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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT CLASS CONFIDENTIAL
 DIST: 16 JUNE 1987
 COUNTRY: VIETNAM
 SUBJ: ABSENCE OF AMERICANS AT AND DESCRIPTION OF CAMP-1 OF
 INTERCAMP-2 IN SON LU PROVINCE, NORTHERN VIETNAM

982008-1314

DOI: 16 JUNE 1976 - 14 JULY 1978
 SOURCE: [REDACTED]

TEXT: 1. FROM 16 JUNE 1976 TO 14 JULY 1978 THERE WERE NO AMERICANS AT REEDUCATION CAMP-1 OF INTERCAMP-2 IN SON LA PROVINCE, NORTHERN VIETNAM. CAMP-1 WAS LOCATED IN MUONG THAI VILLAGE, ABOUT 15 KILOMETERS (KMS) NORTHWEST OF PHU LY DISTRICT TOWN (SIC) IN SON LA. CAMP-1 WAS BUILT BY THE FRENCH SOMETIME BEFORE 1945 TO INCARCERATE VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST PRISONERS. PRIOR TO 1975 THE CAMP WAS USED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO IMPRISON SOUTH VIETNAMESE AND THAI PRISONERS OF WAR. THERE WERE TWO GRAVESITES NEAR CAMP-1; ONE WAS TO THE SOUTH AND THE OTHER NORTH OF CAMP-1. THE CAMP-1 MAILING ADDRESS WAS AH21NT (SON LA).

2. CAMP-1 WAS SUBORDINATE TO INTERCAMP-2 OF PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) GROUP 775, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. A PAVN BATTALION-SIZE UNIT ADMINISTERED CAMP-1. PAVN CAPTAIN (LNU) ((QUY)) WAS CAMP COMMANDER. THE CAMP DEPUTIES WERE PAVN CAPTAINS (LNU) ((TUNG)) AND (LNU) ((CHIEN)). IN 1977 OR 1978 CAPTAIN QUY WAS TRANSFERRED FROM CAMP-1; CAPTAIN TUNG REPLACED HIM. THERE WAS A 100-MAN PAVN GUARD FORCE AT THIS CAMP. THIS FACILITY WAS EQUIPPED WITH TELEPHONES TO COMMUNICATE WITH INTERCAMP-2.

3. CAMP-1 WAS COMPOSED OF ZONES A, B AND C. ZONE A WAS LOCATED ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE CAMP; ZONE C WAS ON THE WESTERN SIDE AND ZONE B WAS SITUATED BETWEEN THE FORMER ZONES. ZONES A AND B DETAINED HEALTHY INMATES WHILE ZONE C HELD THE OLD AND WEAK ONES. EACH ZONE CONSISTED OF EIGHT TO 10 CELLS OF 10 TO 20 MEN EACH. IN JUNE 1976 THERE WERE ABOUT 500 PRISONERS AT CAMP-1. DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS CAMPS TWO THROUGH SIX WERE BUILT IN THAT AREA. BY 1978 CAMP-1 DETAINED ABOUT 280 TO 300 PRISONERS, MOST OF WHOM WERE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF (SOUTH) VIETNAM (ARVN) LIEUTENANT COLONELS. AT THE TIME ZONES A, B AND C DETAINED ABOUT 80 TO 100 INMATES PER ZONE. SOME 200 PRISONERS FROM CAMP-1 WERE SENT TO CAMP TWO THROUGH SIX.

5. IN JUNE 1976 CAMP-1 DETAINED ABOUT 30 ARVN PRISONERS CAPTURED IN HUE AND LOWER LAOS BETWEEN TET 1968 AND 1971. AT THE END OF JUNE 1976 25 OF THOSE PRISONERS WERE TRANSFERRED TO A REEDUCATION CAMP IN YEN BAI, HOANG LIEN SON. COMMENT: [REDACTED]

THE AFOREMENTIONED PRISONERS WERE RELEASED DURING A COMMUNIST HOLIDAY. FIVE OF THOSE ARVN OFFICERS, INCLUDING ARVN MAJOR HUYNH ((KHUONG)), CAPTURED IN HUE DURING TET 1968, TWO ARVN ASPIRANTS AND TWO 1ST LIEUTENANTS, REMAINED AT CAMP-1. COMMENT: THE FIVE OFFICERS NOTED ABOVE WERE STILL AT CAMP-1 WHEN [REDACTED] GROUP TRANSFERRED TO THE PHU SON-4 CAMP IN JULY 1978.

[REDACTED] MOST [REDACTED] INMATES AT CAMP-1 SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO PHU SON-4 OR OTHER CAMPS IN THE NORTH.

6. [REDACTED]

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

REPORT CLASS ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

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