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APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
14-Jul-2009

IAS [] - 191/70 (b)(1)
13 May 1970 (b)(3)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, ~~Special Operations Division, DDP~~

ATTENTION : []

SUBJECT : Prison Camp, Son Tay, North Vietnam

REFERENCE : (a) []
(b) ~~CIA/IAS Project No. 051029~~
(c) Photo Enlargement ~~H-7195770~~, Enclosure to
Memorandum IAS/[] - 69/70

1. This memorandum is in response to your continuing requirement requesting analysis of installations in Southeast Asia which may contain American POW's.

2. We have examined the specific areas of excavation that you indicated on the photograph (Reference c). These excavations are irrigation canals. The canal south of the prison was constructed prior to 9 July 1969 and the canal north of the prison was constructed between 9 September and 9 November 1969.

3. There is no photography showing these irrigation canals under construction. Photography covering similar projects in North Vietnam shows that the work is usually done by manual labor. It is unlikely that a crane mounted on a boat or on a truck could have been used in the construction of the canals because a bridge with a low clearance prevents access by boat and the canals are not road served. Concrete dams have been constructed at the point where the canals join the river and both canals probably have pumps for lifting water from the river. Swing booms, like those at wells, could have been used to haul cement or to emplace the pumps, but this is not a normal construction technique in North Vietnam.

4. ~~An inmate of the prison could not observe the construction of these canals unless he were outside the prison walls. He probably could see the top of a boom from within the prison.~~

~~SECRET~~ []

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic

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5. The following materials were utilized in this study.



b. Map Reference

AMS Series L7014, Sheet 6151 III

6. Questions regarding this project may be directed to the imagery analyst, [redacted]

[redacted] This project is continuing.

~~HOWARD STOERTZ, JR.~~
Director
Imagery Analysis Service

ENCLOSURE

1 Annotated Photo Enlargement [4-7195/70]

Distribution

Orig - Addressee

- 1 - IAS [redacted]
- 1 - IAS [redacted]

~~SECRET~~

