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TO: DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM,

SERIAL: [REDACTED]

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NSA FOR ZKZK OD ZRL DE (EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, NSA);
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CENTERS IN BANGKOK AND BARBERS POINT, HAWAII, FOR
COMMANDERS ONLY).

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

DIST: 27 AUGUST 1987

EXCLUSIVE DISSEMINATION TO ADDRESSEES LISTED AT END OF REPORT

COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: POW/MIA: SPECIAL DETACHMENT OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
DEPARTMENT C-16 TO MONITOR THE STATUS OF AMERICAN
AIRMEN AND AIRCRAFT DOWNED IN THE NORTHERN-VIETNAMESE
PANHANDLE BETWEEN EARLY 1964 AND LATE 1968

DOI: EARLY 1964-LATE 1968, EXCEPT AS STATED

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

SUMMARY: FROM EARLY 1964 TO LATE 1968 DEPARTMENT C-16 OF THE
VIETNAMESE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (BO NOI VU, BNV) SENT FIVE OFFICERS
TO THE PANHANDLE OF NORTHERN VIETNAM--FROM THE SONG MA RIVER, THANH
HOA PROVINCE, THROUGH XUAN SON, BINH TRI THIEN PROVINCE--TO MONITOR
THE STATUS OF DOWNED AMERICAN AIRMEN AND AIRCRAFT. THE DETACHMENT
COORDINATED WITH LOCAL VILLAGE AND PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES CHECKING
ALL DATA AND INFORMATION ON EACH CRASH THAT RESULTED IN THE CAPTURE
OR DEATH OF AIRMEN. THIS WAS REPORTED TO BNV DEPARTMENT C-16 BY
RADIO. SOME 150 CASES WERE REPORTED DURING THE PERIOD. THE
DETACHMENT WAS EQUIPPED WITH A STATIONERY 50-WATT RADIO, A 15-WATT
RADIO ON A COMMAND CAR, AND VARIOUS RUDIMENTARY EQUIPMENT AND MAPS.
ANOTHER DETACHMENT CARRIED OUT A SIMILAR MISSION OFF THE COAST OF
THE PANHANDLE.

TEXT: 1. FROM EARLY 1964 TO LATE 1968, A FIVE-MAN DETACHMENT FRI

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DEPARTMENT C-16 OF THE VIETNAMESE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (BO NOI VU, BNV) WAS SENT TO THE FOURTH MILITARY REGION TO COORDINATE WITH THE VIETNAMESE AIR FORCE AND GROUND FORCES (PHONG THAM MUU CUC 16 PHUC VU CHO KHONG QUAN VA MAT DAT). THE DETACHMENT'S SPECIFIC MISSION WAS TO DOUBLE CHECK LOCAL INFORMATION AND REPORT TO BNV DEPARTMENT C-16 IN HANOI ON THE FOLLOWING:

- A. GENERAL AND SPECIFIC ENEMY AIRCRAFT CRASH SITES.
- B. BOMBED AREAS.
- C. THE DATE(S) AND DURATION OF ENEMY BOMBINGS.
- D. THE DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AIRCRAFT.
- E. SPECIFIC LOCATIONS OF THE AIRMEN'S LANDINGS.
- F. CONFIRMATION OF THE STATUS OF THE AIRMEN:
 - 1) IF THEY WERE ALIVE, HOW WERE THEY HANDLED AND BY WHOM?
 - 2) IF THEY WERE DEAD, HOW AND WHERE WERE THEY BURIED?

2. THE DETACHMENT WAS HEADQUARTERED AT A JUNCTION ON ROUTE 11A AT NAM THAI VILLAGE (WF 525685), NAM DAN DISTRICT, NGHE TINH PROVINCE, ABOUT 15 KILOMETERS WEST OF VINH CITY. THE IDENTITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DETACHMENT MEMBERS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

A. FIRST LIEUTENANT NGUYEN HUU ((DAT)), BORN 1947 IN SON TAY, HANOI, SERVICE CARD NUMBER TB-16-24. HE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE AREA FROM THE SONG MA RIVER, THANH HOA PROVINCE, TO THE HOANG MAI RIVER (WG 8028), NGHE TINH PROVINCE. AS OF 1980 DAT WAS IN THE GENERAL SECURITY DEPARTMENT IN HANOI.

B. SECOND LIEUTENANT HOANG ((QUI)), BORN 1942 IN HANOI, SERVICE CARD NUMBER TB-16-25. HE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE AREA FROM THE HOANG MAI RIVER TO NAM DAN DISTRICT, NGHE TINH. AS OF 1972 HE WAS SECRETARY OF THE HA BAC PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE.

