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TOT: 041941Z SEP 91

[Redacted]

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

EZ1:

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042059Z

TO: DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA ATTN MR BOB SHEETZ.

~~SECRET~~ [Redacted]

EZ2:

[Redacted]

SUBJECT: DEBRIEFING OF [Redacted] ON PHOTO AND MIA INFO

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS OBTAINED ON 3 AUGUST 1991 [Redacted]

[Redacted]

AT THE SITE 2 NORTH REFUGEE  
CAMP. THIS REPORT WAS PASSED TO STONY BEACH AND NOW IS BEING SENT  
FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

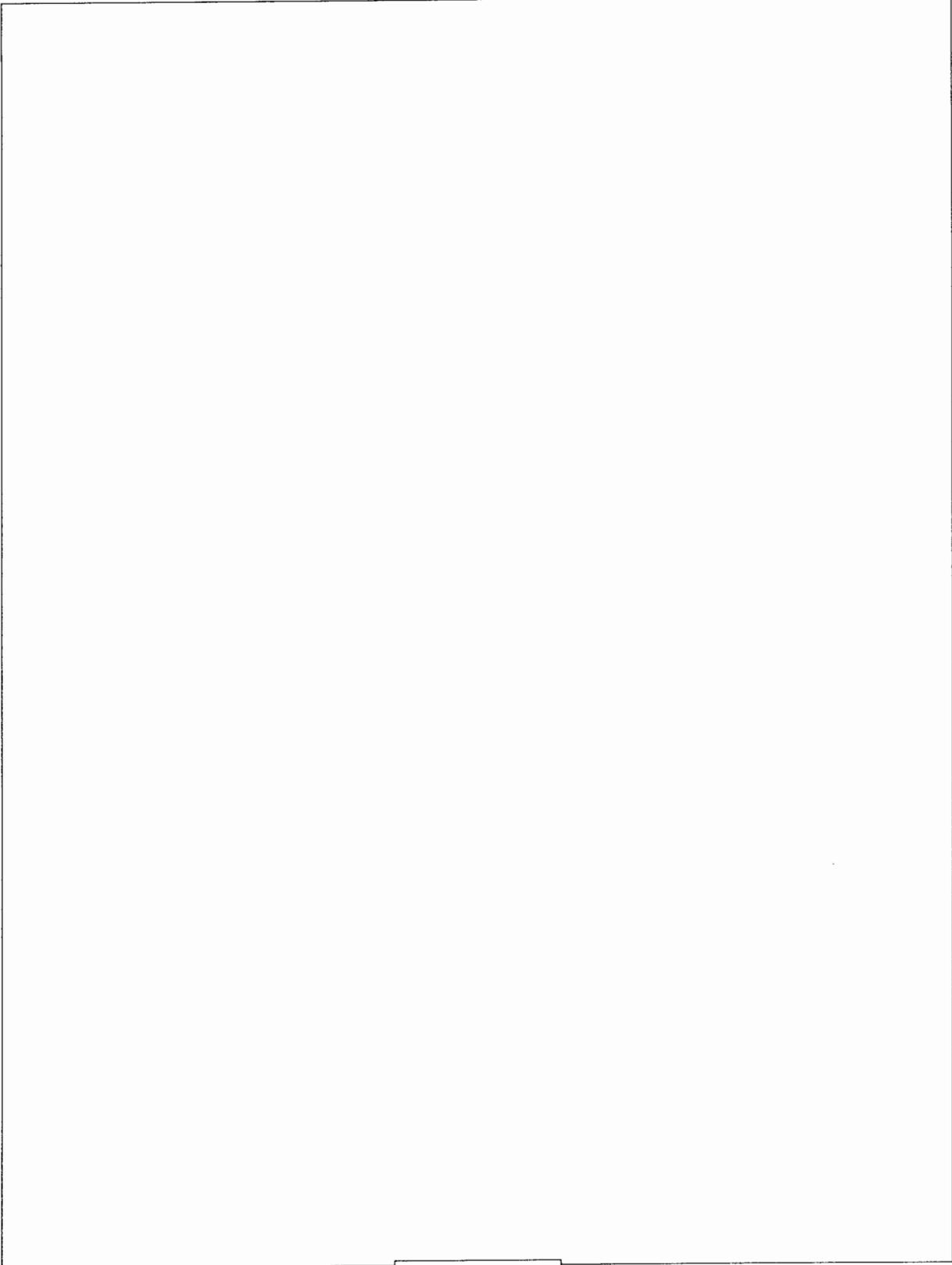
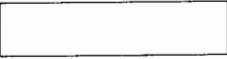
[Large Redacted Area]

