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OJCS INFORMATION SERVICE CENTER

NO FURTHER OR REPRG. R PER DAM ONLY

ROUTINE
R 070528Z NOV 87
FM CIA/ODD
TO DIA/VO-PV

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SECTION 2 DE A
CITE

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[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] AND THE U.S. MIA/POW ISSUE

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE [REDACTED] IS CURRENTLY DEBRIEFING REFUGEE SOURCE [REDACTED] ON THE U.S. MIA/POW ISSUE AS OF 5 NOVEMBER 1987. DEBRIEFINGS HAVE ACCOUNTED FOR [REDACTED] ON THE ISSUE WITH MORE COMING. [REDACTED] HAS PROVIDED SEPARATE INCIDENT REPORTING ON THE CAPTURE OF [REDACTED] AIRMEN, THE CAPTURE/DEATH FROM WOUNDS OF [REDACTED] OTHER AIRMEN, AND THE DEATHS/BURIALS OF [REDACTED] OTHER AIRMEN.

2. WE HAVE TASKED [REDACTED] TO GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HIS BONA FIDES. REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN COORDINATED IN DRAFT WITH DIA/VO-PV SENIOR ANALYST [REDACTED] TO US A NOTEBOOK FILLED WITH [REDACTED] RESPONSES ALONG WITH [REDACTED] HANDWRITTEN STATEMENTS AND SKETCHES. SINCE [REDACTED] IS NOT ABLE TO DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS FROM HIS STATEMENTS REGARDING THE IDENTIFICATION [REDACTED] WE WILL REVIEW THIS MATERIAL CAREFULLY AGAINST OUR HOLDINGS ON THE [REDACTED] AND WITH YOUR SENIOR ANALYST.

3. OUR DEBRIEFER WILL BE ARRIVING SHORTLY IN THE HEADQUARTERS AREA. HE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE WITH OUR [REDACTED] REFERENT ON THE [REDACTED] FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THIS CASE WITH YOUR OFFICE.

4. WE ARE PROVIDING YOU THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WHICH HAS NOT BEEN FORMALLY DISSEMINATED ON [REDACTED] BACKGROUND, AS WELL AS HIS RESPONSES TO DIA/VO-PV RECOMMENDED REQUIREMENT AREAS:

[REDACTED]

ACTION DIA/SPEC(10)

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[REDACTED]

5. RESPONSES TO REQUIREMENT AREAS DRAFTED BY DIA/VO-PV SENIOR ANALYST [REDACTED] ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. WERE ANY AMERICAN POW'S EVER PLACED IN SPECIAL RETENTION FACILITIES NOT USED FOR THE MAJORITY OF POW'S [REDACTED] POW'S TO FOUR LOCATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF VINH CITY, NGHE AN PROVINCE. FROM MAY 1965 TO JULY 1966, THE POW'S WERE DELIVERED TO A LOCATION NEXT TO A GRAVEYARD, BEYOND A COMPOUND OF THREE-STORY BUILDINGS, ON THE SOUTHEASTERN OUTSKIRTS OF VINH CITY. IN 1967 AND 1968 THE MAJORITY OF POW'S WERE TAKEN TO CUA BAC, A NEWLY BUILT PRISON IN NORTHERN VINH CITY. IN LATER YEARS, SOME CAUCASIAN POW'S WERE TAKEN HERE. IN 1968 AND 1969 THE MAJORITY OF POW'S WERE TAKEN TO CUA MAH, ANOTHER NEWLY BUILT PRISON IN SOUTHERN VINH CITY. DURING THE ENTIRE 1965 TO 1969 PERIOD, A AIRMEN WHO WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE FLOWN RECONNAISSANCE MISSION WERE SENT TO A SPECIAL PRISON BEHIND THE EVACUATED OFFICE OF THE VINH CITY PARTY COMMITTEE. AS OF 1974, THIS PRISON WAS REPORTEDLY STILL THERE BUT [REDACTED] DID NOT KNOW IF IT STILL HELD ANY POW'S. ALL THREE ABOVE PRISONS HAD UNDERGROUND COMPARTMENTS.

