

TOT: 311522Z AUG 91

EZ1:

~~SECRET~~

311530Z

TO: DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA ATTN MR BOB SHEETZ.

SECRET

EZ2:

SUBJECT: CHAIN OF ACQUISITION FOR POW PHOTO

REF:

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS OBTAINED IN EARLY AUGUST 1991 FROM

THIS REPORT IS BEING PASSED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

2. AT THE BEHEST OF , HAS BEEN ASKED TO DEBRIEF AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF WHO HAVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE MOST CURRENT MIA/POW ISSUE. AN DEBRIEFER WAS TASKED TO CONDUCT THESE DEBRIEFINGS WHILE PERFORMING DAILY BORDER COURIER DUTIES.

3. TO THE BEST OF THE DEBRIEFER'S KNOWLEDGE, ((THACH)) HON AKA ((THACH)) HONG HAD NO INVOLVEMENT IN THE INITIAL SURFACING OF THE RECENTLY PUBLICIZED MIA/POW PHOTOGRAPH IN DECEMBER 1990. THE CHAIN OF ACQUISITION WAS AS FOLLOWS. ON 15 DECEMBER 1990, THE DEBRIEFER RECEIVED THE PHOTOGRAPH FROM ((KEO)) SOTHEA, WHO RECEIVED IT FROM ((UNG)) SAM OL AKA ((UM)) SAM OL, WHO CARRIED IT ON BEHALF OF ((YANG)) PHIRUM AKA ((MOEUN)), WHO IN TURN OBTAINED THE PHOTO FROM AN UNNAMED KHMER KROM IN PHNOM PENH IN AUGUST 1990. IT WAS NOT UNTIL EARLY 1991 THAT THACH HON BECAME INVOLVED WHEN MRS. ((KUNG)) SAVATEY AKA NGUYEN THI ((AI)) CONVINCED YANG TO GIVE HER THE PICTURE CLAIMING SHE WAS WORKING FOR THE MIA RESEARCH CENTER, ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICANS, THACH IS CHIEF OF THE MIA RESEARCH CENTER THACH AND KUNG REPORTEDLY THEN GAVE THE PHOTO TO AN AMERICAN NAMED A SANITIZED VERSION OF THE DEBRIEFING REPORT OF THE ABOVE. CHAIN OF ACQUISITION WAS PASSED TO ON 29 JULY AND COPIES OF THE DEBRIEFING, CONDUCTED BY THIS DEBRIEFER, WERE FAXED

4. BECAME INVOLVED APPROXIMATELY FOUR MONTHS LATER WHEN HE RECEIVED THE SAME PICTURE (OR COPY) AND A TAPE RECORDING FROM THE KHMER PEOPLE'S NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (KPNLF) OPERATIONAL ZONE (OZ)-6, THE DEBRIEFER MENTIONED ABOVE HAS TASKED A COMPATRIOT TO FIND OUT WHERE OBTAINED THE PHOTO AND TAPE. NO INFORMATION HAS DEVELOPED TO DATE.

NND 982018

PIA-910831-634C

5. [redacted]

6. CLASSIFIED BY SIGNER. DECL OADR DRV [redacted] ~~ALL SECRET~~

END OF MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~

NNNN

NNNN

NND 982018