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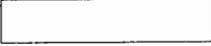
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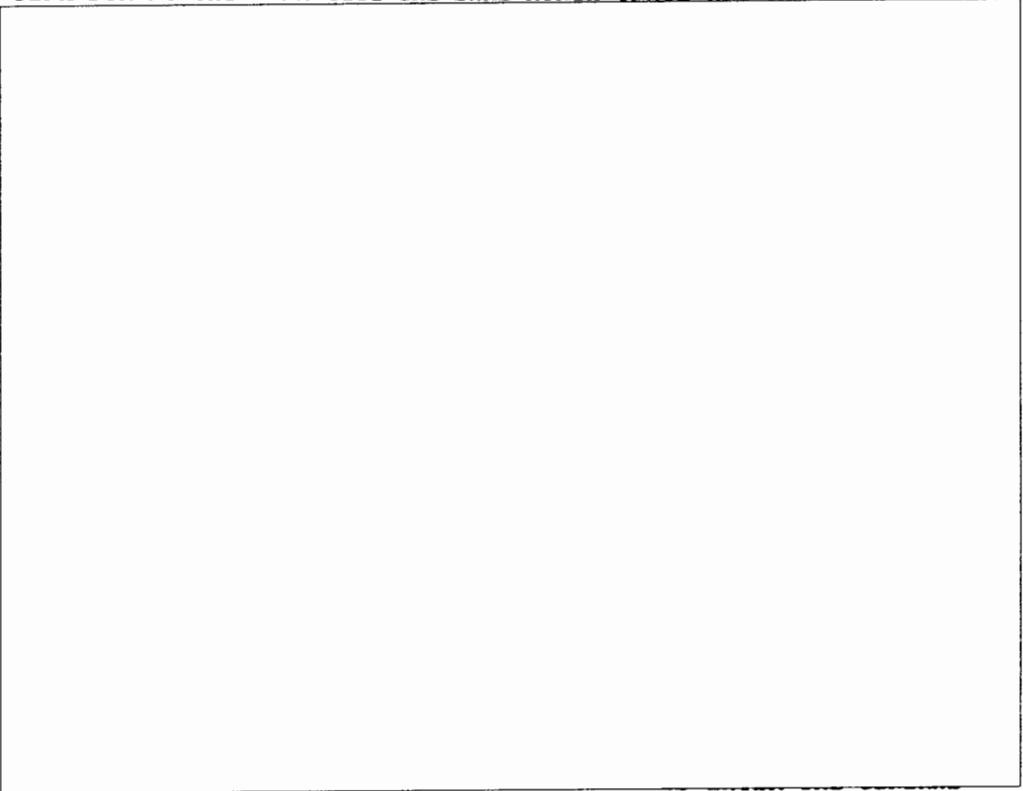
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INSPECT PRK PRISONS IN PHNOM PENH CITY. THE VIETNAMESE GENERAL ALLEGEDLY TOOK A U.S. POW FROM THE PRISON NORTH OF DA NANG AND BROUGHT THE POW WITH HIM TO PHNOM PENH. THE NAME OF THE ALLEGED U.S. POW WAS UNKNOWN. THE POW WAS REPORTEDLY KEPT FOR ONE EVENING AT THE RESIDENCE OF [REDACTED] LOCATED ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE OLYMPIC MARKET IN PHNOM PENH CITY. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] VIETNAMESE OFFICERS WERE ALLOWED TO RETAIN THEIR LIVING QUARTERS IN PHNOM PENH EVEN AFTER THEIR PARENT MILITARY UNIT RETURNED TO VIETNAM. [REDACTED] CLAIMS TO HAVE MET WITH THE U.S. POW AT [REDACTED] RESIDENCE. THE VIETNAMESE GENERAL REPORTEDLY RETURNED TO VIETNAM WITH THE U.S. POW THE FOLLOWING DAY WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT [REDACTED] DID NOT HAVE CONTACT WITH ANY U.S. AUTHORITIES. [REDACTED] CLAIMS TO HAVE SENT MANY POW/MIA RELATED DOCUMENTS TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BANGKOK, BUT HAD NOT RECEIVED A REPLY AS TO THEIR AUTHENTICITY. WHEN ASKED WHAT ADDRESS HE PUT ON THE ENVELOPE [REDACTED] REPLIED "TO U.S. EMBASSY." HOWEVER, WHEN ASKED TO IDENTIFY THE DOCUMENTS [REDACTED] CLAIMS NOT TO REMEMBER, BUT THAT THERE WERE "MANY."

