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PENTAGON
OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE☐ (b)(3)

PRIORITY/ROUTINE

ZYUW RUESFG 1868 0160522

P R 160515Z JAN 92

FM FBIS BANGKOK TH

- TO RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA

RUDKMB/FBIS LONDON UK//BBC//

INFO RAYWBF/ONA CANBERRA AS

RAYWDA/DIO CANBERRA AS

RHHMMCY/JICPAC HONOLULU HI

RUAJMAB/FOSIF WESTPAC KAMI SEYA JA

RUCIPGA/HQ AFESC TYNDALL AFB FL//DEHM//

RUDDMAX/FAISA FT BRAGG NC

RUDPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC

RUEACMC/CMC WASH DC//MSPA-1 INTC//

RUEACNP/COMNAVMILPERSCOM WASH DC//NMPC-12//

RUEADWD/CSA WASHINGTON DC//DAAG-CAD//

RUEAHQA/AFIA WASHINGTON DC

RUEBHAA/STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA

RUEHBT/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR/EAP//

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//D/PW//

RUEHG/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP/VLC//

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR/SEA//

RUEKJCS/DEFINTAGENCY WASH DC

RUEOACC/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//

RUESDJ/FBIS OKINAWA JA

RUETIAV/MPC FT GEO G MEADE MD

RUHDBKT/DATT-TLO BANGKOK TH

RUHQHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RULWIOC/SAC INTELLIGENCE OPS CNT OFFUTT AFB NE

RUMTFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

RUWMFDC/CDR CORPS FT LEWIS WA

RUWSMXI/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//

ACCT FBBK-EWDK

UNCLAS 4N

WARNING: ATTN BANGKOK AE
ATTN BANGKOK LOCAL

SERIAL: BK1601051592

PASS: ATTN POL

COUNTRY: SRV

SUBJ: COMMENTATOR CRITICIZES U.S. ON POW-MIA ISSUE

REF: 1. BK1501110992 HANOI VVN ENGLISH 151000 -- HANOI COMMENTS
ON ALLEGED KGB INVOLVEMENT IN MIA ISSUE
2. BK1401042592 HANOI VVN VIETNAMESE 120015 -- RADIO
COMMENTS ON KGB'S ALLEGATIONS OF POW'SSOURCE: HANOI VOICE OF VIETNAM NETWORK IN VIETNAMESE 0015 GMT
16 JAN 92

TEXT:

//((COMMENTARY BY DUONG QUANG MINH: "ANOTHER CLUMSY PLAY HAS
ENDED"))

. ((TEXT)) ON 13 JANUARY, A SPOKESWOMAN FOR THE U.S. STATE

* * * MESSAGE PREPARATION HINT * * *

DUE TO REORG OF MANY AIR FORCE UNITS, PLEASE ENSURE YOUR MESSAGE
ADDRESSES AND OFFICE SYMBOLS ARE ACCURATE TO PREVENT DELIVERY DELAYS

AFISA...INFO

CIA-920116-647

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MCN=92016/09864 TOR=92016/0530Z TAO=92016/0530Z
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DEPARTMENT SAID: THE UNITED STATES HAS PUT AN END TO AN INVESTIGATION INTO REPORTS THAT U.S. SERVICEMEN CAPTURED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR HAD BEEN MOVED TO THE FORMER SOVIET UNION. SHE SAID: U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW DID CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION BUT COULD NOT FIND ANY EVIDENCE TO SUBSTANTIATE THESE REPORTS. SHE ALSO SAID: THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT HAS CONSIDERED THESE CASES AS CLOSED UNLESS NEW EVIDENCE IS FOUND.

THUS, ANOTHER PLAY ABOUT THE SO-CALLED U.S. PRISONERS-OF-WAR BEING ALIVE IN VIETNAM OR MOVED FROM VIETNAM TO OTHER COUNTRIES HAS ENDED AND THE RESULTS OF THIS PLAY ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE IN THE PAST, THAT IS TO SAY, THEY HAVE ALL BEEN QUICKLY REJECTED BY BROAD SEGMENTS OF THE PUBLIC.

THE PEOPLE WHO FABRICATED THIS STORY HAVE HAD THEIR PHONY AND DECEITFUL NATURE LAID BARE EVEN MORE CLEARLY. VIETNAM'S ASSERTION THAT NO U.S. PRISONERS-OF-WAR WERE EITHER STILL ALIVE IN VIETNAM OR MOVED TO OTHER COUNTRIES HAS GAINED MORE CREDIT.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THOSE WHO REJECTED REPORTS ABOUT U.S. SERVICEMEN STILL ALIVE IN VIETNAM ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF MANY AUTHORITATIVE U.S. AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE POW AND MIA ISSUE.

ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO, U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY CHENEY SAID: THERE IS NO SOUND EVIDENCE THAT U.S. SERVICEMEN ARE BEING DETAINED IN VIETNAM. ALL THE PHOTOS BROUGHT FORWARD WERE DOCTORED. MR. VESSEY, A SPECIAL ENVOY OF U.S. PRESIDENT BUSH, ALSO SAID: THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO CONCLUDE THAT U.S. POWS ARE STILL ALIVE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

THIS TIME, THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, CIA, ALSO ADMITTED THAT IT HAD NO DOCUMENTATION OF A CIA AGENT CAPTURED DURING THE WAR IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAVING BEEN INTERROGATED BY SOVIET INTELLIGENCE AGENTS IN 1978. A CIA AGENT WAS CAPTURED IN SOUTH VIETNAM IN 1968 AND WAS RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES IN MARCH 1973. ANOTHER CIA AGENT WAS ALSO CAPTURED IN SOUTH VIETNAM IN APRIL 1975 AND WAS FREED IN OCTOBER 1975.

THE PLAY ABOUT U.S. POWS STILL ALIVE EITHER IN VIETNAM OR IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION HAS ENDED. YET, THE PUBLIC STILL RAISES THESE QUESTIONS: WHO STAGED THIS PLAY? WHAT ARE THEIR MOTIVES?

FIRST OF ALL, THESE INCLUDE THE VERY PEOPLE WHO STILL CLING TO AN OUTDATED HOSTILE POLICY TOWARD VIETNAM. THEY HAVE TRIED BY ALL MEANS TO HAMPER THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND VIETNAM AND HENCEFORTH, IMPEDE THE TREND TOWARD BUSINESS COOPERATION WITH VIETNAM THAT MANY BUSINESS PEOPLE WORLDWIDE, INCLUDING MANY U.S. ALLIES, HAVE FOLLOWED. AS RECENTLY AS 7 JANUARY 1992, IN A U.S. TELEVISED INTERVIEW, FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT NIXON REPEATED THE SAME OLD ARGUMENT THAT VIETNAM HAS COMMITTED A SERIES OF WRONGFUL DEEDS AND THAT VIETNAM KNOWS MORE THAN WHAT IT SAID ABOUT THE FATE OF 2,000 OR MORE U.S. POWS LISTED AS MISSING IN INDOCHINA. HE EVEN REQUESTED THAT THE UNITED STATES NOT ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM UNTIL AFTER THE LATTER CHANGES ITS POLICY.

ANOTHER GROUP OF PEOPLE HAVE DELIBERATELY INVENTED A POW-AND-MIA STORY IN A BID TO MANIFEST THEIR SORDID SCHEME AIMED AT EXTORTING MONEY FROM FAMILIES OF U.S. SERVICEMEN MISSING IN THE INDOCHINA WAR AND FROM AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE POW-AND-MIA ISSUE. IN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED: A DARK SCHEME AIMED AT EXTORTING MONEY THROUGH THE MIA ISSUE, THE U.S. PAPER THE NEW YORK TIMES SAID: INDIVIDUALS WORKING FOR CRUEL INDUSTRIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND SOUTHEAST ASIA HAVE AVAILED THEMSELVES OF THE FLICKERING HOPE OF FAMILIES OF U.S. SERVICEMEN MISSING IN ACTION TO ADVERTISE FOR THEIR NAMES AND TO COLLECT MONEY THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MIA FUNDS. THE PAPER ALSO POINTED OUT: THE BUSINESS OF COLLECTING MONEY IN THE NAME OF MISSING PERSONNEL IS VERY LUCRATIVE. MANY PEOPLE LIVING IN EXILE IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE OFTEN PUBLICIZED FALSIFIED DOCUMENTS WITH QUESTIONS LIKE: DON'T YOU KNOW THAT IN ONLY A FEW WEEKS WE CAN BRING HOME FORMER SERVICEMEN WHO ARE STILL ALIVE? WE NEED AT LEAST \$27,000.

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VIETNAM'S UNSWERVING STANCE IS THAT NO U.S. SERVICEMAN IS STILL ALIVE IN VIETNAM AND THAT VIETNAM HAS DONE ALL IT CAN TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES IN THE SETTLEMENT OF THE POW AND MIA ISSUE. LIKE IT OR NOT, U.S. POLITICAL CIRCLES HAVE RECOGNIZED VIETNAM'S GOODWILL ATTITUDE. (USTED), A RESEARCH SPECIALIST OF THE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY UNDER THE U.S. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT ON ASSIGNMENT AT THE HANOI-BASED MIA OFFICE, SAID: I MUST ADMIT THAT VIETNAM HAS BEEN VERY ENTHUSIASTIC IN THIS MATTER. I CANNOT EXPECT VIETNAM TO DO ANYTHING BEYOND THAT POINT.

WE HAVE ALSO ASCERTAINED THAT THE POW AND MIA ISSUE IS A HUMANITARIAN ONE. VIETNAM IS DETERMINED NOT TO ACCEPT ANY ATTEMPTS TO ATTACH POLITICAL STRINGS TO THIS ISSUE. ALL DARK SCHEMES AIMED AT DISTORTING THE TRUTH AND DENYING VIETNAM'S GOODWILL ATTITUDE AS WELL AS AT USING THE POW AND MIA ISSUE TO SERVE INDIVIDUAL INTERESTS WILL BE CONDEMNED BY THE PUBLIC.

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