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PAGE 0001

MSGNO 180 (PCXX) \*04/21/87\* \*21:10:29.0.4\*  
ZCZC 02:09:10Z (PC)  
EMI DTG : 87042120134795  
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ZNY SSSSS

R 212355Z APR 87  
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC  
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC  
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC  
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RUEABOA/HQ AFOSI BOLLING AFB DC  
RUEALGX/SAFE

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FM CIA  
TO RUETIAA/DIRNSA  
RUEHC/DEPT OF STATE//FOR INR  
RUEKJCS/DIA  
RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT  
RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

[REDACTED]  
RUHQQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
RUHHMA/CDRWESTCOM FT SHAFTER HI  
RUHQQA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI  
RHHBRA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI  
RUAJMAB/FOSIF/WESTPAC  
RUHGOAA/COMSEVENTHFLT

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EZ1:  
SECRET [REDACTED]  
EZ2:

SECTION 1 OF 2

<><>CITE [REDACTED]

SERIAL: [REDACTED]

PASS: NSA FOR ZKZK OO DLS DE (FOR NSOC).

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS C O N F I D E N T I A L - [REDACTED]

DIST: 21 APRIL 1987

COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: ABSENCE OF AMERICANS AND DESCRIPTION OF K4 SUBCAMP OF  
THE LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP IN HOANG LIEN SON AND  
SUBCAMP K4 OF THE TAN LAP REEDUCATION CAMP IN VINH  
PHU, NORTHERN VIETNAM

DOI: JUNE 1978 - FEBRUARY 1982

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

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TEXT: 1. FROM JUNE TO OCTOBER 1978, THERE WERE NO AMERICANS AT SUBCAMP-K4 OF THE LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP IN HOANG LIEN SON PROVINCE, NORTHERN VIETNAM. THE LAO CAI CAMP HEADQUARTERS WAS LOCATED ABOUT FIVE KILOMETERS (KMS) SOUTHWEST OF THE PHO LU TRAIN STATION AND ABOUT 30 KMS EAST OF THE CHINESE BORDER. K4 SUBCAMP WAS SITUATED ABOUT TWO KMS EAST OF THE LAO CAI CAMP HEADQUARTERS IN HOANG LIEN SON. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] HAD HIS DIRECTIONS MIXED UP. THE ABOVE DIRECTIONS HAVE BEEN CORRECTED.)

2. THE LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP HEADQUARTERS WAS BUILT BY THE FRENCH BEFORE 1954. AFTER THE DEFEAT OF THE FRENCH, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE USED THIS FACILITY TO DETAIN POLITICAL PRISONERS WHO WORKED FOR THE FRENCH. AFTER 30 APRIL 1975, THE NORTH USED THIS FACILITY TO DETAIN PRISONERS FROM THE SOUTH. SUBCAMP K4 WAS BUILT BY AND USED FOR DETENTION OF NORTH VIETNAMESE CRIMINALS.

3. THE LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP AND ITS SUBCAMPS WERE ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (BNV). BNV SENIOR CAPTAIN BUI ((CHIEU)) WAS LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP COMMANDER. THE K4 SUBCAMP COMMANDER WAS A BNV SENIOR LIEUTENANT WHOSE NAME IS NOT RECALLED.

