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Intelligence Information Cable

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162205Z

16 SEPTEMBER 1970

COUNTRY CAMBODIA/LAOS

DOI 14 AUGUST - 10 SEPTEMBER 1970

SUBJECT 1. POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF AMERICAN PRISONERS FROM STUNG TRENG JAIL TO KRATIE PROVINCE

2. RESULTS OF AIR STRIKES AND ENEMY MINESWEEPING TACTICS

3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE IN THE STUNG TRENG, CHHEP KANDAL AND VIRACHEY AREAS OF NORTHERN CAMBODIA

ACC LAOS, VIENTIANE /23 AUGUST - 10 SEPTEMBER 1970/

SOURCE [redacted] SEE BELOW.

SUMMARY. AMERICAN PRISONERS FORMERLY HELD IN A PRISON IN STUNG TRENG HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION IN KRATIE PROVINCE 120 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF STUNG TRENG. AS A RESULT OF AIR STRIKES WEST OF THE MCKONG RIVER BETWEEN STUNG TRENG AND THE LAO BORDER, A NUMBER OF NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY /NVA/ TROOPS WERE KILLED AND SUPPLY CACHES WERE DESTROYED.

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ENEMY METHODS OF EXPLODING FLOATING MINES ARE DESCRIBED. A CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT BROADCAST PROPAGANDA TO THE VILLAGERS IN THE STUNG TRENG AREA. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE IN THE STUNG TRENG, CHHEP KANDAL AND VIRACHEY AREAS WAS REPORTED. EN OF SUMMARY.

1. [redacted]

2. AN INFORMANT REPORTED ON 7 SEPTEMBER THAT AMERICAN PRISONERS FORMERLY HELD IN A PRISON IN STUNG TRENG /XV 0595/ WERE MOVED TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION IN KRATIE PROVINCE APPROXIMATELY 120 KILOMETERS /KMS/ SOUTHWEST OF STUNG TRENG. ACCORDING TO AN INFORMANT ON 22 AUGUST THE AMERICAN, THAI AND LAO PRISONERS BEING HELD IN THE STUNG TRENG PRISON WERE SENT TO KA CHEN /PHONETIC/ DISTRICT ON 14 AUGUST. /FIELD COMMENT. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER KA CHEN DISTRICT IS IN KRATIE

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PROVINCE. [REDACTED] WAS TOLD
ON 17 JULY [REDACTED] THAT 50 PRISONERS, INCLUD-
ING TWO AMERICAN PILOTS, WERE BEING HELD IN THE STUNG TRENG
JAIL. [REDACTED] THIS INFORMATION IS, HOWEVER, FRAG-
MENTARY AND UNSUBSTANTIATED. THE INFORMANT ALSO REPORTED
ON 22 AUGUST THAT THE ENEMY COLLECTED FOGG AND 10 RIELS
/U.S. \$0.16/ FROM EACH FAMILY IN STUNG TRENG EVERY SEVEN
DAYS.

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3. AN AIR STRIKE ON 30 AUGUST HIT ENEMY LOCATIONS AT
WA 622500 AND WA 766530, APPROXIMATELY EIGHT KMS SOUTHWEST
OF KOMPONG SRALAU /WA 645568/ DESTROYING AN UNKNOWN AMOUNT
OF SUPPLIES AND CAUSING THE ENEMY TO TAKE REFUGE IN NEARBY
VILLAGES DURING THE DAY. THE REMAINING SUPPLIES WERE MOVED
AT NIGHT TO A NEW CACHE AT WA 648530. [REDACTED] COMMENT. NO
FURTHER BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT IS AVAILABLE BECAUSE THE
ENEMY FORBODE THE VILLAGERS TO LEAVE THEIR VILLAGES.
/FIELD COMMENT. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS REFLECT STORAGE FACI-
LITIES AT WA 6455 AND IN THE AREA AROUND KOMPONG SRALAU.

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5. AS A RESULT OF JET AIR STRIKES WHICH TOOK PLACE
WEST OF THE MEKONG RIVER FROM PHALAKAN /XA 842371/, 42 KMS
NORTH OF STUNG TRENG TO KOMPONG SANGKE /WA 825575/, ABOUT
SIX KMS WEST OF KHONG ISLAND, LAOS, ON 30 AUGUST, FIVE
NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY /NVA/ TROOPS AND ONE VILLAGER WERE
KILLED AT KOMPONG SOLANDE /WA 938439/, THREE NVA TROOPS
AND A VILLAGER WERE KILLED AT KOMPONG SRALAU, AND A CLOTH-
ING DEPOT AT KOMPONG SANGKE WAS DESTROYED. OTHER VILLAGERS
REPORTED THAT 35 NVA TROOPS AT KOMPONG SOZANOE WERE KILLED.
AFTER THE ATTACK MANY RESIDENTS LEFT KOMPONG SRALAU AND
FOUR CAMBODIAN MILITIAMEN FROM THERE SOUGHT REFUGE AT KHONG
ISLAND.

6. ON 26 AUGUST THERE WERE 300 NVA TROOPS AT DONQ
/JUNGLE/ KHA-LEN A FEW KILOMETERS SOUTH OF KOMPONG SRALAU.

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MOVE MAY BE THE SAME ONE REPORTED AS HAVING TAKEN PLACE ON 28 AUGUST WHEN THREE BATTALIONS MOVED OUT OF STUNG TRENG TOWARD O SAWAY /XA 093335/ WHERE THEY WERE TO JOIN ANOTHER BATTALION AND MOVE INTO LAOS. [REDACTED]

10. TWO NVA COMPANIES ARMED WITH EIGHT B-40'S, SEVEN B-41'S AND 18 LIGHT MACHINE GUNS, AND CARRYING ONE QUOTE TELEGRAPH MACHINE UNQUOTE MOVED NORTH PAST KHAMPHUM /XV 186983/, 14 KMS EAST OF STUNG TRENG, ON 8 SEPTEMBER. THE COMPANIES HAD RETURNED FROM THE KRATIE /XU 1278/ AREA. ONE KHMER ROUGE /KR/ COMPANY DRESSED IN GREEN UNIFORMS WAS AT XA 119833, SEVEN KMS NORTHEAST OF STUNG TRENG.

