

ROUTINE -- CONFIDENTIAL -- GENSER MESSAGE -- 5884 CHARACTERS  
 REFERENCE FROM CIA, SSN 5937 AT 21 2312Z AUG84

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

ROUTING ASSIGNED BY MSS:

CCF2 NDDI SEA1 TERR TMCH ARCS

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A010(1), C015(1), C018(1),

SUBJECT ASSIGNED BY MSS:

C, DC9, CRPT, SEA1, [REDACTED] REFUGEE, VIETNAM,  
 SE ASIA, MALAYSIA, TERR GEN, CURRENT DATE IS 840813,

DICTIONARY: G9, PROFILE:

3 60 103 185 299 301 316 382 609 703 785 791  
 800 835 881 915

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EZ01:

RTTCZYUW RUEAIIA 5937 2350055-CCCC--RUEKDIC.

ZNY CCCCC

EZ02:

R 212312Z AUG 84

FM CIA

TO RUETIAA/DIRNSA

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RUEHQQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOFORN WNINTEL

EZ03:

EZ04:

EZ05:

CITE:

SERIAL:

PASS: NSA FOR ZKZK 00 DLS DE (FOR NSOC); STATE FOR INR AND SY/TAG;  
 SECRET SERVICE FOR ID.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS C O N F I D E N T I A L--WNINTEL--NOFORN

DIST: 21 AUGUST 1984

COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: SRV PLANS TO PLACE THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT UNDER

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR CONTROL AND SUPERVISION.

DOI: EARLY 1984 - JUNE 1984

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. IN EARLY 1984, THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (BO NOI VU) (BNV) ANNOUNCED A PLAN UNDER WHICH THE BNV WOULD ASSUME CONTROL OVER THE SRV CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. BY JUNE 1984, BNV VICE MINISTER CAO DANG ((CHIEU)) HAD COMPLETED PREPARATION FOR THE BNV'S PERMANENT OFFICE FOR SOUTHERN VIETNAM (POSVN) TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTROL OVER THE SRV CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT'S SOUTHERN BRANCH. CHIEU, WHO IS ALSO THE POSVN COMMANDER, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DIRECTING THE TRANSITION TO POSVN CONTROL AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUPERVISION OF SOUTHERN VIETNAM CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS. BNV CONTROL OVER THE SRV CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT MAY BE COMPLETELY IN EFFECT BY EARLY 1985.

2. THE SRV HOPES, BY PLACING THE BNV IN DIRECT CONTROL OVER THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, TO ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE COORDINATION AMONG ALL SUBORDINATE UNITS, TO ELIMINATE RAMPANT CORRUPTION AMONG CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL, TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE APPARATUS BY WHICH TO IDENTIFY THOSE SRV GOVERNMENT AND PARTY CADRES WHO ARE RECEIVING MAIL AND PACKAGES FROM

ABROAD FOR ILLLEGAL AND ABUSIVE PURPOSES, AND TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE OF DETAILS OF BNV INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE INFUSION OF PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICE (PSO) PERSONNEL INTO THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT AND BNV CONTROL OVER ITS OPERATIONS IS IN NO WAY A GUARANTEE THAT THE VIOLATIONS OF CUSTOMS REGULATIONS WILL BE CURTAILED OR THAT OPERATIONAL SECRECY WOULD BE MAINTAINED IN THE FUTURE. THE HO CHI MINH CITY (HCMC) PSO LEADERSHIP ALL HAVE SEVERAL HOMES IN HCMC WHERE THEY HAVE STOCKPILED GOODS RECEIVED THROUGH CUSTOMS FROM FRIENDS OVERSEAS, PRIMARILY IN THE WEST. IN ADDITION, PRIOR TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BNV PLAN, TWO LETTER BOMBS WERE DETECTED IN HCMC. IN ONE INSTANCE, A LETTER BOMB, WHICH EXPLODED IN THE HCMC FIFTH PRECINCT POST OFFICE, KILLED ONE CADRE.)

3. AS OF JUNE 1984, IN ADDITION TO POSTAL AND CUSTOMS PERSONNEL, AT LEAST THREE HCMC PSO OFFICES WERE, IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, INVOLVED IN MAIL CENSORSHIP. THE OFFICES INCLUDED THE ECONOMIC POLICE OFFICE (ALSO KNOWN AS PC.15), THE ECONOMIC SECURITY POLICE OFFICE (ALSO KNOWN AS PA.17), AND THE TECHNICAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE (ALSO KNOWN AS PA.23), FORMERLY DESIGNATED THE KC-3 OFFICE. IN ADDITION, THE PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM'S (PAVN) RESEARCH DEPARTMENT (CUC NGHIEN CUU) (CNC) HAS ALSO RECENTLY SHOWN INTEREST IN IDENTIFYING TARGETS WHICH MIGHT BE SURFACED THROUGH MAIL CENSORSHIP.

4. AS OF JUNE 1984, THE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTHERN CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT BRANCH (SCDB) LOCATED AT 01 HAM NGHI STREET, HCMC, WAS LAM QUANG ((DO)), AKA SAU ((DO)). BNV VICE MINISTER CHIEM HAD ALREADY SOUGHT AND RECEIVED APPROVAL CIRCA JUNE 1984 FOR THE REASSIGNMENT OF HIS WIFE, LIEUTENANT COLONEL NGUYEN THI ((HONG QUE)), TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF THE SCDB ORGANIZATION OFFICE. HONG QUE IS CURRENTLY A DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE HCMC PSO ORGANIZATION OFFICE (P.13). A SECOND KNOWN APPOINTEE, LIEUTENANT COLONEL (FNU) ((TUAN)), CURRENTLY THE PERSONAL SECRETARY OF HCMC PSO DIRECTOR, GENERAL LE THANH ((VAN)), HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS THE SCDB DEPUTY DIRECTOR.

[REDACTED] COMMENT: TUAN WAS LAM QUANG DO'S YOUNGER BROTHER.)

ACQ: [REDACTED]

DISSEM: [REDACTED] EMBASSY, DAO AT KUALA LUMPUR. SENT TO [REDACTED] USCINCPAC, IPAC, PACAF, PACFLT, WESTCOM, CONSEQUENTFLT.

WARNING: REPORT CLASS ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ [REDACTED]

DECL: OADR BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER.  
ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

BT

EZ06:

ACTION DIA(\*) (U,6,7)  
INFO CJCS(\*) NIDS(\*) J5(\*) JSOA(\*) SECDEF(\*) OSD:ADMIN(\*)  
USDP(\*\*) ASD:PA&E(\*) DI-1(\*) NMIC(1) RTS 2B(\*)  
OS-1A(\*) OS-1B(\*) NWS(\*) AT-10A(\*) DIO(\*)  
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DT-1(\*) DT-5(\*) DC-4A3(\*)  
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