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R 201531Z MAR 87
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REPORT CLASS **SECRET**

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DIST: 20 MARCH 1987

COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: POW/MIA: ALLEGED CONCENTRATION CAMP HOLDING U.S.
PRISONERS OF WAR IN THE NORTHWESTERN BORDER OF QUANG
NINH PROVINCE FROM 1972 UNTIL SOMETIME BEFORE 1975
AND ASSUMED GRAVEYARDS IN THE VICINITY

DOI: 1972-1975

SOURCE:

TEXT: 1. FROM 1972 UNTIL SOMETIME BEFORE 1975, A CONCENTRATION CAMP ALLEGEDLY HOLDING U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (POW'S) WAS LOCATED IN A VALLEY, ABOUT THREE KILOMETERS SQUARE, IN THE VICINITY OF NA KHOANG (YJ 115956) AT THE BORDER OF QUANG NINH AND LANG SON PROVINCES. SECURITY AROUND THE AREA WAS STRICTLY ENFORCED BY PEOPLE'S ARMED PUBLIC SECURITY FORCES WEARING A GREEN STAR INSIGNIA. THE CAMP HAD FIVE OR SIX BUILDINGS WITH FLAT IRON REINFORCED CONCRETE ROOFS AND IRON DOORS. TWO BRICK BUILDINGS WERE LOCATED AT THE ENTRANCE. THE FENCES WERE THREE METERS HIGH, TOPPED WITH CONCERTINA BARBED WIRE. THE CAMP WAS AT THE END OF A FOUR KILOMETER DIRT ROAD THAT BRANCHED NORTHEAST FROM ROUTE FOUR AT A POINT ABOUT 20 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF DINH LAP TOWN (YJ 175840). THERE IS A HILL EAST OF THE DIRT ROAD AND WEST OF IT IS A CREEK. COMMENT: NO DETAILS ON THE NUMBER, IDENTITIES, DESCRIPTION OR CONDITION OF THE POW'S WERE KNOWN. LOCAL INHABITANTS, TAY/THO ETHNIC MINORITY AND ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, ALLEGED THAT SEVERAL POW'S DIED AND WERE BURIED AT OR NEAR THE CAMP BUT NO DETAILS WERE PROVIDED.

2. THE EXACT TIME DURING WHICH THE LOCATION WAS USED AS A POW CAMP WAS NOT KNOWN. FROM 1980 ON, HOWEVER, IT WAS USED AS ONE OF THE BIGGEST ANIMAL HUSBANDRY CENTERS IN QUANG NINH PROVINCE RAISING MILK COWS REPORTEDLY OBTAINED FROM MONGOLIA.

3. COMMENT:

ACTION DIA/SPEC(8)

INFO CJCS(5) SECDEF-(1) USDP-(5)

(1,4)

NNND 982006

939

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TOR=87079/15322

TAD=87079/15472

CDS=NIAGS

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IN 1980 AND 1981 THEY TOLD HIM ABOUT THE CAMP FOR U.S. POW'S THAT, THEY SAID, HAD BEEN CLOSED SEVERAL YEARS AGO; THE ASSUMED THIS MEANT BEFORE 1975. HE DID NOT ASK FOR FURTHER DETAILS, BUT HE DID SEE THE CAMP FROM A DISTANCE. HE DID NOT KNOW INTERIOR DETAILS OF THE CAMP.)

4. COMMENT:

ACQ:

DISSEM: FIELD: NONE.

WASHINGTON DISSEM:

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