11. THE 7TH CO COMMANDED BY LIEUTENANT S Y HAD 120 MEN LOCATED NEAR KHSANG /WA 383375/, ABOUT 17 KMS NORTH OF CHHEP KANDAL /VA 448214/, ON 3 SEPTEMBER. IT WAS ARMED WITH THREE 82MM MORTARS, FOUR 12.7MM HEAVY MACHINE GUNS, THREE BAZOOKAS, NINE BAR'S 38 AK RIFLES, 16 SKS RIFLES AND 12 CARBINES. THE 2ND CO COMMANDED BY NVA CAPTAIN P U N G HAD 95 MEN ABOUT 16 KMS NORTHWEST OF CHHEP KANDAL AT WA 346343, IT WAS ARMED WITH TWO 82MM MORTARS, FIVE 12.7MM MACHINE GUNS, SIX BAZOOKAS, FOUR BAR'S AND 10 SKS RIFLES.

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12. THE 13TH CO COMMANDED BY NVA LIEUTENANT M E N G WAS LOCATED IN PHUM CHALEUY /WA 404275/, SEVEN KMS NORTHWEST OF CHHEP KANDAL, ON 4 SEPTEMBER. THE 84-MAN UNIT WAS ARMED WITH FOUR 82MM MORTARS, FOUR 12.7MM MACHINE GUNS, SEVEN B-40'S, 35 AK RIFLES, 12 SKS RIFLES AND 10 UNIDENTIFIED WEAPONS. /FIELD COMMENT. THERE HAS BEEN NO PRIOR REPORTING OF THE UNITS MENTIONED IN THIS PARAGRAPH AND IN PARAGRAPH 14 OR ON THE PERSONALITIES MENTIONED./

13. ONE NVA/KR/LAVE BN COMMANDED BY NGUYEN VAN D E U N WAS LOCATED AT YA 192694, APPROXIMATELY 33 KMS NORTHEAST OF VIRACHEY /XA 961456/, ON 7 SEPTEMBER. THE BATTALION CONSCRIPTED EIGHT VILLAGERS OF PHUM PHAV /YA 276723/, ABOUT 40 KMS NORTHEAST OF VIRACHEY, TO CARRY FOOD AND SUPPLIES TO THE BN COMMAND POST. ONE OF THE SUBORDINATE COMPANIES, KNOWN AS THE QUOTE COMBINED COMPANY UNQUOTE AND CONSISTING OF NVA/KR/LAVE TROOPS, WAS COMMANDED BY C H A N T O R B AND DEPUTY COMMANDER K E L I N. THE COMPANY WAS ARMED WITH THREE 82MM MORTARS, FOUR 60MM MORTARS, SIX B-40'S, AND INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS. ONE PLATOON OF DISTRICT TROOPS COMMANDED BY L A M WAS STATIONED IN PHUM PHAV.

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14. ONE ENEMY PLATOON COMMANDED BY P H A L E N G ,
ALONG WITH 20 WOMEN, HAS BEEN ESTABLISHING A CAMP AT
YA 285735, APPROXIMATELY 43 KMS NORTHEAST OF VIRACHEY. ABOUT
ONE TON OF RICE WAS AT THE LOCATION, WHICH WAS BEING PREPARED
TO RECEIVE AN UNIDENTIFIED BATTALION AT AN UNKNOWN DATE.

15. ON 8 SEPTEMBER ONE KR PLATOON WAS BUILDING A CAMP
AND DIGGING TRENCHES IN AN ABANDONED VILLAGE AT YA 273623,
36 KMS NORTHEAST OF VIRACHEY. THE VILLAGERS RELOCATED AT
YA 244616.

16. ONE NVA/KR COMPANY DRESSED IN GREEN AND YELLOW
UNIFORMS AND CARRYING INDIVIDUAL SMALL ARMS ENTERED PHUK
PHAV ON 5 SEPTEMBER AND CONSCRIPTED EIGHT VILLAGERS TO ACT
AS GUIDES.

17. [REDACTED] B

18. ON 4 SEPTEMBER THREE LAVE TRIBESMEN DRESSED IN
KHAKI SHIRTS AND LOIN CLOTHS, ARMED WITH M-1 RIFLES AND
CARRYING RUCKSACKS, MOVED NORTH PAST YA 275686, APPROXIMATELY
39 KMS NORTHEAST OF VIRACHEY.

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19. (FIELD COMMENT. THE UNITS MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPHS
16-21 ARE PROBABLY SUBORDINATE TO THE 66TH NVA REGIMENT WHICH
IS CONFIRMED BY OB LISTINGS AS OPERATING IN THE YA 0356
AREA. THERE HAS BEEN NO PRIOR REPORTING ON ANY OF THE
PERSONS MENTIONED.)

20. ON 10 SEPTEMBER 15 KR TROOPS IN CIVILIAN DRESS WITH
ONE B-40 AND INDIVIDUAL AK RIFLES MOVED WEST AT XA 217073,
20 KMS NORTHEAST OF STUNG TRENG.

21. FIELD DISSEM. STATE ARMY AIR CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF
PACFLT MACV 7TH AF /ALSO SLEPT [REDACTED] SAIGON/. E

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