

C1LOST SECT

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MSGNO 178 (PCXX) \*04/21/87\* \*21:10:28.7.9\*  
ZCZC 02:09:10Z (PC)  
EMI DTG : 87042120130851  
RTTSZYUW RUEKJCS7035 1112355-SSSS--RUEALGX.  
ZNY SSSSS

R 212355Z APR 87  
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC  
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC  
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC  
RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC  
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC  
RUEABOA/HQ AFOSI BOLLING AFB DC  
RUEALGX/SAFE  
<> R <><>212040Z APR 87<><>  
FM CIA  
TO RUETIAA/DIRNSA  
RUEHC/DEPT OF STATE//FOR INR  
RUEKJCS/DIA  
RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT  
RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

RUHQHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
RUHHHMA/CDRWESTCOM FT SHAFTER HI  
RUHQHQA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI  
RHHMBRA/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

EZ2:

SECTION 1 OF 2

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SERIAL:

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--

DIST: 21 APRIL 1987

COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: ABSENCE OF AMERICANS AT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TAN  
HIEP REEDUCATION CAMP IN SONG BE PROVINCE, SOUTHERN  
VIETNAM

DOI: NOVEMBER 1979 - 22 FEBRUARY 1986

SOURCE:

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0014

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TEXT: 1. FROM NOVEMBER 1979 TO 14 FEBRUARY 1980, AND DECEMBER 1985 TO 22 FEBRUARY 1986, THERE WERE NO AMERICANS AT THE TAN HIEP REEDUCATION CAMP IN SONG BE PROVINCE, SOUTHERN VIETNAM. THE TAN HIEP CAMP WAS LOCATED ABOUT 40 KILOMETERS (KMS) NORTHWEST OF CHON THANH DISTRICT TOWN, SONG BE, AND ABOUT 12 KMS FROM THE TONG LE CHAN REEDUCATION CAMP IN DONG HOA VILLAGE, SONG BE. PRIOR TO 1977 THIS AREA WAS A PATCH OF JUNGLE, OVERGROWN WITH BAMBOO AND BRAMBLES.

2. THE CAMP WAS ESTABLISHED IN NOVEMBER 1977 TO SERVE AS A LABOR FACILITY FOR THE TAN HIEP REEDUCATION CAMP IN DONG NAI PROVINCE. THIS CAMP SITE WAS CLEARED AND DEVELOPED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY A GROUP OF ABOUT 30 PRISONERS SENT UP FROM CHI HOA PRISON IN HO CHI MINH CITY (HCMC).

3. DURING THE EARLY STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT THIS CAMP APPEARED TO BE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (BNV). FROM NOVEMBER 1979 TO FEBRUARY 1980, BNV LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAO ((LUONG)), WHO WAS APPARENTLY BASED IN DONG NAI, WAS THE COMMANDER OF BOTH TAN HIEP CAMPS. BNV SENIOR CAPTAIN (FNU) ((KHOI)) WAS IN CHARGE OF DAILY OPERATIONS AT THE TAN HIEP CAMP IN SONG BE. INITIALLY THE BNV CONSTRUCTED TWO LONG HOUSES, EACH ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE 50 PERSONNEL. IN FEBRUARY 1980 A 100-MAN CONSTRUCTION TEAM OF PRISONERS FROM TAN HIEP IN DONG NAI WAS SENT TO TAN HIEP TO CONSTRUCT QUARTERS FOR ABOUT 1,000 PRISONERS.

4. FROM DECEMBER 1985 THROUGH FEBRUARY 1986, THE TAN HIEP CAMP WAS COMMANDED BY BNV MAJOR (FNU) ((KHANH)). THERE WAS A THOUGHT REFORM CADRE NAMED BA ((PHUNG)) AND BNV CADRE ((LAM)), ((DUNG)) AND ((CHI)) WHOSE RANKS WERE UNKNOWN. BY FEBRUARY 1986 THE TAN HIEP REEDUCATION CAMP HAD BEEN TURNED OVER TO AN UNIDENTIFIED HCMC PUBLIC SECURITY ELEMENT. IN FEBRUARY 1986 THERE WERE ABOUT 1,000 PRISONERS AT THE TAN HIEP CAMP. ABOUT 180 CRIMINAL PRISONERS WERE DETAINED IN ZONES A AND B; ZONE C HELD ABOUT 250 POLITICAL PRISONERS. THERE WAS A RECEPTION/PROCESSING AREA WHICH HELD ABOUT 100 NEW ARRIVALS AND A LABOR ZONE WHICH HAD ABOUT 300 PRISONERS. THE PRISONERS WERE ALLOWED TO RECEIVE VISITORS TWICE A WEEK. HCMC PUBLIC SECURITY PROVIDED ROUND-TRIP TRANSPORTATION FOR THE VISITORS FOR A FEE. THE PRISONERS WORKED SIX FULL DAYS PER WEEK AND WERE ENCOURAGED TO WORK A FEW HOURS SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR "SOCIALISM." SUNDAY AFTERNOONS WERE FREE TIME.

5. SOME OF THE MORE PROMINENT PRISONERS AT TAN HIEP AS OF FEBRUARY 1986 WERE:

- A. JOURNALIST (FNU) ((QUAN)) OF THE BUT THEP AND DOC LAP NEWSPAPERS.
- B. MR. NGUYEN LONG ((CHAU)), CHIEF OF THE HOA HAO BUDDHIST SECT.
- C. MR. HO DINH ((BAO)), DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION UNDER NGO DINH DIEM.
- D. MR. TON THAT (GIVEN NAMES FORGOTTEN), CHIEF OF OFFICE FOR THE BAO DAI ROYAL FAMILY IN HUE.
- E. THERE WERE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF A PEACE GROUP FROM HOC MON DISTRICT.
- F. FORMER POLICE LT. COLONEL DUONG QUOC ((BAO)),

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ARRESTED FOR SPREADING INFORMATION ON THE ORDERLY DEPARTURE PROGRAM.  
G. ARVN RANGER 2ND LIEUTENANT (FNU) ((MUOI)), WHO HAD  
BEEN IMPRISONED AT THE TAN HIEP CAMPS IN DONG NAI AND SONG BE SINCE  
1975. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE TAN HIEP CAMP IN SONG BE WAS STILL IN  
USE AS OF NOVEMBER 1986.)

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

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ZCZC 02:09:10Z (PC)  
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RTTSZYUW RUEKJCS7036 1112355-SSSS--RUEALGX:  
ZNY SSSSS

R 212355Z APR 87  
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC  
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RUEABOA/HQ AFOSI BOLLING AFB DC  
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RUHQHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
RUHHHMA/CDRWESTCOM FT SHAFTER HI  
RUHQHQA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI  
RHEMBRA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI  
RUAJMAB/FOSIF/WESTPAC  
RUHGOAA/COMSEVENTHFLT

BT

EZ1:

S E C / R E T

EZ2:

FINAL SECTION OF 2

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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WARNING: REPORT CLASS C O N F I D E N T I A L

DECL: OADR BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS CARRY  
CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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