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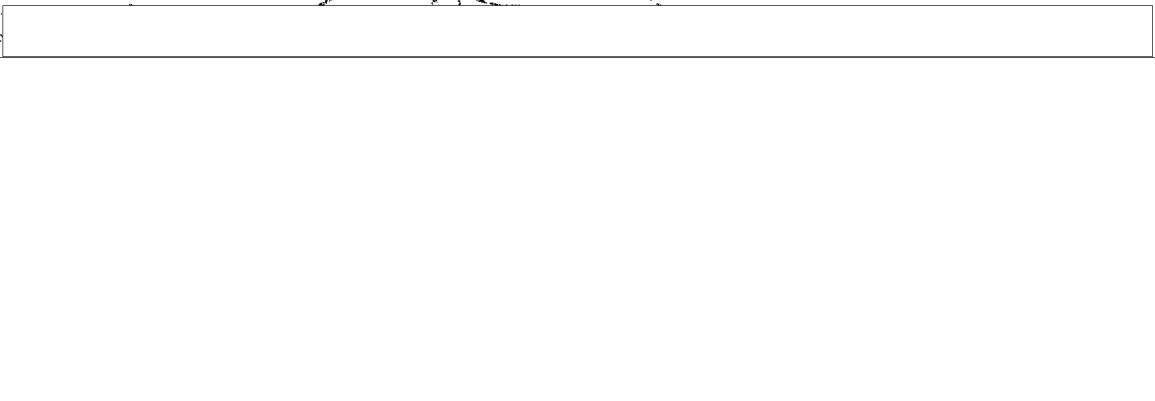
N I C INTERROGATION REPORT

THIS REPORT IS THE RESULT OF THE INTERROGATION ACTIVITY CONDUCTED BY THE NATIONAL INTERROGATION CENTER (NIC) UNDER THE JOINT AUSPICES OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION (CIO) AND THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF DETACHMENT 6, 6499TH SPECIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP (USAF).

COUNTRY	: NORTH VIETNAM (NVN) SOUTH VIETNAM (SVN) LAOS	NIC REPORT NO	: 101/68
		NIC CASE NO	: FET
SUBJECT	: Evacuation of NVA/VC Sick and Wounded from SVN to NVN	DATE OF REPORT	: 11/2/68
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DATE OF INFO	: December 1967	REF	: NIC Report 097/68 (PIR)
DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION	: 15 January 1967 (I - U) DANANG, QUANG NAM		

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During infiltration many wounded were seen being evacuated back to NVN. The wounded were either walking or being carried. Commo-liaison agents said that the wounded would be transported in vehicles from QUANG BINH Province to HANOI. Conversations with some of the wounded indicated that some were amputees, others were blind in one eye, some were paralyzed; other had unrecognizable conditions. Dispensaries and hospitals were scattered along the infiltration route for the care of the wounded being evacuated.

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1. During infiltration, many wounded were met on their way back to NVN, especially enroute from Laos to QUANG NAM Province. Everyday a group of about 20 men, was seen; the majority of them were able to walk, only a minority was evacuated on stretchers. The highest figure of wounded being carried on stretchers at one time in Laos was four men.
2. On the infiltration route, sometimes the infiltration group and the wounded groups halted at the same place. On such occasions, the wounded were asked about their health and the situation in SVN. Conversations between the infiltrators and the wounded were not prohibited. Commo-liaison agents (who were responsible for carrying the disabled or taking those who became seriously sick to a dispensary set along the infiltration route) said that all the wounded would be transported by vehicles from QUANG BINH Province (exact location unknown) to HANOI.
3. Through different conversations with the evacuees, it was learned that they had been hospitalized in SVN, were released from the hospitals or dispensaries and were allowed to go back to NVN. Their conditions varied, some had amputated legs; some had amputated arms, some were blind in one eye, some were paralyzed and others had conditions which were unfamiliar. One of the evacuees said that he had just infiltrated SVN for one week (October 1967) and now was being sent back to NVN because he was wounded in the left eye during a clash with a GV Commando element in Station 49 area, THUA THIEN Province. It appeared that an NVA/VC soldier or cadre who was comparatively seriously wounded would likely be sent to NVN after a period of treatment in SVN.
4. The infiltration route was also used for the evacuation of wounded. Along this route were scattered dispensaries and hospitals for infiltrators, wounded and sick. In QUANG BINH Province, a dispensary was located in the TRUONG SON Mountains about a one and one half hour walking from Station 24. (coordinates unknown). One day during the infiltration, a platoon was sent to pick up rice and happened to pass by the dispensary. About 30 wounded were seen walking to and from in the dispensary area, but the platoon was not allowed to enter the facilities, and the exact number of wounded and sick at the dispensary was unknown. The installation was composed of four or five 4 x 8 meter thatched buildings. In Laos near Station 36, there was also one dispensary. The wounded there said that those who were sent to this dispensary would eventually be sent to NVN. In THUA THIEN Province about a two hour walk from Station 43, there was one hospital with doctors and medical technicians, where surgery for the NVA/VC troops had been conducted.
5. Cadres in NVN had not yet been indoctrinated on the policy of evacuation of sick and wounded to NVN. They, however, tacitly understood that if they were wounded they would have hopes of being sent to NVN.
6. Although not much was known about the procedures of exchanging Commo-liaison agents in the evacuation task, the volume of disabled evacuated on stretchers depended greatly on the number of personnel at each station. Sometimes the wounded had to stay in the station and wait for their turn to be evacuated. Until they reached station 1 in QUANG NAM Province, the wounded had to prepare their own meals; but beginning from Station 49 all the way to NVN, their meals would be prepared by Commo-liaison personnel.
7. In NVN [redacted] who had infiltrated SVN during 1963, said that he was medically evacuated to HANOI in about February or March 1966. The latter also said that according to NVN policy, he would be sent to an advanced cultural course and later could select a career suitable to his capability. The other wounded, [redacted] would be treated the same, except that if they do not have good educational background, they will be able to learn a trade right away instead of receiving refresher formal education. [redacted] did not say what organization he had stayed with in HANOI, but he said that those who were in serious condition or not in normal physical condition would not be allowed to visit their families, and their families too would not be informed of their return in NVN.

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