

COUNTRY: Vietnam

DOI: Early March 1977

SUBJECT: Comments by [redacted]

on Categories of U.S. Personnel Missing
in Action and Possible SRV Tactics in Negotiations
with the U.S.

SOURCE: [redacted]

[redacted] elaborated that, while the U.S. refers to all those personnel still unaccounted for as MIA's, for the SRV several categories exist, and he cited four examples. First are U.S. pilots whose aircraft were shot down and who were killed over Vietnam. Second are those U.S. prisoners of war (POW's) who died while imprisoned in Vietnam. Third are a few "good" Americans who have seen the light and who now live and work in the SRV. Fourth are those U.S. POW's who were so obstinate that they had to be executed while in prison. In response to a question as to whether any U.S. POW's are living now in the SRV, the [redacted] replied that he believed so.

2. The [redacted] gave what he described as his personal position on what stance the SRV would take in forthcoming negotiations with the U.S. He said that the SRV would be in a difficult negotiating position regarding a financial settlement for war damage because the U.S. could claim that the U.S. supplied property and materiel left behind in South Vietnam were sufficient payment for the SRV. The functionary believed Hanoi would use a slow step-by-step approach (mhu tung cai) in those negotiations.