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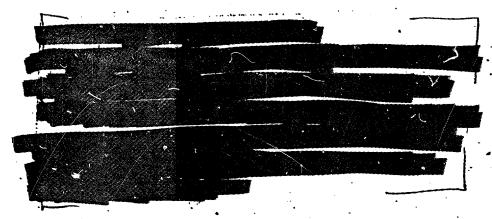
MID-1971-MARCH 1972 D01

SUBJECT KC DETENTION OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AND FANK PERSONNEL

N SECTOR 33

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AS OF LATE APRIL 1972, FIVE JOURNALISTS, FOUR EUROPEANS AND ONE CAMBODIAN, WERE BEING HELD IN A BUILDING APPROXIMATELY 1,500 METERS WEST OF PHUM ROKAR THOM (POSSIBLY VT 402346). THE EUROPEAMS' NATIONALITY WAS NOT KNOWN, BUT WAS PRESUMED TO BE OTHER THAN FRENCH. SAID THAT KC POLICY IN COMMENT: SECTOR 33 WAS NOT TO DETAIN FRENCH NATIONALS. HE SAID THAT HIS OWN UNIT HAD AT ONE TIME APPREHENDED THREE FRENCHMEN WHO WERE RELEASED BY SECTOR 33 AUTHORITIES AFTER THEIR NATIONALITY WAS ESTAB-LISHED.) THE PRISONERS WERE FIRST SEEN IN JUNE OR JULY 1971, WHEN THEY PASSED WEST THROUGH THE COMPANY 24 COMMAND POST AT PHUM DEY KRAHAM (VT 591359). THEIR GUARDS SAID THEY HAD BEEN CAPTURED TOGETHER ONE WEEK EARLIER AT PHUM SAYVAR (UNLOCATED), PREY KRABAS DISTRICT, TAKEO PROVINCE. LATER SAW TWO OF THEM IN SEPTEMBER COMMENT: OR OCTOBER 1971 AT THE ROKAR THOM MARKET. HE WAS TOLD BY OTHER KC IN MARCH 1972 THAT ALL FIVE JOURNALISTS WERE STILL UNDER DETENTION. ? .

2. THE TWO PRISONERS LAST SEEN IN LATE 1971 APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH AND WERE MOVING FREELY THROUGH THE ROKAR THOM MARKET. ONE OF THEM WAS APPROXIMATELY 185CM TALL, THIN, BEARDED A'D HAD LIGHT BROWN HAIR. HE WORE CORRECTIVE GLASSES, AND HAD LIGHT COLORED EYES. COMMENT: DESCRIBED THEM AS BEING "WHITE".) HE SMOKED A PIPE, OR CIGARETTES

OF THE 555 BRAND. COMMENT: SAID THAT THE PRISONERS WERE TREATED VERY LENIENTLY, AND THAT FOREIGN CIGARETTES WERE SPECIALLY PROCURED FROM GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED MARKETS.) THIS PRISONER SPOKE FRENCH. THE SECOND JOURNALIST WAS ABOUT 170CM TALL, OF MEDIUM BUILD, CLEAN-SHAVEN AND ALSO HAD LIGHT BROWN HAIR. HE WORE SUN GLASSES, BUT WAS OBSERVED WHEN HE REMOVED THEM, TO HAVE DARK COLORED EYES.

J. A CAMP FOR CAMBODIAN ARMED FORCES (FANK) PRISONERS IS
LOCATED AT WAT (PAGODA) CHEY, ABOUT TWO KILOMETERS WEST DE
PHUM DEY KRAWAM (VT 591559). THE CAMP HOLDS SOME 300 PRISONERS,
ABOUT 50 OF THEM FEMALE MEMBERS OF FANK OR LOCAL SELF-DEFENSE FORCES.
SOME FANK OFFICERS ARE ALSO HELD AT THIS CAMP, BUT THEIR NUMBER
IS UNKNOWN. THE CAMP COMMANDER IS PR A K. SAM ANG, AN ETHNIC
CHINESE ABOUT 38 YEARS OF AGE WHO WAS TRAINED IN HANDI. HE
OPERATES THE CAMP UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE KC SECTOR 33
MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, HEADED BY K H E O. PRAK.

COMMENT:

4. THERE ARE NO VIET CONG/NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (VC/NVA)

CAPTIVES AT WAT CHEY, ALTHOUGH STRAGGLERS APPREHENDED IN

SECTOR 33 ARE ARRESTED BY THE KC. THE POLICY OF THE KC IS

FO RETURN TO THE VC/NVA ANY SUCH STRAGGLERS ABOUT WHOM THE LATTER

MAKE INQUIRIES, AND TO EXECUTE ANY WHO DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE

BEEN MISSED. VC/NVA PRISONERS ARE NORMALLY HELD ABOUT ONE

WEEK BEFORE THE ORDER IS GIVEN TO EXECUTE THEM. NO EXECUTIONS

WAVE TAKEN PLACE SO FAR IN 1972, BUT THERE REDE THREE IN 1971,

THE LAST ONE IN NOVEMBER, IN WHICH A TOTAL OF 16 VC/NVA WERE KILLED.

5. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY, DEFATT AT PHNOM PENH: SENT TO CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACFLT MACY 7TH AF