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~~SECRET~~

POSSIBLE/SUSPECT PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS
AND BRIEFING BOARDS/NOTES

INTRODUCTION

There are 18 possible prisoner of war camps in North Vietnam. A possible or suspect PW camp is one in which there is some information or evidence that it might be, or could have been, used for the detention of American prisoners on a permanent basis. The words "possible" and "suspect" are used interchangeably.

The official names assigned to the possible camps are selected by DIA by the same process used for the confirmed camps: if the installation's name is known, that name is used; if it is not known, a placename near the facility is selected. Inasmuch as no known American prisoners have been held at the possible PW camps on a permanent basis, there are no nicknames for these 18 camps. The location of the 18 possible PW camps are shown on page 200.

This Section contains copies of all the briefing-boards and notes issued to date on the possible PW camps. The camps are listed in alphabetical order.

SECRET

Date: 29 October 1969

NORTH VIETNAM
BRIEFING NOTES
ON
BRIEFING BOARD NO. 10-69-3

1. INSTALLATION: SON TAY Possible PW Camp, N-69
2. *DATA*
3. LOCATION : 21 08 36N 105 30 01E
4. This installation is located on the east bank of the SONG CON (River), 0.6 NM northwest of SON TAY (NIS 21 08N/105 30E) and 0.7 NM south of the SONG HONG HA (Red River).
5. The compound is *DATA* enclosed by a masonry wall about 10 feet high. Inside the compound are 3 quarters-type buildings, 1 latrine/shower, 1 shed and 2 guard towers. One building which appeared in 1967 *mentioned* has been removed and its foundation is still visible on current *map*. Nine support buildings are located outside the wall on the east and south sides of the installation. *mentioned* reveals the wall now enclosing the compound was constructed after 17 September 1967.
6. The location of this installation is remarkably close to that of a compound reportedly observed during the period January to September 1967. Source of this information reported seeing approximately 10 U.S. PWs inside the compound during his period of observation. Lack of collateral information precludes verification of this installation as a PW compound.

Date: 3 February 1970

NORTH VIETNAM
BRIEFING NOTES
ON
BRIEFING BOARD NO. 1-70-6

1. INSTALLATION: SON TAY Possible PW Camp, N-69
2. DATA
3. LOCATION : 21 08 36N 105 30 01E
4. This Briefing Board supplements Briefing Board No. 10-69-3 and accompanying Briefing Notes dated 29 October 1969.
5. Photography of 12 December 1969 reveals significant new construction at this facility since 4 July 1969:
 - a. The masonry wall around the compound has been extended 50 feet northward so that it now encloses an area
 - b. Guard towers are located at the southwest and northwest corners of the compound. A possible guard tower is located at the center of the east wall. The guard tower located at the northeast corner of the compound before it was enlarged has been removed.
 - c. There is a gate in the east wall with a guard house at the south end of the gate.
 - d. Two new quarters-type buildings (Annotations 5D and 5E) have been constructed in the compound.
 - e. Outside the compound a thatched-roof support building (Annotation 8A) has been partially dismantled.
 - f. Also outside the compound, a quarters-type building (Annotation 7B) has been newly constructed.
6. The new construction strengthens the possibility that this installation is ~~used~~ for detention purposes, however, no additional collateral information has been received to

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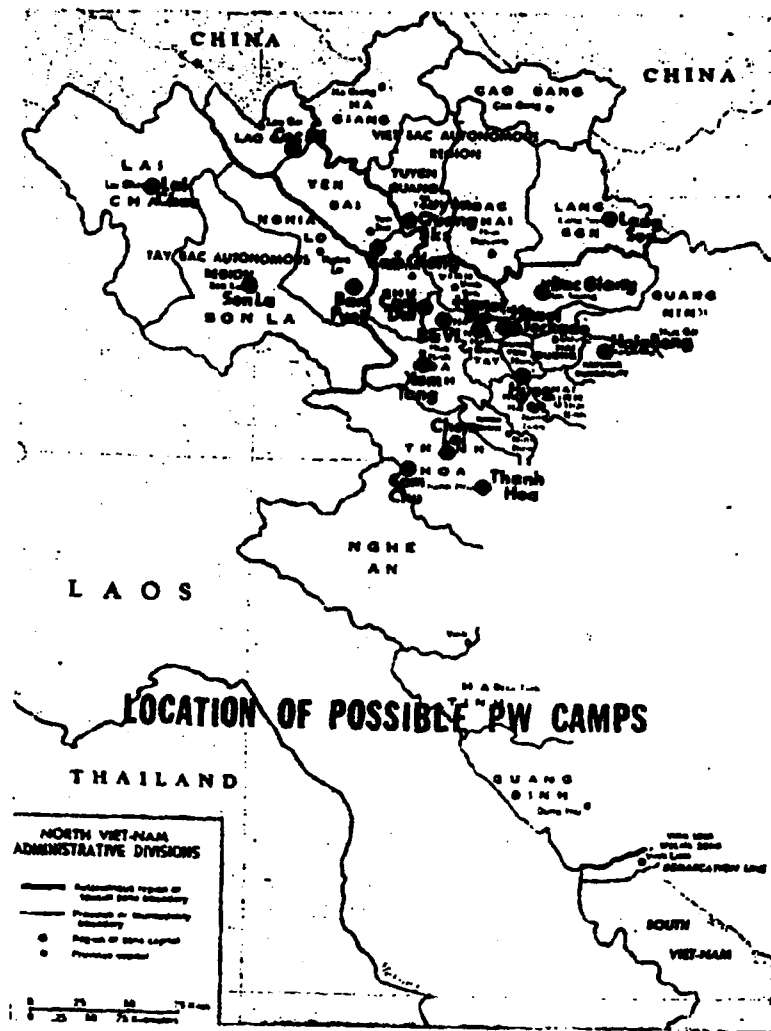
substantiate this theory.