B. WERE ANY AMERICAN POW'S EVER SENT OUT OF VIETNAM [REDACTED] CHIEF THE QUANG BINH PUBLIC SECURITY SERVICE TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICE (CANH SAT GIAO THONG) [REDACTED] AND OTHER OFFICIALS, INCLUDING SOVIET AND A DOCTOR, WENT FROM HON GAI TO HOANH BO DISTRICT (EXACT LOCATION NOT MENTIONED) IN QUANG BINH PROVINCE TO ESC

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SECTION 2 DE A
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[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] AND THE U.S. MIA ISSUE

AN UNIDENTIFIED AMERICAN TO HANOI WHERE HE WAS PUT ON A PLANE GOING TO THE USSR [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BETWEEN LATE 1979 AND MID-1983 ALL U.S. POW'S WERE HELD IN AN AREA IN THE VICINITY OF MG 3842, NGHIA DAN DISTRICT, NGHE TINH PROVINCE. AND THAT POW'S HELD HERE WERE SOMETIMES SHUFFLED BETWEEN VIETNAM AND LAOS. AN UNKNOWN PART OF ROUTE SEVEN WAS USED IN THE MOVES.

C. CAPTURE OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE COMMANDO SPIES CBIE' MYI IN MILITARY REGION FOUR WHO WERE INFILTRATED BY AIR [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OFFICE 18, WAS IN CHARGE OF SEARCHING FOR COUNTERING AND ARRESTING COMMANDOS (TRUY LUNG CHONG BAY BIET KICH). [REDACTED] RETURNED TO HANOI IN APRIL 1989. HE KNEW OF THE EXISTENCE OF OFFICE 14 (PHONG 14) THAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DOCUMENT RESEARCH (NGHIEU CHU TAI LIEU).

[REDACTED]

7. UPON REVIEW OF THE ABOVE, WE CONDUCTED A DETAILED CROSS-CHECKING OF [REDACTED] BACKGROUND INFORMATION AGAINST OUR SRV/S FILES. OUR FINDINGS WERE REVIEWED WITH YOUR DIA/VO-PW SENIOR ANALYST WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE COORDINATION AND DRAFTING OF A LENGTHY BONA FIDES REQUIREMENTS MESSAGE. OUR MESSAGE WAS SENT TO [REDACTED] ON 17 OCTOBER 1987 WITH THE FOLLOWING TEXT AS A JOINT MESSAGE:

A. REQUEST [REDACTED] CONTINUE DISSEMINATION OF ANY U.S. MIA/POW REPORTING FROM SOURCE [REDACTED] (B) GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THE AUTHENTICATION OF HIS BONA FIDES: (C)

[REDACTED] AND (D) LEVY REQUIREMENTS AS STATED BELOW. BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS PROVIDED TO ASSIST IN THE AUTHENTICATION PROCESS. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN JOINTLY DRAFTED BY AND COORDINATED WITH DIA/VO-PW.

B. [REDACTED] REPORTING ON U.S. AIRCRAFT INCIDENTS IS CURRENTLY BEING CROSS-CHECKED BY THE DIA SPECIAL OFFICE FOR POW AFFAIRS (DIA/VO-PW), WHICH HAS EXPRESSED HIGH INTEREST IN THIS CASE. AS OF 15 OCTOBER 1987, THIS CASE HAS RESULTED IN [REDACTED] DISSEMINATIONS. [REDACTED] SEPARATE INCIDENT REPORTING ON THE CAPTURE OF [REDACTED] AIRMEN, THE CAPTURE/DEATH FROM WOUNDS OF [REDACTED] OTHER AIRMEN, AND THE DEATHS/BURIALS OF [REDACTED] OTHER AIRMEN HAS CREATED A SITUATION WHICH NECESSITATES THE IMMEDIATE, PRIORITY ESTABLISHMENT OF HIS BONA FIDES. WE SHARE DIA/VO-PW'S CONCERNS OVER THE VERY REAL REACTION [REDACTED] REPORTING WILL HAVE ON THE MIA/POW ISSUE WHEN ITS EXPLOSIVE IMPACT HITS IN AND OUTSIDE U.S. GOVERNMENT CIRCLES.