4. SUBCAMP K4 CONSISTED OF FOUR SEPARATE ZONES EACH DIVIDED INTO TWO LABOR UNITS. THERE WERE ABOUT 30 BNV OFFICERS AND MEN AT K4. EACH ZONE WAS SEPARATED FROM THE NEXT BY A BAMBOO FENCE. THE ZONES WERE ABOUT FIVE METERS APART. THE THOUGHT REFORM INSTRUCTOR FOR LABOR UNIT FOUR WAS BNV CORPORAL ((CHUT)), WELL KNOWN FOR BEATING THE PRISONERS; BNV THOUGHT REFORM INSTRUCTOR/SERGEANT ((GIOI)) SUPERVISED THE BRICK MAKING UNIT; BNV CORPORAL ((HAI)), AKA HAI DIEN, WAS ALSO KNOWN TO BEAT HIS PRISONERS. HAI SUPERVISED THE FARM UNIT. THERE WERE ABOUT 200 ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (ARVN) JUNIOR GRADE OFFICERS AT K4. ALL OF THEM HAD TRANSFERRED FROM CAMP-6 OF INTERCAMP-1 IN HOANG LIEN SON. MOST OF THEM WERE FROM FORMER ARVN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, MILITARY SECURITY, PSY-WARFARE AND SPECIAL POLICE UNITS. THERE WERE ARVN FIELD GRADE OFFICERS AT SUBCAMP K1 OF THE LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP. DURING THE CHINESE ATTACKS AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM IN 1979, CHINESE ARTILLERY LEVELED THE LAO CAI CAMP HEADQUARTERS AND SUBCAMP K4. THEREAFTER NORTH VIETNAM ABANDONED THE LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THIS INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED BY [REDACTED] TAN LAP REEDUCATION CAMP IN VINH PHU.

5. FROM OCTOBER 1978 TO 27 FEBRUARY 1982 THERE WERE NO AMERICANS AT SUBCAMP K4 OF THE TAN LAP REEDUCATION CAMP IN VINH PHU PROVINCE, NORTHERN VIETNAM. THIS CAMP WAS LOCATED ABOUT 20 KMS NORTHEAST OF THE AM THUONG RAILROAD STATION AND TWO KMS FROM THE BEN NGOC LANDING IN SONG THAO DISTRICT, VINH PHU. THIS CAMP WAS BUILT BY NORTH VIETNAMESE CRIMINAL PRISONERS SOMETIME BEFORE 1975.

6. THE TAN LAP, AKA K5, REEDUCATION CAMP WAS ADMINISTERED BY THE BNV. BNV MAJOR BUI ((CHIEU)) WAS CAMP COMMANDER. [REDACTED] COMMENT: CHIEU WAS FORMERLY A SENIOR CAPTAIN AND DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE LAO CAI REEDUCATION CAMP IN HOANG LIEN SON. HE WAS PROMOTED AND TRANSFERRED TO TAN LAP, VINH PHU. THE CHIEF OF SUBCAMP K4 WAS BNV

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---CAPTAIN CAO BA ((DAU))--- THE K4 DEPUTY COMMANDER WAS BNV SENIOR LIEUTENANT (FNU) ((HUNG)), AKA HUNG GIA. THOUGHT REFORM OFFICERS AT K4 INCLUDED BNV ASPIRANT ((THUC)) AND ASPIRANT ((SON)), AKA GA RI TO. THERE WERE ABOUT 40 BNV OFFICERS AND MEN AT K4.

7. THERE WERE ABOUT 345 ARVN JUNIOR GRADE OFFICERS AT K4. THE PRISONERS WERE ORGANIZED INTO 12 LABOR UNITS WITH ABOUT 30 INMATES PER UNIT. UNIT ONE, THE CARPENTRY UNIT WAS SUPERVISED BY BNV SERGEANT (SGT) ((TIEN)), A THOUGHT REFORM INSTRUCTOR; UNIT TWO, A FARM UNIT, WAS SUPERVISED BY BNV SGT/THOUGHT REFORM INSTRUCTOR ((DUC)); BNV SGT HAI, ALSO A THOUGHT REFORM INSTRUCTOR, SUPERVISED FARM UNITS THREE AND FOUR; BNV SGT NGUYEN VAN ((LE)) SUPERVISED UNIT FIVE, A GREEN VEGETABLE GROWING UNIT AS WELL AS UNIT SIX, THE TEA COLLECTION AND DRYING UNIT; BNV SGT ((THANH)) SUPERVISED UNIT SEVEN, BRICK MAKING, AND UNIT NINE, THE FORESTRY PRODUCTION UNIT; BNV SGT ((THUC)), A THOUGHT REFORM INSTRUCTOR, SUPERVISED UNIT EIGHT, A FARM UNIT; UNIT 10 WAS SUPERVISED BY BNV K4 REAR SERVICES SGTS ((KHAI)) AND ((TOAN)) - THIS UNIT WAS THE K4 MESSHALL; UNIT 11, ANOTHER GREEN VEGETABLE CROP PRODUCTION UNIT, WAS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF BNV

