information concerning judicial practices in HANOI. The highest level court in NVN was known as the People's Supreme Court; it was responsible for establishing court procedures. For administrative purposes, courts were established at the regional, provincial, and district levels, also. The seriousness of an offense decided which court would handle the case. Following the trial, defendants found guilty were taken to prisons located outside the HANOI City limits. Source had never visited the prisons and could provide no information concerning conditions at these prisons. At these prisons the criminals were given a thorough course in political indoctrination.

(2) Locations of Prisons. Source could provide no information concerning the locations of the prisons, but he had visited the detention

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house where defendants were kept before trial. The detention house in HANOI City was located in a triangular area surrounded by HA BA TRUNG, HANG BONG THO, and HOA LO Streets (exact location unk).

d. Types of Crimes and Punishments. Source listed a number of common crimes for which people were arrested within HANOI City. These crimes were as follows: theft, murder, prostitution, arson, assault, unlawful possession of a weapon, sabotage, and various political crimes against the government. Source could provide little information concerning the punishment for each of these crimes because he seldom was able to read the records, which were kept in another section of his office. Source estimated the average penalty for theft was one to three years. He had heard of only one or two murders committed each year in the HANOI City Area. The maximum penalty source heard given for any crime was a 12-year sentence for the crime of murder. Source could not estimate the type or severity of punishment given to political criminals. Because of the intense political indoctrination course given to the political criminals, source felt most of them were released after very few years. Corporal punishment was not imposed.

e. Rank Structure for Police. The majority of cadre members had been assigned to the HANOI Office of Public Security by the commanding officers of their military units. Once assigned to this position, they were no longer under the control of the military. The Police Sect of Office No 3 was the only section in which individuals actually continued to be promoted by rank. In this section, officers were designated lieutenant general, major general, senior colonel, colonel, lieutenant colonel, major, senior captain, captain, senior lieutenant, and lieutenant. The remainder of men, whose job it was to direct traffic and patrol particular areas, were known simply as policemen.

f. Cadre Pay and Living Conditions. The cadre of the HANOI Office of Public Security were able to live with their families if they were housed within traveling distance of work. The single men were housed in a building located on TRAN HUNG DAO Street, HANOI. Source lived with single men and received 55\$ NVN per month as salary. These men also received an unrationed amount of food while living in the cadre housing. Source could provide no information concerning the pay or living quarters of the married men.

(C) COMMENTS. Source was extremely cooperative and answered questions voluntarily. Source seemed of above average intelligence, but, because of his minor position within the HANOI Office of Public Security, he was only able to supply limited information.

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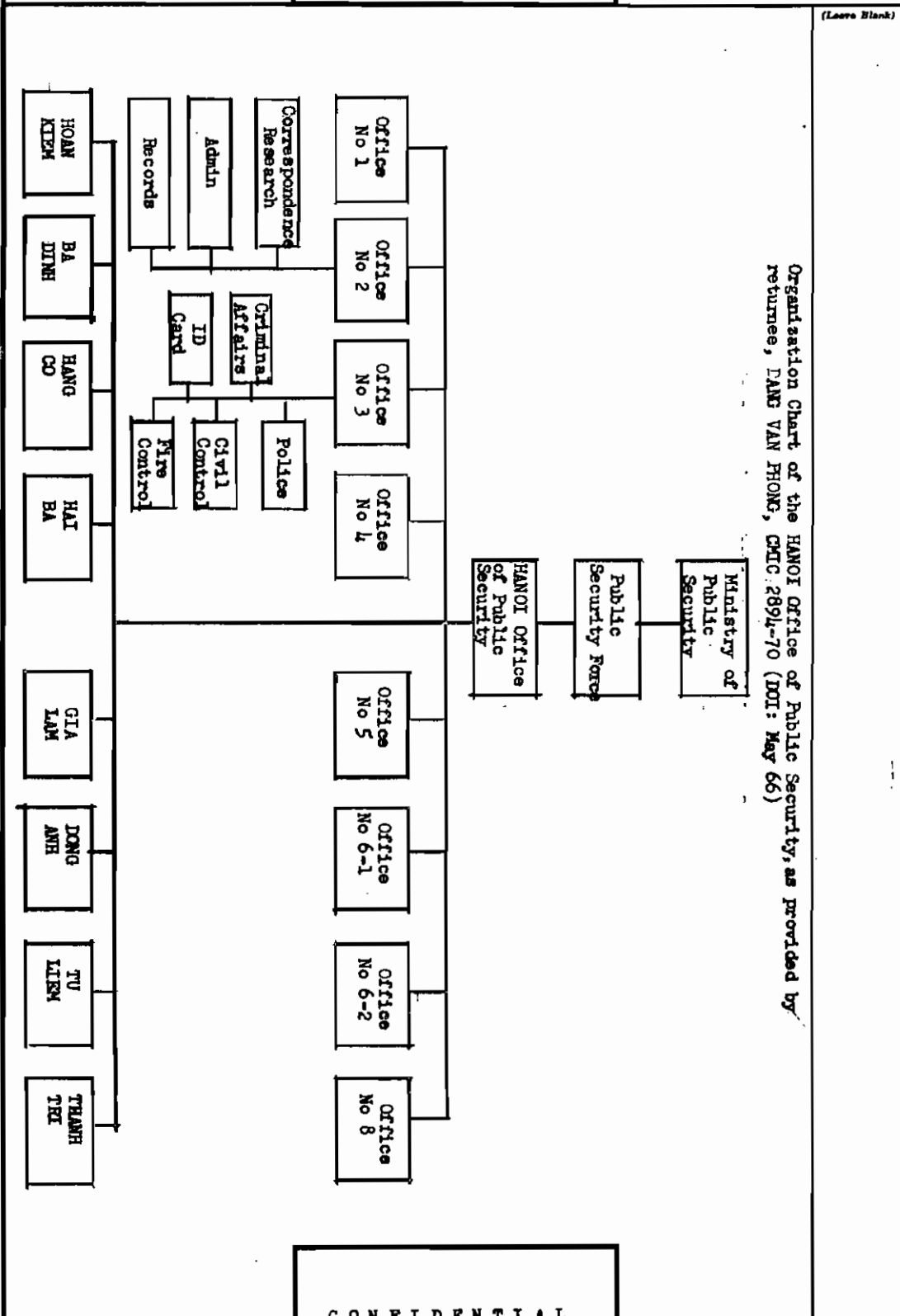
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