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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

CITE TDCS DB-315/06676-71

DIST 9 NOVEMBER 1971

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 1968 - JUNE 1971

SUBJECT POSSIBLE COOPERATION OF AMERICAN PRISONERS  
OF WAR WITH THE VIET CONG IN QUANG DA SPECIAL  
ZONE

ACQ

[REDACTED]

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

Date 20 AUG 1978

Encl 19 (S-47601/00-VH)

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

SUMMARY: IN APRIL 1970 VIET CONG (VC) MILITARY REGION 5 (MR-5) SENT TWO WHITE AND ONE BLACK U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POW'S) TO WORK WITH THE VC QUANG DA SPECIAL ZONE (QDSZ) CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. ACCORDING TO THE BLACK POW, VC MR-5 HAD DETAINED HIM AND SEVERAL OTHER U.S. POW'S FOR THOUGHT REFORM AND AFTERWARDS SENT SOME TO WORK IN MR-5 PROVINCES AND OTHERS TO NORTH VIETNAM. ONE POW, A CAPTAIN, WORKED CLOSELY WITH MEMBERS OF THE QDSZ CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. THE OTHER TWO WERE ASSIGNED TO THE QDSZ MILITARY

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PROSELYTING SECTION WHERE THEY WROTE PROPAGANDA TO BE USED AGAINST U.S. TROOPS. IN MARCH 1971 A NEW U.S. POW WAS INTERROGATED BY ONE OF THE ENLISTED POW'S; THEY MAY HAVE PROVIDED INFORMATION WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY USED IN A VC ATTACK ON A GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM (GVN) DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS IN MAY 1971. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] A FORMER CADRE OF THE VC QDSZ [REDACTED] IN APRIL 1970 THREE AMERICAN POW'S, A CAPTAIN, A STAFF SERGEANT AND AN ENLISTED MAN, WERE SENT TO WORK IN THE OFFICE OF THE QDSZ CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE NEAR AT923420, IN THE MOUNTAIN AREA OF SON PHUC VILLAGE, GVN DUC DUC DISTRICT, GVN QUANG NAM PROVINCE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: VC QDSZ INCLUDES DANANG AND MOST OF GVN QUANG NAM PROVINCE. VC MR-5 COVERS THE AREA OF SOUTH VIETNAM-GENERALLY INCLUDED BETWEEN GVN QUANG NAM PROVINCE TO THE NORTH AND DARLAC AND KHANH HOA PROVINCES TO THE SOUTH.) INITIALLY THE VC CADRES WERE FORBIDDEN TO TALK WITH THE AMERICAN POW'S, BUT LATER THE AMERICANS, WHO COULD SPEAK SOME VIETNAMESE, BECAME FRIENDLY WITH SEVERAL CADRES IN THE AREA. THE THREE POW'S, WHOSE NAMES [REDACTED] DID

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NOT KNOW, WERE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE CAPTAIN WAS WHITE, ABOUT 26 OR 28 YEARS OLD, 1.8 METERS TALL, WITH BULGING EYES, BLONDE HAIR, A MOUSTACHE AND HAIRY FOREARMS. HE WAS SINGLE AND WAS A FORMER COLLEGE STUDENT. HE WAS CAPTURED IN 1968 BY THE VC WHILE ON AN OPERATION IN BINH DUONG VILLAGE, THANH BINH DISTRICT, QUANG TIN PROVINCE. HE WAS DETAINED FOR A YEAR BY AN UNIDENTIFIED SECTION OF VC MR-5 FOR THOUGHT REFORM. HE THEN REPORTEDLY AGREED TO WORK FOR THE VC.

B. THE STAFF SERGEANT WAS WHITE, ABOUT 25 YEARS OLD, 1.6 METERS TALL AND FAT, WITH A PROTRUDING STOMACH. HE HAD BROWN HAIR, A MOUSTACHE, AND WAS SUNBURNED. HE WAS SINGLE AND HAD A SISTER WHO IS A COLLEGE TEACHER. HE WAS CAPTURED BY GUERRILLAS DURING AN OPERATION NEAR THE QUE SON MOUNTAINS IN PHU HUONG VILLAGE (SIC), QUE SON DISTRICT, QUANG NAM PROVINCE. HE WAS DETAINED FOR THOUGHT REFORM BY AN MR-5 AGENCY FOR A FEW MONTHS AND AFTERWARDS REPORTEDLY AGREED TO WORK FOR THE VC.

C. THE ENLISTED MAN WAS BLACK, ABOUT 25 YEARS OLD, 1.8 METERS TALL AND FAT. HE HAD BULGING EYES,

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FACIAL ACNE, AND HAD SEVERAL UPPER FRONT TEETH MISSING. HE WAS CAPTURED AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME LOCATION AS THE CAPTAIN IN 1968. HE ALSO RECEIVED THOUGHT REFORM FOR A FEW MONTHS WHILE DETAINED BY A VC MR-5 AGENCY. HE THEN WENT TO WORK FOR THE VC. THE BLACK POW CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN SEVERAL OTHER AMERICAN POW'S DETAINED BY MR-5.

COMMENT: ALL THREE POW'S WERE CAPTURED IN VC QUANG NAM PROVINCE, WHICH INCLUDES GVN QUANG TIN PROVINCE AND PART OF GVN QUANG NAM PROVINCE. (SEE CS-311/01613-71 FOR A REPORT ON AN MR-5 THOUGHT REFORM CAMP LOCATED ON THE BORDER OF GVN QUANG TIN AND QUANG NGAI PROVINCES.)

