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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: POW/MIA: SIGHTING OF AN AMERICAN NEAR REEDUCATION  
CAMP-14 IN HOANG LIEN SON PROVINCE, NORTHERN VIETNAM,  
DURING 1976-1977; DESCRIPTION OF CAMPS 14 AND 14B

DOI: JUNE 1976 - JULY 1977

SOURCE:

TEXT: 1. FROM 24 JUNE 1976 TO MARCH 1977 THERE WERE NO AMERICANS AT  
REEDUCATION CAMP-14 IN HOANG LIEN SON PROVINCE, NORTHERN VIETNAM.  
DURING THAT TIME AN AMERICAN NAMED "NAM" WAS OBSERVED ABOUT 10  
KILOMETERS (10AS) FROM INTERCAMP-1 IN HOANG LIEN SON. THIS AMERICAN  
WORKED AT INTERCAMP-1 AS A GENERATOR REPAIRMAN. HE WAS SAID TO BE OF  
THE QUAKER FAITH. SEVERAL PREVIOUS REFUGEE SOURCES  
HAVE REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF AN AMERICAN NAMED NGUYEN VAN NAM  
WORKING NEAR INTERCAMP-1.) REEDUCATION CAMP-14 WAS LOCATED ABOUT 40  
KMS NORTHWEST OF YEN BAI CITY IN HOANG LIEN SON. THIS CAMP WAS BUILT  
BY ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH) VIETNAM (ARVN) PRISONERS CAPTURED  
BY THE PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) BEFORE 1975.

2. CAMP-14 WAS ADMINISTERED BY AN ELEMENT OF PAVN GROUP 776  
YEN BAI. THERE WAS A STAFF OF ABOUT 35 PAVN OFFICERS AND MEN AT  
CAMP-14. THIS CAMP WAS EQUIPPED WITH TELEPHONES, RADIO TRANSMITTERS  
AND ANTENNAS.

3. THERE WERE ABOUT 300 ARVN OFFICERS AT THIS CAMP. OF THEM  
ABOUT 270 WERE ARVN CAPTAINS AND THE OTHERS WERE ARVN 1ST AND 2ND

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LIEUTENANTS. MANY OF THE PRISONERS AT THIS FACILITY WERE PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED TO MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, MILITARY SECURITY SERVICE, PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE AND SPECIAL POLICE UNITS. THE PRISONERS WERE ORGANIZED INTO ABOUT SEVEN LABOR UNITS OF ABOUT 42 INMATES EACH. THE UNITS WERE SUBDIVIDED INTO FOUR CELLS OF ABOUT 11 MEN EACH.

CAMP-14, ABOUT 100 PRISONERS REMAINED THERE. HE DOES NOT KNOW THE CURRENT DISPOSITION OF THAT CAMP.)

4. FROM MARCH TO JULY 1977, THERE WERE NO AMERICANS AT REEDUCATION CAMP-148 IN HOANG LIEN SON PROVINCE. THIS CAMP WAS LOCATED IN THAN UYEN VILLAGE, ABOUT 48 KMS EAST OF VAN BAN DISTRICT TOWN. CAMP-148 USED LETTER BOX NUMBER NT82 AS A MAILING ADDRESS. THIS CAMP WAS BUILT NEAR THE TOP OF A MOUNTAIN BY ARVN PRISONERS DURING THE PERIOD OF MARCH TO SEPTEMBER 1977.

5. CAMP 148 WAS ADMINISTERED BY A PAVN ELEMENT FROM INTERCAMP-5. THE DEPUTY CAMP COMMANDER WAS PAVN SENIOR LIEUTENANT (LNU) ((DIEU)); THE COMMANDER'S NAME HAS BEEN FORGOTTEN. CAMP-148 HAD A STAFF OF ABOUT 30 PAVN OFFICERS AND MEN.

6. ABOUT 150 ARVN OFFICERS, ALL OF WHOM WERE CAPTAINS, WERE DETAINED AT THIS FACILITY. INMATES WERE ORGANIZED INTO UNITS OF 35 PRISONERS. THE UNITS CONSISTED OF 11-MAN CELLS. THERE WERE SEVERAL ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS, INCLUDING TAY, MAN AND MED (HONG) TRIBESMEN, RESIDING NEAR CAMP-148. A LOCAL TRIBE MEMBER SERVED AS COURIER BETWEEN CAMP-148 AND INTERCAMP-5. THERE WAS NO OTHER MEANS OF COMMUNICATIONS AT CAMP-148. THIS CAMP WAS APPARENTLY DISBANDED IN JULY 1977. AT THAT TIME THE PAVN STAFF OFFERED THE CAMP TO THE LOCAL MONTAGNARDS, BUT THEY REFUSED AND SO SEVERAL OF THE BUILDINGS WERE DESTROYED WHEN THE PRISONERS AND STAFF LEFT THE AREA.

WASHINGTON DISSEM:

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