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41

UNCORRELATED

P090856Z AUG 99  
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUFQBBA/US SURVEY DIV SHAPE BE  
RUCMACC/CDR4THPSYOP GP FT BRAGG NC//AOCP-POG-BB//  
RUEALGX/SAFE  
RUEAKEY/SAFE  
P090850Z AUG 99

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9159  
RUHEMAD/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI  
INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:RSA// PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5//  
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/USCINCPAC LO WASHDC  
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J3/J32//  
RUHVAAA/CDR USACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC/PED/H//  
RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//POW-MIA//  
RUEHBK/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH  
RUEHHI/CJTFFA DET TWO HANOI VM  
BT

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: NOV 03 2017

CONTROLS

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VIENTIANE 001408

STATE FOR EAP/BCLTV

Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 USC 552  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS +  
Date: 03/10/2017 Authority: EO 13526  
Declassify: \_\_\_\_\_ Deny in Full: \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify in Part: X  
Reason: 1.4(c)(1)  
MDR: 18-M-0067

~~EO 12958, DECI, 08/09/09~~

/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/

BODY

TAGS: KPOW, MOPS, LA  
SUBJ: CJTFFA RPT L99-011: THREE POSSIBLE AMERICAN  
PRISONERS SEEN IN CAVE IN NORTHERN LAOS IN 1967

FROM JTFFA DET THREE, VIENTIANE

REF: A. AMEMB VIENTIANE 1324/JTFFA-DET 3 280937Z JUL 99  
B. AMEMB VIENTIANE 1347/JTFFA-DET 3 020634Z AUG 99

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18-M-0067

1. ~~CLASSIFIED BY WILLIAM D. GADOURY FOR REASON 1.5 (D)~~

OSD 1.4(c)(d)

2. (S) SOURCE/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

A. (S) NAME: [REDACTED]

B. (S) DPOB: [REDACTED]

C. (U) CITIZENSHIP: [REDACTED]

C. (S) ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

D. (U) LANGUAGES: [REDACTED]

E. (S) OCCUPATION: [REDACTED]

E. (S) DATE OF INFORMATION: 1967

F. (U) INTERVIEWED ON 23 JUL 99, AT AMERICAN EMBASSY BY W.R. GADOURY, DET THREE CASUALTY RESOLUTION SPECIALIST.

G. (U) OTHER: MAP REFERENCE: JOG SHEET (SERIES 1501) NF 48-14; SERIES L7015 SHEET: 5850-3.

3. (S) SUMMARY: SOURCE VISITED DET THREE TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE STATUS OF AN AMERICAN PILOT'S RING FOUND BY HIS FRIEND IN HOUAPHAN PROVINCE (REF). SOURCE PROVIDED INFORMATION ABOUT HIS SIGHTING OF THREE CAUCASIAN MALES WHO HE BELIEVED TO BE AMERICAN PRISONERS IN 1967. SOURCE WENT TO VISIT [REDACTED] IN A CAVE IN VIENGXAY, HOUAPHAN PROVINCE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HE ONLY OBSERVED THE PRISONERS BRIEFLY AND DID NOT ASK OR HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT THEM SUBSEQUENTLY. END SUMMARY.

4. (S) INFORMATION:

A. (S) SOURCE VISITED DETACHMENT THREE ON 23 JULY TO ASK ABOUT A RING WHICH HAD BEEN FOUND NEAR THE CRASH SITE OF AN F-105 AIRCRAFT. AFTER DISCUSSING THAT SUBJECT (REPORTED IN REF A), SOURCE RECOUNTED AN INCIDENT RELATED TO AMERICAN REMAINS WHICH HE HEARD IN 1990 (REF B). ASKED IF HE EVER SAW OR HEARD ANY OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT AMERICANS DURING THE WAR, HE RESPONDED THAT THE ONLY OTHER INCIDENT OF WHICH HE KNEW WAS THE THREE AMERICAN PRISONERS HE SAW IN A CAVE AT VIENGXAY. SOURCE EXPLAINED HE SAW THREE AMERICAN PRISONERS WHEN HE WENT TO VISIT HIS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE CAVE, "THE POLICE CAVE," WAS ONE OF SEVERAL IN VIENGXAY (UTM VH2056) NEAR PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG'S CAVE.

B. (S) [REDACTED]

C. (S) ASKED TO DESCRIBE THE SIGHTING OF THE PRISONERS, SOURCE SAID IT WAS IN 1967, MAYBE SEPTEMBER, THAT HE HAD GONE TO VISIT [REDACTED] AT [REDACTED]