C. BECAUSE OF THE SHEER VOLUME AND NATURE OF [REDACTED] REVELATIONS, IT IS OF ABSOLUTE NECESSITY TO ESTABLISH HIS BONA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN CASES LIKE THIS, IT IS OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BONA FIDES OF THE REPORTING SOURCE EARLY IN THE BALL GAME. AT THE SAME TIME, WE CANNOT DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY THAT PARTS OF HIS REPORTING MAY BE FABRICATION AND/OR DISINFORMATION DIRECTED BY [REDACTED] AGAINST US. THIS CONCERN IS DUE TO WHAT DIA-PW HAS IDENTIFIED AS AN INTENSIFICATION OF THE SRV DISINFORMATION EFFORT SINCE LATE 1986.

D. TO PUT THINGS IN THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE [REDACTED] HAS REPORTED MORE POW/MIA INFORMATION THAN ANY OTHER HUMINT SOURCE IN THE HISTORY OF POW/MIA REPORTING OVER THE PAST TWENTY FIVE YEARS. WHILE WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SOME OF HIS REPORTING IS SKETCHY, HIS ABILITY TO RECALL DETAILS WHICH OCCURRED OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO SURPASSES EVEN THE BEST OF SOME OF OUR AUTHENTICATED DEFECTORS SOURCES [REDACTED]

WE MENTION THIS ONLY TO POINT OUT OUR CONTINUING FRUSTRATION AND THE ABSOLUTE NEED TO AUTHENTICATE THIS [REDACTED] AND NOT HIM "WALK" ON US AND THE POW/MIA ISSUE.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] REQUEST [REDACTED] BE ADVISED TO USE THE VIETNAMESE TERMINOLOGY AS USED IN THE PAST AND NOT TRY TO EQUATE TERMS USED TWENTY YEARS AGO TO TERMS NOW IN USE. PLEASE INCLUDE VIETNAMESE TERMINOLOGY FOR ALL RANKS, POSITIONS, ORGANIZATIONAL TITLES, AND UNIQUE PROFESSIONAL TERMS, WHICH WERE IN USE DURING EACH TIME FRAME BEING ADDRESSED.

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SECTION 1 OF 1

CITE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] AND THE U.S. MIA/POW ISSUE

F. DIA/VO-PW REQUESTS COMMENTS ON HOW [REDACTED] PROVIDED SPECIFIC AIRCRAFT DESIGNATIONS. HOW DOES HE EXPLAIN HIS ABILITY TO PROVIDE AIRCRAFT DESIGNATIONS? HOW, WHERE AND BY WHOM WAS HE TRAINED IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT? DID HE VOLUNTARILY GIVE THE DESIGNATIONS WITH NO ASSISTANCE?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CAN HE REPEAT INFORMATION ABOUT AN INCIDENT WITHOUT MAJOR CHANGES? PLEASE COMMENT FURTHER ON THE INSTANCES HE SHOWED INCONSISTENCY AND CONFUSION WHEN THE DEBRIEFER CHECKED HIS INFORMATION. ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED IN ORDER TO ASSESS HIS ABILITY TO REMEMBER INCIDENTS WITH THE TYPE OF DETAILS HE HAS PROVIDED; INCIDENTS WHICH HAPPENED OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

THE FIRST U.S. AIR STRIKES ON NORTH VIETNAM HIT THE HON GAI AREA OF QUANG BINH PROVINCE, THE LOC CHAU AREA OF THANH HOA PROVINCE AND THE VINH AREA OF NGHIE AN PROVINCE, DURING 4-7 AUGUST 1964 IN RETALIATION FOR THE 2 AND 4 AUGUST GULF OF TONKIN ATTACKS AGAINST THE USS MADDOX. THE FIRST U.S. NAVAL AVIATOR LOST IN ACTION OVER NORTH VIETNAM OCCURRED ON 5 AUGUST 1964 IN THE HON GAI AREA OF QUANG BINH PROVINCE; HE WAS THE ONLY U.S. AIRMAN LOST DURING THE 4-7 AUGUST 1964 BOMBINGS. THE NEXT AIR STRIKE HIT THE VINH LINH AREA NORTH OF THE DMZ ON 8 FEBRUARY 1965 WITH NO U.S. AIRMEN LOST; THE 11 FEBRUARY 1965 AIR STRIKE IN THE DONG HOI AREA OF QUANG BINH PROVINCE RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF ONE U.S. NAVAL AVIATOR WHO RETURNED ALIVE IN 1973; THE NEXT AIR STRIKE HIT THE XOM BANG AREA, ABOUT 35 MILES NORTH OF THE DMZ, ON 2 MARCH 1965 AND RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF THE FIRST U.S. AIR FORCE PILOT; 19-29 MARCH 1965 AIR STRIKES RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF ONE PILOT KILLED INSTANTLY IN THE AIR; 3 APRIL 1965 MARKED THE BEGINNING OF LARGE SYSTEMATIC AIR STRIKES AGAINST PAVN LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS SOUTH OF THE 20TH PARALLEL (NAMELY, THANH HOA,

