

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF MESSAGE CENTER

RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS6813 3081901
ROUTINE
R 041901Z NOV 81

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC//DI-7C//

TO USDAO BANGKOK TH//JCRC-LNO//

INFO CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI CINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J3//
BT

SURJ REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW OF LAO REFUGEE (U)
1. A LETTER WAS RECEIVED IN DI-7C FROM A SOURCE WHO IS CURRENTLY TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TO INDOCHINESE REFUGEES IN COMUS. REPORTED A SOURCE, A NATIVE OF LAOS CLAIMED TO HAVE HAD MEETINGS WITH AMERICAN PWS IN LAOS IN 1977 AND 1979.
2. SOURCE CLAIMED HE WAS A PRISONER IN NAM MA "REEDUCATION" CAMP IN SAM NEUA PROVINCE, LAOS, IN APRIL 1977. HE SAID TWO MEN CLAIMING TO BE AMERICANS VISITED THE CAMP, OSTENSIBLY TO URGE THE PRISONERS TO STUDY HARD AND NOT TRY TO ESCAPE SO THEY COULD RETURN TO THEIR HOMES. BOTH MEN SPOKE FLUENT LAO, WHICH MADE THE LAO PRISONERS SUSPICIOUS THAT THEY MIGHT BE RUSSIANS, SO THE PRISONERS QUESTIONED THEM IN ENGLISH. SOURCE CLAIMED THE AMERICANS RESPONDED IN FLUENT AMERICAN ENGLISH. HE CLAIMED ONE OF THE AMERICANS, A MAJOR SCOTT SAID, "HE WAS A FIGHTER PILOT AND HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN OVER SAM NEUA 7 YEARS EARLIER, AND HAD SPENT 4 MONTHS IN A NORTH VIETNAMESE HOSPITAL." THE OTHER AMERICAN, A SECOND LIEUTENANT ROBERT (PROBABLY FIRST NAME) STATED "HE WAS A B52 CREW MEMBER AND HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN 10 YEARS EARLIER."
3. SOURCE FURTHER CLAIMED THAT IN MARCH 1979, HE WAS IN ANOTHER "REEDUCATION" CAMP IN SARAVANNE PROVINCE, CALLED BY THE VIETNAMESE NAME "DAC CHEUNG", WHEN ANOTHER AMERICAN BY THE NAME OF CAPT. WILSON VISITED THE CAMP AND DELIVERED ESSENTIALLY THE SAME MESSAGE AS THE PREVIOUS TWO AMERICANS. HE TOO, SPOKE FLUENT LAO AND SAID, "HE HAD BEEN STATIONED IN PAKSE IN 1973." HE FURTHER STATED, "HE WAS A HELICOPTER PILOT AND HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN OVER SOUTHERN LAOS, AND THE TWO LAOTIONS WHO WERE WITH HIM IN THE HELICOPTER WERE SHOT WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE." ADDITIONALLY, SOURCE CLAIMED CAPT. WILSON MENTIONED THAT HE HAD TWO CHILDREN. AT THE TIME OF THIS MEETING CAPT. WILSON WAS ACCOMPANIED BY VIETNAMESE FROM THE NVN 2ND ARMY DIVISION. SOURCE STATED HE WAS UNSURE OF THE EXACT SPELLING OF THE AMERICAN NAMES, SINCE HE HAS LOST A NOTEBOOK WITH HIS NOTES TAKEN DURING THESE MEETINGS.
4. MOST IMPORTANTLY, SOURCE CLAIMED ANOTHER LAO ARMY OFFICER, (SPELLING ?) WAS INCARCERATED WITH HIM AT DAC CHEUNG, AND SOURCE SUBSTANTIATE HIS STATEMENT. THE LAST WORD, SOURCE HAS OF IS THAT HE IS STILL IN THE LAO REFUGEE CAMP IN NONG KHAI, FROM WHICH HE PARTICIPATES IN ANTI-GOVERNMENT GUERRILLA ACTION IN LAOS.
5.

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FM USDAO LONDON UK

TO DIA WASHINGTON DC
BT

CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN//
2686-81//OPSCD
4MIN MSG FOR DI-7C
SUBJ: REFUGEE REPORT - SC (U)
A. YOUR 051719Z NOV 81
B. MY 161426Z OCT 81
1. (U) FOLLOWING INFO IS PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO REF A.
A. SC STATES HE RECALLS THE DATES CONTAINED IN REF B AS

