DIST: J3-1 J5-1 SACSA-3 SAMAA-1
SECDEF-7 ASD/ISA-5 DIA-15
CSA-1 CSAF-5 CNO-2 CMC-3
CJCS-1 FILE-1 (46)

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PAGE 1 OF 4 PAG

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[redacted] 121711Z CITE TDCS 314/02224-67

DIST 12 FEBRUARY 1967

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM 2-1775 1-057

DOI LATE JANUARY - 2 FEBRUARY 1967

SUBJECT AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN QUANG NGAI AND QUANG NAM PROVINCES.

ACQ VIETNAM, DANANG (30 JANUARY - 9 FEBRUARY 1967)

SOURCE [redacted]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
Date 1 MAY 1978

1. (SUMMARY: REPORTS OF LATE JANUARY AND EARLY FEBRUARY PLACE UNITED STATES PRISONERS OF WAR AS FOLLOWS: TWO OR THREE NEAR NGHIA HU VILLAGE, NGHIA HANH DISTRICT AND ABOUT FORTY AT SON TAY VILLAGE, [redacted]

Dia #72 Encl 72 (S-47,601/DB-4H) #209 #205

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
Date 20 AUG 1978

[redacted]

SON THINH DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. ANOTHER FOUR ARE AT SON LONG VILLAGE AND EIGHT AT SON CHAU VILLAGE, BOTH SON DISTRICT, QUANG NAM PROVINCE.)

2. A VIET CONG KVCD DETENTION CAMP IS LOCATED BEYOND THE WESTERN EDGE OF PHO KHUONG HAMLET, NGHIA PHU VILLAGE, NGHIA HANH DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. IN LATE JANUARY TWO OR THREE AMERICAN AND SEVERAL VIETNAMESE PRISONERS OF WAR WERE IN THE CAMP. THE CAMP IS DIVIDED DOWN THE CENTER BY A FENCE SIX OR SEVEN FEET HIGH, WITH THE UNITED STATES PRISONERS KEPT ON THE NORTH SIDE AND THE VIETNAMESE ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE. EACH COMPOUND CONTAINS A THATCHED ROOF HUT WITH NO WINDOWS AND ONLY ONE DOOR.

3. THE CAMP IS LOCATED IN A SHALLOW VALLEY (APPROXIMATELY BS 598 4870) AND SURROUNDED BY A NUMBER OF TREES WHICH PROVIDE A BROKEN CANOPY ABOUT 15.5 FEET HIGH. IT HAS A CIRCULAR PERIMETER FENCE NEARLY SEVEN FEET HIGH CONSTRUCTED OF BAMBOO POLES AND STRUNG WITH BARBED WIRE. A GATE, SECURED WITH A LOCK, IS LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE FENCE. ONE OF THE TWO GUARDS ALWAYS ON DUTY NEAR THE GATE KEEPS THE KEY TO THE LOCK. NO OTHER PERSONS GUARD THE CAMP. TO THE WEST, NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE CAMP THE TERRAIN IS OPEN EXCEPT FOR TREES. TO THE EAST ARE RICE PADDIES. THERE ARE NO TRENCHES OR EMPLACEMENTS NEAR THE CAMP, BUT THERE ARE MANY

[redacted]

[redacted]

(classification) (dissem controls)

TRENCHES WITH CAMOUFLAGED PUNJI STAKES AREOUND THE HAMLET OF PHO KHUONG. ONE PLATOON OF VC VILLAGE GUERRILLAS PROVIDES DEFENSE FOR THE HAMLET.

4. REPORTS OF 22 AND 28 JANUARY STATE THAT AN UNIDENTIFIED VC MILITARY UNIT MOVING FROM TU NGHIA DISTRICT TO SON TAY VILLAGE BS 439 764 AND BS 436 770, SON TINH DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE, HAD ABOUT ONE HUNDRED PRISONERS, INCLUDING BETWEEN THIRTY-FIVE AND FORTY AMERICANS. THE 28 JANUARY REPORT SAID THAT THE PRISONERS, INCLUDING FORTY AMERICANS, HAD BEEN TAKEN TO THE BEO FERRY (BS 448 706), SON TAY VILLAGE. -207 15 [illegible] N 108 [illegible] E ND 49-1

5. AS OF 2 FEBRUARY THE VC HELD FOUR AMERICAN AND FOUR VIETNAMESE PRISONERS IN THE HOUSE OF A MR. TRACH, CHAU SON HAMLET (APPROXIMATELY AT 987,393), SON LONG VILLAGE, QUE SON DISTRICT, QUANG NAM PROVINCE. THE 60TH VC BATTALION (BN) OF THE 108TH REGIMENT (REGT), COMMANDED BY NGUYEN CHUAN TO, MOVED FROM SON LONG VILLAGE AND ASSUMED SCATTERED POSITIONS AROUND GIA CAT HAMLET, (APPROXIMATELY AT 963 327 AND AT 964 325), SON THACH VILLAGE, QUE SON DISTRICT. THE BATTALION HAD AN ESTIMATED STRENGTH OF THREE HUNDRED, MOST OF WHOM SPOKE WITH A NORTH VIETNAMESE ACCENT, AND WAS ARMED WITH TWO 82 MM AND TWO 60 MM MORTARS, TWO MACHINE GUNS, FOUR HEAVY

[redacted]

[redacted]

MACHINE GUNS, A NUMBER OF AUTOMATIC RIFLES AND INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS.

[redacted] COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE MACV ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE SUMMARY PUBLISHED ON 31 JANUARY 1967 LISTS THE 108TH VC REGIMENT (REGT) AT BS 18070 AS OF 11 JANUARY, IT SHOWS THE 60TH VC BATTALION (BN) IN QUANG NGAI AT BS 3773 AS OF 2 JANUARY AS PART OF THE 1ST VC REGIMENT.)

6. AT THE END OF JANUARY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY 21ST REGT HELD EIGHT AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR. THE REGT WAS LOCATED AT DUC HAMLET (APPROXIMATELY BT 070 323 AND BT 076 323), SON CHAU VILLAGE, QUE SON DISTRICT, QUANG NAM PROVINCE. THE PRISONERS WERE IN POOR HEALTH BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT FOOD AND DIFFICULT LIVING CONDITIONS.

[redacted] COMMENT: THE MACV ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE SUMMARY (SEE ABOVE) LISTS THIS REGIMENT AT BS 3583, QUANG NGAI, AS OF 13 JANUARY.)

7. [redacted] DISSEM: STATE USAID JUSPAO USMACV USARV III MAF NAVFORV 7TH AIR FORCE DIST 50/OSI 525TH MIG CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACELT

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