[REDACTED]

REFERENCE TO THESE SITES HAVING UNDERGROUND ROOMS NEEDS TO BE CLARIFIED. PRIOR REPORTING CLEARLY INDICATES MANY FRENCH CONSTRUCTED FACILITIES HAD BASEMENTS WHICH THE DRV INHERITED - AND USED AFTER 1954; HOWEVER [REDACTED] ACTUALLY BE TALKING ABOUT NOTHING MORE THAN AIR RAID SHELTERS WHICH ARE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE ABOVE.

(2) [REDACTED] REFERENCE TO U.S. POWS HE HEARD ABOUT IN 1983 DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE SUPPORTED BY PRIOR REPORTING. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN WAS THE AMERICAN TAKEN FROM QUANG BINH TO HANOI FOR MOVEMENT TO THE USSR? ONLY ONE AMERICAN IS KNOWN TO HAVE EXITED VIETNAM VIA THE USSR/SWEDEN CHANNEL FOR RETURN TO U.S. CONTROL; THIS AMERICAN WAS RETURNED SEVERAL YEARS PRIOR TO THE 1973 HOMECOMING. THERE HAS BEEN NO PRIOR REPORTING OF ANY U.S. POWS IN THE LATE 1970'S/EARLY 1980'S IN NGHIA DAN DISTRICT, NGHIE TINH PROVINCE. NGHIA DAN DISTRICT BORDERS ON TAN KY DISTRICT, THE SITE OF CENTRAL PRISON NR. 3. DIA/VO-PW HAS RECEIVED SOME LIMITED REPORTING IN THE LATE 1970'S FROM FORMER ARVN INMATES OF THIS PRISON THAT U.S. POWS WERE SUPPOSEDLY HELD IN THE AREA; HOWEVER, DIA/VO-PW HAS CONCLUDED THAT SUCH REPORTS WERE DELIBERATE DRV DISINFORMATION.

(3). NO CAUCASIAN FROGMEN WERE EVER LOST IN ACTION IN OR OFF NORTH VIETNAM; SOME SOUTH VIETNAMESE COMMANDO FROGMEN WERE. THE LAST CAPTURE OF A VIETNAMESE FROGMAN OCCURRED IN 1966 AT A THANH HOA PROVINCE BEACH LANDING SITE. DIA/VO-PW HAS RECEIVED A CONSIDERABLE BODY OF REPORTING FROM FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE COMMANDOS, TO INCLUDE SEVERAL FROGMEN, CAPTURED THROUGHOUT NORTHERN VIETNAM DURING 1962-67. FROGMEN CAPTURED DURING 1964 IN AN AREA WEST OF VINH CITY HAVE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED THE PAPS/PAYN/PCA AS CONSTITUTING THE FORCE WHICH CAPTURED THEM.

[REDACTED] HE HAS PROVIDED NO INFORMATION ON REAL INCIDENTS WHICH WERE REPORTED IN THE DRV OPEN PRESS AND HAS INSTEAD TALKED ABOUT AN INCIDENT WHICH NEVER OCCURRED.

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SECTION 5 OF A
CITE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] AND THE U.S. MIA/POW ISSUE

NGHIE AN, HA TINH, QUANG BINH PROVINCES). THE FIRST U.S. AIRCRAFT LOST IN ACTION WITHIN A 50 NAUTICAL MILE RADIUS OF VINH CITY, NGHIE AN PROVINCE, OCCURRED ON 8 MAY 1965.