FOLLOWS:
(1) FIRST SIGHTING WAS DURING PERIOD 20-27 JAN 74, AS THAT WAS THE PERIOD FOLLOWING THE CELEBRATION OF CHILDRENS INTERNATIONAL DAY, WHICH SC MEMBERS BECAUSE OF THE SLOGANS PLACED ON THE WALLS. HE ALSO SAID THAT ANOTHER SLOGAN HE SAW AT THE TIME SAID THE TOTAL U.S. AIRCRAFT BROUGHT DOWN OVER NORTH VIETNAM TOTALLED 4182.
(2) THE SECOND SIGHTING WAS DURING THE PERIOD 15-20 SEP 78, WHICH HE RECALLS BECAUSE IT WAS RECENTLY FOLLOWING A SOVIET SPACE MISSION INVOLVING A. GURDREY AND G. GREKO, WHICH HE HAD READ ABOUT ON A NEWSPAPER FOR THAT PERIOD POSTER ON A WALL.
B. ON THE FIRST SIGHTING, WHILE SC WAS TRIMMING A TREE, HE SAID HE ESTIMATED THERE TO BE AROUND 70 AMERICANS BECAUSE THE BUILDING THEY WERE IN WOULD ACCOMMODATE ABOUT 70 PEOPLE. (IN REF B IT WAS REPORTED HE HAD SAID 200, BUT HE WAS APPARENTLY MISUNDERSTOOD.) SC BELIEVED THE BUILDING WAS USED FOR LECTURES. HE SAW FOUR PEOPLE STANDING OUTSIDE ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE A PORCH (WHICH HE CALLS A CORRIDOR ON HIS DRAWING). HE ESTIMATED THEM TO BE ABOUT 40 METERS AWAY. THE FOUR HE SAW WERE WEARING WHITE SHORT-SLEEVED SHIRTS AND WERE WATCHING HIM. HE SAID THEY WERE BIG, TALL, NOT TOO YOUNG, AND APPEARED TO BE HEALTHY. HE STATED HE WAS TOLD HE COULD NOT DO ADDITIONAL WORK IN THAT AREA BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO THE GUARD, "THE BOSS OF HOTEL HILTON'S GUESTS UNAGREETED ANY STRANGER TO APPROACH THEM."
C. ON THE SECOND SIGHTING, WHILE SC WAS GOING DOWN LY NAM DE STREET, HE SAW ABOUT 6 PEOPLE STANDING OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING WHICH COULD ACCOMMODATE APPROXIMATELY 60 PEOPLE. HE SAID THIS BUILDING APPEARED TO BE A MEETING HOUSE. DUE TO THE NOISE HE HEARD COMING FROM THE BUILDING, HE ESTIMATED THERE WERE AROUND 40 PEOPLE INSIDE. HE REMARKED THAT THE PEOPLE HE SAW THE SECOND TIME SEEMED TO BE IN GOOD HUMOR BECAUSE OF THEIR LAUGHTER.
2. REF B STATED THAT SC WAS TOLD THE AMERICANS WERE BEING HELD IN VIETNAM TO BE TRADED FOR U.S. GOODS WITH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. HE RECEIVED THIS INFORMATION IN 1977 BY LT COL J.S. HIS INFO DOES NOT PRE-DATE CARTER'S PRESIDENCY.
3. SC PROVIDED A MAP SHOWING WHAT HE BELIEVES MAY HAVE BEEN A COLLECTION POINT FOR U.S. REMAINS. IT IS A WAREHOUSE ON THE COVER OF PHO VAN MIEU AND PHO QUOC TU PHAM (874250 ON HANOI, SERIES 1909, EDITION 3, MAP PROVIDED BY DIA). SC SAID HE WALKED BY THIS WAREHOUSE FROM 1972-1978 AND WAS ALWAYS CURIOUS AS TO ITS USE BECAUSE THERE WERE GUARDS POSTED BY THE DOOR. SOMETIMES HE WOULD SEE AN ARMY ZIP (SMALL VAN) GO INTO THE BUILDING, AND ONCE HE SAW IN THE BACK OF THE VAN WHAT APPEARED TO BE "TANKAGE CLOTH" WHICH HE KNEW TO BE USED FOR COVERING BODIES. THUS, BECAUSE OF THE GUARDS, HE SPECULATED THAT THE WAREHOUSE WAS USED TO STORE THE REMAINS OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS.
4. SC COULD NOT PROVIDE A SKETCH OF THE XUAM MAI MILITARY COMPLEX AS HE HAD NEVER BEEN THERE. HE DID SAY THAT ALL OF THE PEOPLE AT BA VI HAS BEEN RELOCATED TO XUAM MAI, AND HE DID SAY THAT HE HAD HEARD THERE WERE SOME CAUCASIANS AT BA VI, THOUGH HE HAD STATED PREVIOUSLY, AS REPORTED IN REF B, THAT HE HAD NO INFO REGARDING BA VI OR THE NEW VIETNAMESE. HE HAD NO RELATED INFO ON THIS SURJECT.
5. SC WAS ACCOMPANIED FOR THIS INTERVIEW BY SOURCE WHO WAS MENTIONED IN REF B. SHE IS A FLUENT VIETNAMESE SPEAKER AND SAID SHE WORKED WITH THE VIETNAMESE IN FRANCE. SHE

ACTION DI-7C(1) (U.P.C.7)
INFO CJCS(1) CJCS(3) SJCS(1) J3(5) H10S(1) J2-RMCE(1)
J4(4) J5(2) SECDEF(1) SECDEF(7) USDAO(15) AS-PA(1)
DI-2(1) DI-5(1) R-7C(1) P-5(1) S-5(1) AT(1) A1-1(1)
DIO(1) DE(1) DE-36(2) DE-42(1) DIA(1)

STATEMENT WAS THE MOST AVAILABLE SOURCE IN VIETNAM SHE HAD MET AND RECOMMENDED THE U.S. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIS KNOWLEDGE OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AND HIS CONTACTS STILL IN HANOI. SHE COMMENTED ON VIETNAMESE USE OF AIRCRAFT TRAFFIC TO GET THEIR AGENTS INTO WESTERN COUNTRIES. SHE HAS ALSO MADE A SIMILAR STATEMENT ABOUT THESE AGENTS. (2)
6.
BT

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