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MSGNO 181 (PCXX) \*04/21/87\* \*21:10:29.2.3\*  
 ZCZC 02:09:10Z (PC)  
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 ZNY SSSSS  
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 FM JCS WASHINGTON DC  
 INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC  
 RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC  
 RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC  
 RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC  
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<> R <><>212044Z APR 87<><>  
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 TO RUETIAA/DIRNSA  
 RUEHC/DEPT OF STATE//FOR INR  
 RUEKJCS/DIA  
 RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT  
 RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

[REDACTED]

RUHQHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
 RUHHHMA/CDRWESTCOM FT SHAFTER HI  
 RUHQHQA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI  
 RHMBRA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
 RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI  
 RUAJMAB/FOSIF/WESTPAC  
 RUHGOAA/COMSEVENTHFLT

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 EZ1:  
 S E C R E T [REDACTED]

EZ2:  
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 <> <><>CITE [REDACTED]

SERIAL: [REDACTED]  
 PASS: NSA FOR ZKZK OO DLS DE (FOR NSOC).

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WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.  
 SGT/THOUGHT REFORM INSTRUCTOR ((THANG)); BNV REAR SERVICES FEMALE 2ND  
 LIEUTENANT ((VINH)) SUPERVISED UNIT 12, THE GUEST RECEPTION AND  
 TRANSPORTATION UNIT. EACH UNIT CONSISTED OF THREE CELLS WITH ABOUT  
 10 PRISONERS PER CELL.

8. AFTER COMPLETION OF DAILY WORK DUTIES, THE PRISONERS  
 FORMED UP INTO TWO ROWS AND ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN. THE PRISONERS FILED  
 INTO THEIR ROOMS AND IN THE EVENINGS THE BNV GUARDS LOCKED THE  
 PRISONERS' DOORS. DURING THE NIGHT THE GUARDS MOVED ABOUT THE CAMP  
 CLOSE TO PRISONER BUILDINGS IN ORDER TO MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITIES

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CAREFULLY. EACH WEEK THE PRISONERS WERE REQUIRED TO HOLD SELF CRITICISM SESSIONS. THE FOOD PRODUCTS GROWN AT THE CAMP WERE USED BY THE CAMP STAFF AND PRISONERS. THE BNV STAFF SEEMED TO EAT ALL OF THE DECENT FOOD AND LEAVE THE OLD WITHERED FOOD FOR THE INMATES. THIS CAMP WAS EQUIPPED WITH TELEPHONES. THERE WERE ALSO BICYCLES AND JEEPS AVAILABLE TO CARRY CORRESPONDENCE/PERSONNEL AROUND.

9. THERE WERE THREE BUDDHIST CHAPLAINS AT THE K4: CHAPLAINS ((CHAU)), ((TRI)) AND ((HAI)). CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN NGUYEN VAN ((THUONG)) WAS IN UNIT 11; HE WAS RELEASED FROM REEDUCATION ON 27 FEBRUARY 1982. THERE WERE THREE ARVN MAJORS: ((NGHIA)) FROM OFFICE TWO IN II CORPS; ((THINH)), AN ARMY DOCTOR; AND ((QUANG)) FROM THE 9TH ARVN INFANTRY DIVISION.

[REDACTED]

DATA

DISSEM: [REDACTED] SENT TO DATA, USCINCPAC, IPAC, WESTCOM, PACAF, PACFLT, COMSEVENTHFLT, FOSIF/WESTPAC.

[REDACTED] 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.

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