6. IN THE SPRING OF 1989, AT THE INVITATION OF THE UNIDENTIFIED VIETNAMESE GENERAL [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MADE TWO TRIPS TO VIETNAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITING THE PRISON LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 300 KMS NORTH OF DA NANG CITY. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] REFERS TO THE PRISON AS BEING LCCATED IN DA NANG PROVINCE/HANOI (SIC.) [REDACTED] TOLD [REDACTED] THAT THE GENERAL PROMISED TO HAVE ON HAND [REDACTED] DOCUMENTS OF THREE OF THE U.S. POW'S HELD AT THE PRISON. [REDACTED] THEN LEFT PHNOM PENH FOR HO CHI MINH CITY THE SAME MONTH (DATE AND MONTH UNKNOWN).



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ONE DAY AND A HALF LATER THE GROUP ARRIVED IN DA NANG CITY WHERE AN ARGUMENT ENSUED BETWEEN THE GENERAL AND [REDACTED] OVER PAYMENT OF 30 DAMLOENG OF GOLD. [REDACTED] COMMENT: ONE DAMLOENG EQUALS 37.5 GRAMS.) THE GENERAL DEMANDED THE GOLD PRIOR TO PROVIDING POW RELATED DOCUMENTS [REDACTED] INSISTED THAT FIRST THE DOCUMENTS, THEN THE GOLD. THE ARGUMENT WAS NOT RESOLVED AND [REDACTED] DECIDED TO RETURN TO PHNOM PENH WITH [REDACTED] WITHOUT THE DOCUMENTS.

[REDACTED] ALL MEMBERS OF THE PARTY THEN CHANGED CLOTHES AND PUT ON NEW UNIFORMS WORN BY VIETNAMESE OFFICERS WORKING AT THE PRISON. THE UNIFORMS INCLUDED SHIRTS, PANTS, HATS, SHOULDER INSIGNIA AND SHOES. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE PARTY THEN RESUMED THEIR JOURNEY TO THE PRISON. [REDACTED] DID NOT REMEMBER WHICH ROADS THE VEHICLE TRAVELED OR TERRAIN FEATURES SUCH AS MOUNTAINS, VALLEYS, ETC. THE TRIP FROM DA NANG CITY TO THE PRISON TOOK APPROXIMATELY FIVE HOURS, INCLUDING REST STOPS.