2. WHILE UNDERGOING THOUGHT REFORM THE POW'S WERE INDOCTRINATED ON THE POLITICAL POLICIES OF THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND THE ACTIVITIES OF THE U.S. "PROGRESSIVE" MOVEMENT. THEY WERE ALSO TAUGHT SOME VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE. UPON COMPLETING THE INDOCTRINATION, THOSE POW'S WILLING TO WORK FOR THE VC WERE SENT TO VARIOUS VC MR-5 PROVINCES; THE OTHERS WERE SENT TO NORTH VIETNAM.

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3. IN MAY 1970 THE CHANGING MILITARY SITUATION FORCED THE VC QDSZ CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO MOVE FROM NEAR AT923420 IN SON PHUC VILLAGE, GVN DUC DUC DISTRICT, TO NEAR ZC120443 IN THE MOUNTAINS OF GVN THUONG DUC DISTRICT. THE THREE AMERICAN POW'S ALSO MOVED TO, AND WORKED IN, THE NEW LOCATION. THE CAPTAIN WORKED CLOSELY WITH CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND SELDOM TALKED TO OTHER VC CADRES. IN EARLY 1971 THE CAPTAIN WAS TRANSFERRED TO AN UNIDENTIFIED MR-5 AGENCY, BUT THE TWO ENLISTED MEN WERE RETAINED AT THE QDSZ. THESE TWO WERE THEN ASSIGNED TO THE QDSZ MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTION TO WRITE LEAFLETS AND LETTERS URGING THE U.S. TROOPS TO STOP THEIR MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND DESERT. THE TWO POW'S ALSO INTERROGATED OTHER AMERICAN POW'S, RECORDED PROPAGANDA SPEECHES FOR BROADCAST AND TAUGHT ENGLISH TO THE QDSZ CADRES. EACH OF THE AMERICAN POW'S RECEIVED A FOOD ALLOWANCE OF VND150 (U.S.\$0.54), WHICH IS THREE TIMES THAT GIVEN TO QDSZ CADRES. THEY ALSO WERE GIVEN CANNED U.S. FIELD RATIONS, OBTAINED IN GVN MARKETS, AND WERE ISSUED RUBBER SANDALS AND VC BLACK AND U.S. OLIVE GREEN UNIFORMS.

4. THE BLACK POW APPEARED TO HAVE MORE FREEDOM OF

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MOVEMENT THAN THE OTHERS; HE OCCASIONALLY ACCOMPANIED VC TRANSPORTATION CADRES TO THE PHU THUAN MARKET NEAR AT878511 IN LOC QUY VILLAGE OR TO XUYEN PHU VILLAGE, Q/N DUC DUC DISTRICT, WHERE THEY OBTAINED RICE FOR THE COMMITTEE. THE BLACK POW TOLD [REDACTED] THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO RETURN TO THE U.S. UNTIL PEACE CAME AND THAT HE HAD WRITTEN TWO LETTERS TO FRIENDS IN THE U.S. BETWEEN JANUARY AND JUNE 1971 TO ENCOURAGE U.S. YOUTH TO CONTINUE THEIR ANTIWAR DEMONSTRATIONS. THESE LETTERS WERE MAILED THROUGH THE VC POSTAL SYSTEM VIA HANOI.

5. IN MARCH 1971 [REDACTED] SAW ONE AMERICAN POW WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY THE VC IN DAI LOC DISTRICT AND BROUGHT TO THE COMMITTEE LOCATION. THE WHITE STAFF SERGEANT INTERROGATED THE NEW POW FOR A FEW DAYS; HE WAS LATER SENT TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION. IN APRIL 1971 THE VC LAUNCHED A STRONG ATTACK ON AI NGHIA TOWN (DAI LOC DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS). [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE WHITE STAFF SERGEANT AND THE NEW POW MAY HAVE HELPED MAKE THE ADVANCE PLANS FOR THE ATTACK. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THIS ATTACK ACTUALLY OCCURRED ON 2 MAY AND RESULTED IN 103

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ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION (KIA) AND 5 ENEMY CAPTURED. GVN FORCES SUFFERED 15 KIA AND 53 WOUNDED IN ACTION.) PRIOR TO THIS ATTACK THESE POW'S WERE SEEN MEETING WITH QDSZ MILITARY CADRES NEAR AT 872531 IN PHU BINH HAMLET, LOC QUY VILLAGE, GVN DUC DUC DISTRICT. THE MILITARY CADRES INCLUDED FNU N G O C, COMMANDER OF THE Q91 LOCAL FORCE (LF) SAPPER UNIT; FNU Q U Y, COMMANDER OF THE 140TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION OF FRONT 4; FNU K H O I, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE 38TH REGIMENT; AND FNU S I N H, A MEMBER OF THE 38TH REGIMENT, WHO INTERPRETED FOR THE TWO POW'S. [REDACTED] COMMENT: OTHER REPORTING SHOWS A FNU N G O C WAS A MEMBER OF THE Q91 UNIT IN MARCH 1969.)

6. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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7. FIELD DISSEM: STATE USMACV USAID CORDS 7TH AIR  
FORCE USARV NAVFORV 525TH MI GP 1021 FAS OSI CINCPAC ARPAC  
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