

Nguyen Dinh Tung, 204 N. Adams, Rockville, MD 251 1047, June 20, 1983
2nd Lieut. ARVN, Security, Hqs Saigon

After newspaper notice to report, Tung registers. Reports at Marie Curie high school June 28, bringing food and clothes for 10 days. At midnight put in Molotova truck with 38 men, driven to Hoc Mon, former ARVN camp. Barracks held 60 men, size 5 x 8 metres. Sleeping area 1 x 3 metres. His area of camp commanded by NVA Captain. Up at 5 am, 5-8 food and cleanup. 12:15 lunch. Study 1:30 - 6. Dinner, 7:30 - 10:30 discussion sometimes to midnight. 6½ days per week. This went on for three months. Latrine closed at 5 or 6 pm. Rice spoiled. Selling - beri beri ? One communist nurse. Escapes: Three successful, under wife at night, one killed and one wounded. Four other escapees captured. All hands chained together, placed in Conex in sun for 8 months. After school, work program Sept-Dec 75, growing food, digging wells.

Dec. 75 Transferred to Long Khanh to Long Giao camp, former hqs ARVN 19. Dic. Camp run by NVA cadre. Worked in forest, used self made tools. May 1977 - shipped by boat and train to Yen Bay, NVN. Worked 5 months in forest, built camp from scratch. Terrible conditions. Food: 65 kernels of corn first meal, 650 kernels later. 400 inmates. 6-7 died that he saw personally, mostly of dysentery. Nurse only.

Next move to Lao Kay, first civilian camp. Less food, tighter security. Collected sand and gravel from stream bed to build houses. Remained Lao Kay till 1978. No family visits to this point in North. In South visits permitted every three months for 45 minutes.

Next move to Ha Nam Ninh (1978-81) Used as buffalo to draw plows in rice field, 2 men pulling, one guiding plow. Also cut trees, dug fish ponds. Worked 7 day week, up at 5 am, bed at 10 pm. 80 men in one room. 5000 prisoners in camp, 70% officers, 30% civilians - politicians, lawyers. Many died of malnutrition. Some people became too weak, ignored guards' orders, beaten, died later. Food ration 9 kilos corn or barley per month.

Also $\frac{1}{2}$ litre water per day. Meal time noon and night. Tung entered camps 1975 weighing 65 kilos, fell to 38 kilos (52 kilos when left SVN) Life saved by family visit 1979. Camp commander civilian of Lt. Col rank. 1981 - Transferred back to SVN to Binh Tuy (new name Ham Tan) because of Chicom danger. Camp in forest. 1000 prisoners. Food rice and sweet potato. Family visits every three months 1 hour. At Can Cu Nam camp Released Jan 1982 with 20 dong. Passenger bus to Saigon. To report to police every month. Reported 3 times, then escaped. Went by boat from Phuoc Tuy to Indonesia, cost 5 oz. gold. 11 months in Indonesia, then via Singapore to California. Arrived in US April 29, 1983. Wife and 3 kids already here but wife had had kid by other man, so came to Rockville to stay with brother and sister. Not enough English. No job.