9. ARRIVING AT THE PRISON, THE VEHICLE PASSED THROUGH MANY BARBED-WIRE FENCES BEFORE TURNING RIGHT TWICE AND PULLING UP TO A

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SMALL CONCRETE BUILDING. THE GROUP THEN WALKED TO THE NEXT BUILDING WHICH WAS THE RECEPTION BUILDING. WHEN ASKED TO DRAW A SKETCH OF THE PRISON COMPOUND, [REDACTED] HE COULD NOT REMEMBER, EXCEPT THAT IT LOOKED LIKE "A TOWN IN THE FOREST." THE RECEPTION BUILDING HAD BOTH A FRONT AND REAR DOOR THROUGH WHICH THE POW'S COULD EXIT TO WORK OUTSIDE AND THEN RETURN TO THE HOLDING AREA LOCATED BEHIND THE RECEPTION BUILDING. TWO BRICK BUILDINGS ADJACENT TO AND BEHIND THE RECEPTION BUILDING REPORTEDLY HOUSED KOREAN, FILIPINO AND TAIWANESE POW'S. THE BUILDINGS HOUSING APPROXIMATELY 700 U.S. POW'S WERE LOCATED BEHIND THESE TWO BRICK BUILDINGS. AFTER RESTING BRIEFLY IN THE RECEPTION BUILDING WITH THE GENERAL [REDACTED] THREE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S WERE BROUGHT TO THE RECEPTION BUILDING [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CLAIMS TO HAVE SPOKEN WITH ALL THREE U.S. POW'S FOR A TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY FIVE MINUTES DURING WHICH [REDACTED] TRANSLATED FROM KHMER TO VIETNAMESE AND THE GENERAL TRANSLATED FROM VIETNAMESE TO ENGLISH. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TOOK THE POW'S TO A NEARBY VEGETABLE GARDEN TO TAKE THEIR PICTURES. AT THE SAME TIME, [REDACTED] TOOK A PICTURE OF A FOURTH ALLEGED U.S. POW IN HIS CELL, SITTING AND HOLDING THE HAND OF A YOUNG VIETNAMESE GIRL. THE FOURTH POW AND THE YOUNG VIETNAMESE GIRL WERE NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THEN CHANGED HIS STORY AND STATED HE WAS STANDING 50 METERS AWAY. [REDACTED] CLAIMED THAT THE PICTURE THAT [REDACTED] TOOK INCLUDED SOME BEDS IN THE BACKGROUND. WHEN ASKED IF THE BEDS WERE OCCUPIED AT THE TIME, [REDACTED] STATED THAT THE GENERAL HAD CLEARED THE AREA OF POW'S PRIOR TO THE PICTURE BEING TAKEN. [REDACTED] ADDED THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED BY SEEING AND TALKING TO THE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S. [REDACTED] CLAIMED TO HAVE ASKED THE GENERAL TO ALLOW HIM [REDACTED] TO TAKE VIDEO COVERAGE OF THE POW'S. BUT THE GENERAL REFUSED. THE CAMERAS USED [REDACTED] TO TAKE THE PICTURES BELONGED TO THE GENERAL AND WERE RENTED BY [REDACTED] FOR THE OCCASION.

10. POW RELATED DOCUMENTS OBTAINED BY [REDACTED] FROM THE GENERAL INCLUDED ONE PHOTOGRAPH OF THREE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S [REDACTED] FAILED TO REMEMBER THE NAMES OF THE POW'S); ONE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE FOURTH ALLEGED U.S. POW SITTING IN HIS CELL HOLDING THE HAND OF THE YOUNG VIETNAMESE GIRL; TWO LETTERS FROM ONE OF THE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S IN THE FIRST PHOTOGRAPH, ONE OF WHICH WAS ADDRESSED TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE OTHER TO HIS FAMILY; ONE VOICE RECORDED TAPE AND ONE I.D. CARD OF THE SAME POW. [REDACTED] WAS NOT CERTAIN TO WHICH OF THE THREE POW'S THE ABOVE MATERIALS PERTAINED. [REDACTED] MAINTAINED THAT THE THREE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S IN THE PHOTOGRAPH WERE THE SAME THREE POW'S HE SPOKE WITH IN THE RECEPTION ROOM OF THE PRISON. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE CLOTHING THAT THE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S WORE [REDACTED] STATED THAT THEY WORE PRISONER (SIC) UNIFORMS, LONG SLEEVE SHIRT AND TROUSERS. [REDACTED] LATER REVISED HIS STORY AND STATED THAT HE WAS NOT SURE BUT REMEMBERED THAT ONE OF THE POW'S HE SPOKE WITH AT THE RECEPTION BUILDING WORE A MILITARY UNIFORM (NFI) WITHOUT HAT, ADDING THAT HE WAS NOT SURE IF THE POW WORE SHOES OR SANDALS.