Q. WE HOPE [REDACTED] DISCREPANCY IN DATES CAN BE EASILY RESOLVED BY [REDACTED] DATE AGAINST SIGNIFICANT DATE REFERENCES [REDACTED]

THE AUGUST 1964 AIR STRIKE LEFT THE VINH OIL STORAGE DEPOT IN BLAZING RUINS WITH SMOKE BILLOWING UP TO 14,000 FEET OVER THE CITY, AND DESTROYED THE NEARBY PHUC LOI PT BOAT BASE.

[REDACTED]

R. [REDACTED] RESPONSES TO CONTROLLED REQUIREMENT AREAS RAISE UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS REPORTING. DIA/VO-PW HAS COMMENTED ON THESE AREAS AS FOLLOWS:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE DETENTION AND INTERROGATION OF TWO U.S. AIR FORCE OFFICERS

[REDACTED] WHO WERE HELD IN A BAMBOO-CONSTRUCTED DETENTION FACILITY (20 X 100 FEET) INSIDE A CAMP AT AN UNKNOWN VILLAGE ABOUT FIVE TO TEN MILES WEST OF VINH CITY DURING SEPTEMBER-20 OCTOBER 1967. BOTH WERE PLACED IN CELLS FOUR BY SEVEN FEET IN DIMENSION AND HELD IN LEG STOCKS WITH PADLOCKED CHAINS AND HANDCUFFED WRISTS BEHIND THEIR BACKS. THEY WERE INTERROGATED BY SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS IN UNIFORM WHO SPOKE POOR.

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SECTION 6 OF A
CITE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] THE U.S. MIA/POW ISSUE

NNI-982020

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BROKEN ENGLISH. INTERROGATORS PRESENTED OVERLY'S IDENTIFICATION CARD AND B-57 FLIGHT PLAN BOOK. [REDACTED] WAS HELD 29 DAYS AND [REDACTED] WAS HELD THERE ABOUT 15 DAYS. BOTH WERE TRUCKED TO THE "HANOI HILTON" FROM VINH CIRCA 20 OCTOBER 1967; THE TRIP TOOK THREE DAYS. [REDACTED] PLACES THE CAMP IN A LOCATION [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] DIA/VO-PW FURTHER COMMENTS THAT THIS CAMP, WHICH WAS CALLED CAMP "ALPHA" BY U.S. AUTHORITIES, HELD MANY U.S. AIRCREWMEN BEFORE THEY WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE HANOI "HILTON."

T. THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE DESIGNED TO DOCUMENT [REDACTED] ONA FIDES IN DETAIL:

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SECTION 7 OF 8
CITE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] .S. MIA/POW
ISSUE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(7). MOTIVATION: PROVIDE A CLEAR EXPLANATION OF [REDACTED] MOTIVATION FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION ON THE U.S. MIA/POW ISSUE.

(8). PLEASE IMPRESS UPON [REDACTED] THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO CORRECT ANY INFORMATION HE HAS PROVIDED, AND THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO BE COMPLETELY TRUTHFUL IN ALL HIS STATEMENTS [REDACTED] ON THE U.S. MIA/POW ISSUE.

(9). RESPONSES TO THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE REVIEWED FOR THEIR AUTHENTICITY AND COMPLETENESS WITH DIA/VO-PW. ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP REQUIREMENTS MAY NEED TO BE ANSWERED BEFORE FINAL [REDACTED] DISSEMINATION. WE WILL ADVISE.

8. ALTHOUGH [REDACTED] MEMORY MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY ACCURATE ON THE EXACT DATES OF THE SEPARATE INCIDENTS WHICH HE HAS RECOUNTED, WE ARE PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WHICH WE BELIEVE WILL ASSIST YOU IN ASSESSING THESE INDIVIDUAL INCIDENTS. [REDACTED] HAS PLACED CERTAIN REPORTED INCIDENTS BEFORE OR AFTER OTHERS THAT HE REMEMBERS. THIS INFORMATION [REDACTED] AND IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. [REDACTED] OF 25 SEPTEMBER 1987: THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED ONE DAY AFTER THAT IN [REDACTED]