C. FIRST LIEUTENANT NGUYEN DUC ((NHI)), BORN 1944 IN HAIPHONG MUNICIPALITY, SERVICE CARD NUMBER TB-16-23. HE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE AREA FROM NAM DAN TO THE DONG LOC ROAD JUNCTION (WF 8341), NGHE TINH PROVINCE.

D. ADJUDANT (THUONG SI) NGUYEN HUU ((TAN)), BORN 1949 IN THAI BINH PROVINCE, SERVICE CARD NUMBER TB-16-26. HE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE AREA FROM DONG LOC TO THE PHA RON FERRY (XF 0050), NGHE TINH PROVINCE. AS OF 1984 TAN WAS WITH THE PEOPLE'S CONTROL ORGANIZATION IN HAIPHONG.

E. SECOND LIEUTENANT TRAN VAN ((HIEN)), BORN 1949 IN SON TAY, HANOI, SERVICE CARD NUMBER TB-16-27. HE WAS THE RADIO OPERATOR. HE USED TO CHECK THE CASES FROM PHA RON TO XUAN SON, BINH TRI THIEN PROVINCE.

3. THE DETACHMENT WAS NOTIFIED OF CASES BY THE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES THAT RECEIVED REPORTS FROM LOCAL SECURITY FORCES. IT USUALLY TOOK A MEMBER OF THE DETACHMENT FROM 15 MINUTES TO HALF A DAY TO ARRIVE AT THE SCENE OF AN INCIDENT IN NGHE TINH PROVINCE. ONCE AT THE SCENE, THE DETACHMENT MEMBER COORDINATED WITH THE VILLAGE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC SECURITY, WITH THE LEADER OF THE VILLAGE MILITARY UNIT AND THE MILITIA FORCE. WHERE THERE WERE UNITS OF THE PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM, THE DETACHMENT MEMBER ALSO COORDINATED WITH THE LEADER OF THE AIR DEFENSE BRANCH. THE DETACHMENT MEMBER DOUBLE

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CHECKED THEIR REPORTS AND CERTIFIED THEIR ACCURACY. WHEN THE AIRMEN WERE ALIVE, THE DETACHMENT MEMBER USUALLY ESCORTED THEM TO THE INVESTIGATION AND INTERROGATION OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL BNV SECURITY BRANCH THAT WAS AUTHORIZED TO HOLD THE PRISONERS NO LONGER THAN ONE WEEK. AFTERWARD, THE PRISONERS WERE ALL SENT TO HANOI.

4. THE DETACHMENT RADIOED A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON ALL CASES ONCE A WEEK TO BNV DEPARTMENT C-16. IT HAND CARRIED ALL WRITTEN REPORTS ON THE CASES TO THE DEPARTMENT EVERY QUARTER. COORDINATION BETWEEN THE HIGHER ECHELON SERVICES IN HANOI WAS NOT KNOWN. SOME 150 CASES WERE ALLEGEDLY REPORTED BY THE DETACHMENT FROM SPRING 1964 THROUGH LATE 1968.

5. THE DETACHMENT WAS ISSUED SETS OF MPS (SCALE 1:500,000), MATERIALS ON THE DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF AMERICAN AIRCRAFT, BINOCULARS, COMPASSES, VARIOUS TYPES OF RULERS AND K-54 PISTOLS. IT WAS ALSO EQUIPPED WITH A STATIONERY 50-WATT RADIO AND A 15-WATT RADIO ON A COMMAND CAR. THE MEMBERS WORE CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND CARRIED THEIR SERVICE CARDS THAT HAD THEIR SERVICE NUMBERS IN THE UPPER CORNERS, THEIR NAMES WITH THE LETTERS "C.A.N.M." IN THE CENTER AND THEIR STAMPED PICTURES IN THE LOWER LEFT CORNER.

6. THERE WAS A SIMILAR DETACHMENT TO MONITOR CRASHES AND THE CAPTURE OF AIRMEN OFF THE COAST OF THE PANHANDLE. FIRST LIEUTENANT NGUYEN THANH ((VIEN)), BORN 1942 IN HAIPHONG, WAS A MEMBER OF THIS DETACHMENT. AS OF 1983 VIEN WAS SECRETARY OF THE LAM DONG PROVINCIAL PARTY COMMITTEE.

ACQ: [REDACTED] (LATE AUGUST 1987). [REDACTED]

DISSEM: [REDACTED] NONE.

WASHINGTON DISSEM:

TO WHSITRM: EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR,
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TO DIA EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, DIA
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WARNING: REPORT CLASS ~~S E C R E T~~ [REDACTED]

DECL: OADR DRV [REDACTED] BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.>

ORIG/REL: [REDACTED]

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