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FIR-317/09069-73

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5 July 1973

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COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 16-20 MAY 1973

SUBJECT PRESENCE OF AN AMERICAN IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE SERVING AS AN "ASSISTANT" TO LEADING NORYH VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS IN MAY 1973

ACQ [redacted]

SOURCE [redacted]

[redacted]

Encl 26 (S-47,601/DB-VN)

[redacted]

1. ON 16 MAY 1973 A CAUCASIAN MALE NAMED PAUL BAKERY (PHONETIC) ENTERED THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) D-1 REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS AREA LOCATED, AT THAT TIME, AT LAI HIEU CANAL (WR750784), CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM. BAKERY WAS UNARMED AND MOVED AROUND THE CAMP FREELY ALTHOUGH ESCORTED BY TWO NVA SOLDIERS. HE ENTERED THE BASE AREA SHORTLY AFTER THE ARRIVAL OF A HIGH-RANKING NORTH VIETNAMESE DELEGATION, LED BY TRUONG C H I N H AND HOANG QUOC V I E T, WHICH WAS ESCORTED BY A 12-MAN SECURITY TEAM ARMED WITH K-54 PISTOLS AND FOLDING-STOCK AK-47 RIFLES. (FIELD COMMENT: TRUONG CHINH IS THE SECOND RANKING MEMBER OF THE LAO DONG PARTY POLITBURO AFTER LE D U A N AND IS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HOANG QUOC VIET IS A MEMBER OF THE LAO DONG PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND HEAD OF THE VIETNAMESE FATHERLAND FRONT.)

2. THE CAUCASIAN ENGAGED IN NIGHTLY MEETINGS WITH SENIOR CADRE OF THE D-1 REGIMENT AND TALKED WITH SELECTED SOLDIERS OF THE REGIMENT. HE CARRIED ON CONVERSATIONS IN EXCELLENT VIETNAMESE, GIVING HIS NAME AND STATING THAT HE WAS AN AMERICAN FUNCTIONING AS AN ASSISTANT TO TRUONG CHINH AND HOANG QUOC VIET.

[redacted]

[redacted]

3. BAKERY WAS ABOUT 35 YEARS OLD, 5 FEET 6 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHED ABOUT 125 POUNDS, HAD DARK BLUE EYES, WAVY BLONDE HAIR AND BLONDE EYEBROWS, A SQUARE-SHAPED FACE WITH HIGH FOREHEAD AND MEDIUM-THIN NOSE, A PINKISH COMPLEXION WITH FRECKLES, WAS CLEAN SHAVEN AND HAD ONE GOLD MOLAR IN HIS UPPER JAW. HE WORE AN OLIVE UNIFORM SIMILAR TO THAT WORN BY THE NVA. HIS PERSONAL POSSESSIONS CONSISTED OF A LARGE SILVER WATCH AND A MILITARY OR SCHOOL RING WITH AN INSCRIPTION SURROUNDING A BLUE OR PINK SAPPHIRE. BAKERY CARRIED AN M-16 AMMUNITION CASE CONTAINING HIS PERSONAL PAPERS.

4. DURING HIS VISIT TO THE BASE AREA, NVA PERSONNEL WERE INSTRUCTED NOT TO INITIATE CONVERSATION WITH HIM, BUT TO RESPOND FREELY TO HIS QUESTIONS. BAKERY DRANK BEER AND SHARED MEALS WITH CHINH, VIET, AND THE REGIMENTAL STAFF. ALTHOUGH THE DELEGATION LEFT THE AREA ON 19 MAY FOR VC MILITARY REGION 3 HEADQUARTERS, BAKERY REMAINED WITH THE D-1 REGIMENT UNTIL 28 MAY WHEN HE WAS ESCORTED OUT BY LEGAL CADRE ASSIGNED TO THE REGIMENT. [redacted] COMMENT: HIS DESTINATION WAS NOT GIVEN.)

5. [redacted] COMMENT: THE FOLLOWING IS THE JOINT CASUALTY

[redacted]

[redacted]

RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) EVALUATION OF THE REPORT: A JCRC RECORDS SEARCH FAILED TO CORRELATE THE INFORMATION IN THE REPORT TO ANY AVAILABLE DATA.)

6. FIELD DISSEM: DEFENSE ATTACHE FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVE IN SAIGON: SENT TO CINCPAC (FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD ONLY) USSAG AND [redacted]

[redacted]