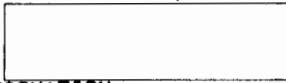
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B. [REDACTED] SEPTEMBER 1987: THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED [REDACTED] IN

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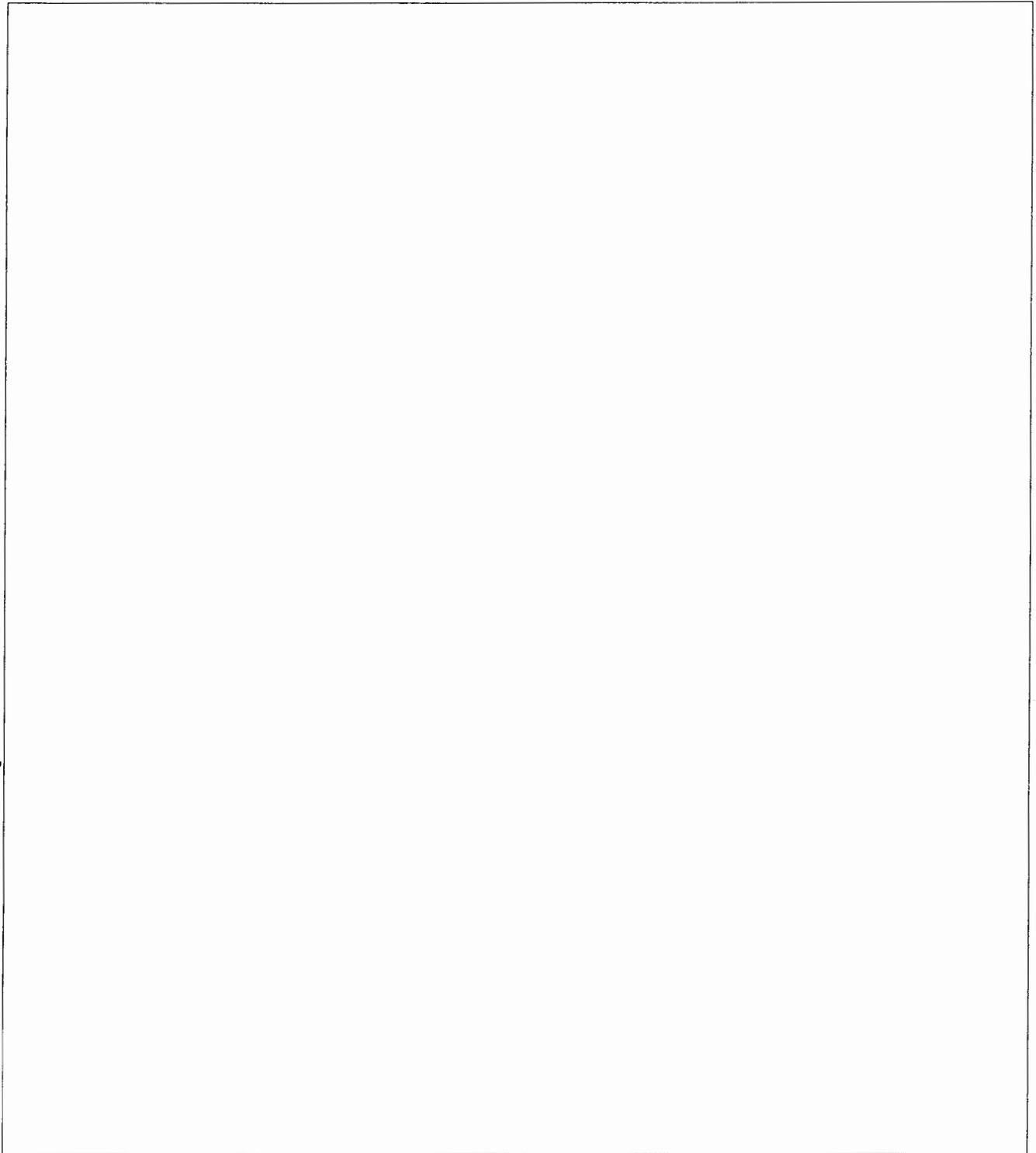
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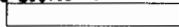
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FINAL SECTION OF 8
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