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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT CLASS ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
 DIST: 16 JUNE 1987
 COUNTRY: VIETNAM
 SUBJ: ABSENCE OF AMERICANS AT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE 230C
 REEDUCATION CAMP IN THUAN HAI PROVINCE, SOUTHERN
 VIETNAM
 DOI: 5 JANUARY 1981 - 15 NOVEMBER 1985

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SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. FROM 5 JANUARY 1981 TO 25 NOVEMBER 1985 THERE WERE NO AMERICANS AT THE Z30C REEDUCATION CAMP IN THUAN HAI PROVINCE, SOUTHERN VIETNAM. THE Z30C CAMP WAS LOCATED ABOUT 150 KILOMETERS (KMS) NORTHEAST OF HO CHI MINH CITY (HCMC) ALONG NATIONAL HIGHWAY ONE IN HAM TAN DISTRICT, THUAN HAI. THIS CAMP WAS BUILT CIRCA 1977 IN A PREVIOUSLY UNCLEARED JUNGLE AREA.

2. CAMP Z30C WAS ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (BNV). AS OF NOVEMBER 1985 THE CAMP COMMANDER WAS BNV MAJOR (LNU) ((QUANG)). APPROXIMATELY 275 BNV PERSONNEL WERE ASSIGNED TO THE Z30C STAFF AND GUARD FORCE. THE Z30C CAMP STAFF CONSISTED OF A CAMP SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE (BAN GIAM THI TRAI), UNDER WHICH WERE MANPOWER, JUDICIARY, PLANS, MANAGEMENT, TRAINING, OVERSIGHT (QUAN CHE), REAR SERVICES, FINANCE, MEDICAL, STATISTICS AND (PRISONER) EMULATION SECTIONS. THE EMULATION SECTION WAS COMPOSED OF CULTURE LAW AND ORDER, STATISTICS AND MEDICAL CELLS. [REDACTED] COMMENT: AS IN MOST REEDUCATION CAMPS, THE EMULATION SECTION AT Z30C FUNCTIONED PRIMARILY AS A TOOL TO MONITOR THE DAILY ACTIVITIES AND ATTITUDES OF THE PRISONERS.)

3. Z30C CONSISTED OF SUBCAMPS K1 AND K2. SUBCAMP K1 HAD ZONES A AND C. [REDACTED] COMMENT: AS OF NOVEMBER 1985, ZONE A OF K1 HAD BEEN CLOSED DOWN FOR RENOVATION. THE OLD PREFABRICATED BUILDINGS AT ZONE A WERE ROTTEN, AND WERE BEING TORN DOWN AND REBUILT WITH MORE PERMANENT STRUCTURES.) FROM 1981 TO 1984 SUBCAMP K1 DETAINED UP TO 3000 PRISONERS WHEN THE BNV BEGAN TO SEND THE PRISONERS SOUTH IN LARGE NUMBERS. DURING THIS PERIOD THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS AT Z30C FLUCTUATED GREATLY AS NEW GROUPS ARRIVED FROM THE NORTH AND OTHER GROUPS OF PRISONERS WERE RELEASED FROM REEDUCATION. THE PRISONER POPULATION AT ZONE C OF SUBCAMP K1 REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE AT ABOUT 350 INMATES, ALL OF WHOM WERE ARVN COLONELS AND LIEUTENANT COLONELS. THERE WERE EIGHT UNITS OF 40 TO 45 LIEUTENANT COLONELS EACH AND ONE UNIT OF ABOUT 20 FULL COLONELS AT ZONE C. ZONE C PRISONERS WERE SENT SOUTH IN 1982. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] DID NOT KNOW THE TYPE OR NUMBER OF PRISONERS IN SUBCAMP K2. BY JANUARY 1986 ALL FORMER ARVN OFFICERS, ENLISTED MEN, GOVERNMENT OF (SOUTH) VIETNAM (GVN) CIVIL SERVANTS AND OTHER POLITICAL PRISONERS AT Z30C HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED TO REEDUCATION CAMP Z30D, ALSO IN THUAN HAI, OR RELEASED FROM REEDUCATION. THEREAFTER Z30C WAS USED EXCLUSIVELY AS A DETENTION CAMP FOR CRIMINALS.)

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