



PORTION OF CAMP
(NOT TO SCALE)

LEGEND:

- 1 - GUARD HOUSE
- 2 - PING-PONG TABLE
- 3 - VOLLEY BALL COURT
- 4 - SMALL BUILDING WITH CHIMNEY
(POSSIBLE KITCHEN)
- 5 - BUILDING (POSSIBLY QUARTERS)
- 6 - BARBED WIRE FENCE.

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Date 21 AUG 84

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 8 June 71
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DATE 8 JUNE 1971
IN 351971
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Distribution for BACKGROUND USE ONLY to: **H**

COUNTRY LAOS/CAMBODIA/NORTH VIETNAM

DOI 16 MAY 1971

SUBJECT SIGHTING OF AMERICAN PRISONER OF WAR SOUTHWEST OF
ATTOPEU

ACQ LAOS, VIENTIANE /4 JUNE 1971

SOURCE

B**B****I****I** **I**

(classification) (dissem controls)

1. AT 0500 HOURS ON 16 MAY 1971 AN AMERICAN PRISONER OF WAR /POW/ WAS SEEN RIDING ON ONE OF FOUR BOATS TRAVELING NORTHEAST ON THE SE /RIVER/ KONG AT BAN SOMPOY /XB 583097/, 48 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF ATTOPEU /XB 9837/. K E O, THE LOCAL PL COMMANDER, SAID THAT THE PRISONER WAS AN AMERICAN JET PILOT WHO HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN IN CAMBODIA TWO TO THREE MONTHS PREVIOUSLY AND WAS BEING TAKEN TO NORTH VIETNAM. KEO ADDED THAT BECAUSE NORTH VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES WILL EXCHANGE POWS IN THE FUTURE, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WERE COLLECTING ALL PRISONERS CAPTURED IN INDOCHINA INTO NORTH VIETNAM.

2. FIELD COMMENT. THERE HAS BEEN NO PRIOR REPORTING ON KEO. IF THE PILOT WAS SHOT DOWN IN CAMBODIA, HE PROBABLY WENT DOWN IN THE SOUTHEAST OR SOUTHWEST. THE ONLY OTHER REPORT OF AMERICAN POWS IN NORTHEASTERN CAMBODIA CAME FROM **B** **B** **B** IN AUGUST 1970 WHICH REPORTED THAT TWO AMERICAN POWS WERE IMPRISONED IN THE STUNG TRENG JAIL AND LATER TRANSFERRED TO KRATIE DISTRICT. THE **B** WAS LATER FOUND TO BE FABRICATING, BUT IT IS NOT KNOWN IF IT FABRICATED THIS PARTICULAR REPORT. KEO MAY HAVE BEEN TOLD BY THE GUARDS THAT THERE WOULD BE A PRISONER EXCHANGE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT

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(classification) (dissem controls)

THEY WERE SPEAKING KNOWLEDGEABLY OF NORTH VIETNAMESE PLANS. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE DO NOT TURN OVER FOREIGN POWS TO THE KHMER ROUGE BECAUSE OF MISTREATMENT AND EXECUTION, BUT INSTEAD SEND THE PRISONERS TO NORTH VIETNAM IF FEASIBLE.

3. IN ADDITION TO THE AMERICAN PRISONER, THE FOUR LONG-SHAFTED MOTORBOATS TRANSPORTED 38 SKEWERS OF SMOKED FISH, 25 BASKETS OF DRIED MEAT, 250 TINS OF CONDENSED MILK, TWO SACKS OF SUGAR AND 12 NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY GUARDS.

4. FIELD DISSEM. STATE ARMY AIR USAID /DIRECTOR ONLY/ CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACFLT MACV/JPRC 7TH AF 7/13TH AF TFA/NKP 7TH RRFS /ALSO SENT SAIGON

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BY AT Z

DISSEM ACTION UNIT FILE, VR

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I [REDACTED] 050433Z JUN 71 CITE (SAIGON) [REDACTED] DIRECTOR INFO VIENTIANE 9 JUN 1971

D REF [REDACTED] (VIENTIANE [REDACTED] 1351841)

1. DO NOT BELIEVE INFO ON AMERICAN POW REF SPECIFIC ENOUGH TO WARRANT CHECKING WITH JPRC. KEO'S REFERENCE TO POW EXCHANGE MAY BE HIS GARBLE OF SVN OFFER TO REPATRIATE 570 SICK AND WOUNDED NVA PRISONERS, ANNOUNCED ON 29 APR, WHICH HANOI ACCEPTED ON 13 MAY. THIS DID NOT COME OFF, AS YOU KNOW, AND IT NEVER EXPLICITLY INCLUDED EXCHANGE OF NVA FOR U.S. POW'S. AS FAR AS WE KNOW IT IS STANDING NVN POLICY TO SEND U.S. POW'S NVN WHENEVER BATTLEFIELD CONDITIONS PERMIT, ALTHOUGH SOME HAVE BEEN HELD FOR LONG PERIODS IN LAOS OR SVN.

2. FILE DEFER. NO INDEX. GP-1

I [REDACTED] * APPARENTLY WRONG REF. SEE VIENTIANE [REDACTED] (IN 351971)

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