

09/35/

IMMEDIATE

ASO

PAGE 001

TOT: [] SEP 83

DIRECTOR []

~~SECRET~~

STAFF [] DIRECTOR []

TO: []

WNINTEL

SUBJECT: ¹⁰ 1977 POW REPORT

REF: []

1. FOR [] BACKGROUND INFORMATION. REF REPORT SOURCED TO (SOURCE) STATED THAT []

[] AMERICAN POW'S STILL REMAINED IN VIETNAM POSING A PROBLEM TO THE OPENING OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND SRV. [] BUT IT IS CONSIDERED HIGHLY SUSPECT.

2. A FORMER CONGRESSMAN IS REPORTEDLY TALKING TO U.S MEDIA ABOUT A PURPORTED COVER-UP BY THE USG OF "KNOWLEDGE" OF THE EXISTENCE OF US POW'S. HE IS BASING HIS CHARGES, AT LEAST IN PART, ON REF REPORT. SINCE THE REPORT HAS NO CREDENCE IN VIEW OF THE DISCOVERIES ABOUT [], WE MUST ATTEMPT TO PURSUE THE REPORT ANEW.

3. WE DESIRE TO GET A NEW CONTACT [] IN ORDER TO GET HIS COMMENTS ON THE EXISTENCE OF POW'S IN THE SRV. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO INDICATE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF STATEMENTS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY HIM. IT WOULD APPEAR NATURAL TO ASK AN [] WITH HANOI SERVICE THE QUESTION RE POW'S. SOLICIT [] VIEWS WHETHER THE BEST APPROACH IS THROUGH AN OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION []

[] IF THE LATTER COURSE BE PREFERRED, [] APPEARS TO BE A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR SUCH A TASK.

4. PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE IS ANY RECORD OR MEMORY OF FOLLOW UP TO REF REPORT. PLEASE REPLY BY IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE.

5. FILE:

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