HIS OFFICE. AFTER ENTERING THE CAVE THERE WAS A ROOM ABOUT 50 METERS FROM THE ENTRANCE ON THE RIGHT SIDE. HE WAS WALKING PAST IT ON THE WAY TO THE ROOM [REDACTED] ON THE WAY PAST HE NOTICED THREE "AMERICAN PRISONERS" SITTING TOGETHER EATING; EATING BREAD, HE ADDED AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT. CRS ASKED HOW HE KNEW THEY WERE AMERICANS, OR EVEN PRISONERS. SOURCE SAID MOST PEOPLE IN VIENGXAY HAD HEARD ABOUT THE AMERICAN PILOTS WHO HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN NEARBY AND TAKEN PRISONER. SINCE THE THREE FOREIGN MEN HE SAW WERE IN THE DETENTION ROOM WITH METAL BARS ON THE DOOR, HE ASSUMED THEY WERE CAPTURED AMERICAN PILOTS, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT KNOW IF THEY WERE THE SAME PILOTS CAPTURED IN THE VIENGXAY AREA. HE DESCRIBED THE THREE AS APPEARING IN "NORMAL" HEALTH WITH NO NOTICEABLE INJURIES, AND THEY WERE CAUCASIAN. HE SAID HE ONLY OBSERVED THEM BRIEFLY AS HE WALKED PAST THE ENTRANCE TO THE ROOM, AND COULD NOT PROVIDE ANY FURTHER DETAILS. HE DID NOT

/\*\*\*\*\* BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 \*\*\*\*\*/

RECALL WHAT THEY WERE WEARING.

D. (C) CRS ASKED IF SOURCE HAD HEARD WHERE EACH OF THE PILOTS CAPTURED IN THE VIENGXAY AREA HAD BEEN CAPTURED, I.E. NEAR WHICH VILLAGES? HE RESPONDED THAT HE HEARD TWO WERE CAPTURED IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF VIENGXAY. HE RECALLED HEARING THAT THE THIRD AMERICAN PILOT HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN THE MUANG PANE - BAN NA CHONG AREA. BUT, HE REPEATED, HE DID NOT KNOW IF THE THREE PRISONERS HE SAW IN THE CAVE WERE THE SAME ONES CAPTURED IN THE VIENGXAY AREA OR NOT. (NOTE: MUANG PANE IS AT VH144691; BAN NA CHONG IS AT VH177750. END NOTE)

E. (C) EXPLAINING THE LAY-OUT OF THE CAVE, SOURCE SAID HE WALKED ON TO [REDACTED] ABOUT 150 METERS BEYOND THE DETENTION ROOM. HE NOTED THERE WAS ANOTHER PASSAGEWAY WHICH BRANCHED OFF TO THE RIGHT, PRIOR TO ARRIVING AT [REDACTED] BUT HE DID NOT KNOW TO WHERE IT LED. CRS ASKED IF SOURCE HAD ASKED [REDACTED] ABOUT THE THREE PRISONERS. SOURCE SAID HE DID NOT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CRS ASKED SOURCE IF HE KEPT IN TOUCH WITH HIS [REDACTED] HE RESPONDED THAT THE LAST HE HEARD [REDACTED]

F. (C) LIGHTING: SOURCE SAID SOME OF THE CHAMBERS OF THE CAVE WERE LIT BY NATURAL LIGHT WHICH CAME THROUGH GAPS IN THE WALL. (NOTE: CRS HAS BEEN IN CAVES IN THE LIMESTONE KARST MOUNTAINS OF THE VIENGXAY AREA, AND SOME ROOMS/CHAMBERS ARE, IN FACT, LIT THROUGH NATURAL OPENINGS IN THE JAGGED KARST FACE. END NOTE) SOURCE ADDED THAT THE CAVES WERE ALSO LIT AT NIGHT BY GENERATOR POWERED LIGHTS. WHEN QUESTIONED FURTHER ABOUT HIS ABILITY TO SEE THE PRISONERS IN THE CAVE, HE ADMITTED THAT HE COULD NOT RECALL IF THE LIGHT BY WHICH HE SAW THEM WAS NATURAL OR GENERATOR POWERED.

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G. (U)

5. (U) COMMENTS:

A. (U) SOURCE VISITED DET THREE TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE AMERICAN PILOT'S RING (REF A), BUT WAS AMENABLE TO ANSWERING OTHER QUESTIONS. THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION LED TO SOURCE INFORMING CRS THAT HE HAD KNOWLEDGE OF TWO OTHER INCIDENTS POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH UNACCOUNTED FOR AMERICANS; THE ONE REPORTED ABOVE AND THE INCIDENT REPORTED IN REF B.

B. (U) SOURCE WAS FRIENDLY AND SOFT SPOKEN. HE WALKED WITH A SHUFFLE AND APPEARED OLDER THAN HIS AGE, BUT WAS ALERT AND DID NOT HAVE ANY TROUBLE RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS. WHEN CRS FINISHED THE RING DISCUSSION AND BEGAN TO ASK ABOUT SOURCE'S BACKGROUND AND DETAILS OF THIS THE OTHER INCIDENT, SOURCE APPEARED LESS INTERESTED AND BEGAN LOOKING IMPATIENTLY AT HIS WATCH. SOURCE HAD TO LEAVE BEFORE CRS HAD A CHANCE TO ASK ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, BUT HE INDICATED HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO RETURN IF THERE WAS ANYTHING ELSE WITH WHICH HE COULD HELP.

STEWART

OSD 14(c)(d)

ADMIN  
BT  
#1439

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