11. AFTER OBTAINING THE DOCUMENTS FROM THE GENERAL [REDACTED] REPORTEDLY PAID THE GENERAL 300 CHI OF GOLD (ONE CHI EQUALS 3.75 GRAMS) AND RETURNED [REDACTED]

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HO CHI MINH CITY. [redacted]

12. IN LATE NOVEMBER 1989, [redacted] CLAIMS TO HAVE MAILED TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BANGKOK ONE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE THREE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S; ONE ORIGINAL LETTER, ONE ORIGINAL I.D. CARD, AND ONE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE FOURTH ALLEGED U.S. POW SITTING IN HIS CELL HOLDING THE HAND OF THE YOUNG VIETNAMESE GIRL. DOCUMENTS REPORTEDLY MAILED TO THE FAMILY OF ONE OF THE THREE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S INCLUDED ONE COPY OF THE PHOTOGRAPH DEPICTING THE THREE ALLEGED U.S. POW'S, ONE ORIGINAL VOICE TAPE RECORDING, AND ONE LETTER. [redacted] RETAINED COPIES OF THE ABOVE MATERIALS.

13. IN APRIL 1991, [redacted] CLAIMS THAT ((PRAK)) SEN, A FORMER SIHANOUK NATIONAL ARMY (ANS) RESISTANCE COMMANDER, SEIZED BY FORCE A NUMBER OF MIA-RELATED DOCUMENTS (NFI) FROM [redacted] RESIDENCE [redacted] PRAK, BORN CIRCA 1937, PLACE OF BIRTH UNKNOWN, LIVES IN PRASAT DISTRICT CLOSE TO THE RESIDENCE OF ((TIEP)) BEN, CURRENTLY AN ANS OFFICIAL. PRAK IS CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED BUT USES THE INFLUENCE (NFI) OF HIS OFFICIAL THAI CONTACTS TO HAI SS OTHER KHMER NATIONALS. [redacted] COMMENT: [redacted] DID NOT PROVIDE DETAILS OF WHAT KINDS OF HARASSMENT PRAK EXACTED ON OTHER KHMER NATIONALS.) BECAUSE OF THIS HARASSMENT, [redacted] FURTHER CLAIMS TO HAVE DESTROYED, BY BURNING, ALL POW-RELATED DOCUMENTS IN HIS POSSESSION CIRCA 15 JULY 1991. [redacted] FEARED THAT PRAK WOULD HIRE THUGS TO PHYSICALLY HARM [redacted] AND STEAL HIS REMAINING DOCUMENTS.

[redacted]

15. [redacted] WILL ATTEMPT TO LOCATE [redacted] WHOSE RESIDENCE IS LISTED OUTSIDE SITE 2 REFUGEE CAMP. IF LOCATED, [redacted] WILL ALSO BE DEBRIEFED. THIS WILL COMPLETE [redacted] TASING OF DEBRIEFING [redacted] RELATED TO THE RECENT POW/MIA PHOTOGRAPH ISSUE. [redacted]

17. CLASSIFIED BY SIGNER. DECL OADR DRV [redacted] ~~SECRET~~

END OF MESSAGE  
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