Date: 9 June 1970

NORTH VIETNAM
BRIEFING NOTES
ON
BRIEFING BOARD NO. 5-70-1

1. INSTALLATION: SON TAY PW Camp, N-69
2. DATA
3. LOCATION : 21 08 36N 105 30 01E
4. Briefing Board Nos. 10-69-3 and 1-70-6 and accompanying Briefing Notes are superseded.
5. This installation was identified as a possible PW camp in October 1969 from a reported observation of a detention facility in this vicinity in September 1967. Source of this report described the camp as enclosed by a barbed wire fence on that date. Photo interpretation validated source's description and the existing walls around the compound were determined to have been constructed after September 1967.
6. Between 4 July and 12 December 1969, the compound was enlarged. The walls were extended 50 feet northward and two additional quarters-type buildings (Annotations 5C and 5D) were constructed inside the compound. The building annotated 5A was reported to be two buildings on previously issued Briefing Boards on this installation.
7. In April 1970, information was obtained which confirmed this facility as a currently operational PW camp.

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ACTION NO. [REDACTED] DCI, D/DCI, DDP, [REDACTED]

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Intelligence Information Cable

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CITE TDCS-314/05243-71

DIST 19 MAY 1971

COUNTRY LAOS/NORTH VIETNAM

DOI 1965 - JULY 1970

SUBJECT 1. PATHET LAO POLICY TOWARD HANDLING OF FOREIGN PRISONERS OF WAR

2. POSSIBLE LOCATION OF A PRISONER EXFILTRATION ROUTE

ACQ LAOS, VIENTIANE /16 MAY 1971

SOURCE

D
A
B

1. PATHET LAO /PL/ OFFICIAL POLICY TOWARD FOREIGN PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED BY PL FORCES IS TO GIVE THEM GOOD TREATMENT. THEY ARE TO BE PROVIDED WITH GOOD FOOD AND IN NO CASE ARE THEY TO BE PHYSICALLY ABUSED. FOLLOWING CAPTURE,

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*Wen Thinh
b2, b7C, b7D
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ALL FOREIGN PRISONERS ARE TO BE MOVED TO THE HEADQUARTERS AT SAM NEUA /VH 0158/. [REDACTED] ADMITTED THAT, ALTHOUGH PL INSTRUCTIONS CALL FOR NO MISTREATMENT OF AMERICAN OR OTHER FOREIGN PRISONERS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT INDIVIDUAL CAPTORS WOULD NOT ABIDE BY SUCH INSTRUCTIONS. FURTHERMORE, THE FOOD AVAILABLE IN SAM NEUA IS NOT VERY GOOD BY WESTERN STANDARDS, SO IT IS PROBABLE THAT PRISONERS THERE ARE NOT WELL FED. **A**

2. [REDACTED] RECEIVED HIS INFORMATION ON THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR FROM AN INSTRUCTION WHICH HE READ IN 1965. TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE, NO CHANGE HAD BEEN MADE IN THE INSTRUCTION SINCE THAT DATE. HE ASSUMES, BUT DOES NOT KNOW, THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY WOULD ABIDE BY SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS. [REDACTED] HAD NEVER PERSONALLY SEEN AMERICAN PRISONERS BEING CAPTURED OR BEING TRANSPORTED ALONG THE TRAIL. /FIELD COMMENT. FOR [REDACTED] FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR SEE [REDACTED] (TDCS-314/04967-71)./ **A**
D

3. IN [REDACTED] 1970 [REDACTED] **B**

[REDACTED] AN 85MM ARTILLERY COMPANY WHICH HAD JUST COMPLETED TRAINING IN NORTH VIETNAM, RETURNED FROM VINH LINH TO THE

[REDACTED]

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SOUTH LAOS TACTICAL REGION HEADQUARTERS AT THE FOOT OF
PHOU /MOUNTAIN/ PHATHONG /UNLOCATED/. [REDACTED] A
MEMBER OF [REDACTED] SAID THAT FOR SECURITY REASONS
HIS UNIT HAD BEEN UNABLE TO USE THE NORMAL TANK AND ARMORED
VEHICLE TRAIL FROM NORTH VIETNAM AND HAD BEEN DIRECTED TO
USE A NARROW, MOUNTAINOUS TRAIL WHICH THE NVA SAID WAS
NORMALLY USED FOR THE MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR TO SAM
NEUA AND TO NORTH VIETNAM, AS WELL AS FOR THE MOVEMENT OF
JOURNALISTS FROM NORTH VIETNAM WHO WISHED TO VIEW THE WAR
IN SOUTH LAOS OR VISIT THE VIET CONG IN SOUTH VIETNAM. B

4. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] FIVE SEPARATE TRAIL NET-
WORKS COLLECTIVELY CONSTITUTE THE H O CHI MINH TRAIL. A
FROM WEST TO EAST, THE WESTERNMOST TRAIL IS USED FOR
TRANSPORATION OF FOOD AND OTHER SUPPLIES, THE NEXT IS
USED FOR MOVEMENT OF TANKS AND OTHER ARMORED VEHICLES,
THE NEXT IS A BICYCLE TRAIL USED PRIMARILY TO TRANSPORT
AMMUNITION AND THE NEXT IS USED FOR THE MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.
THE EASTERNMOST TRAIL APPEARS TO BE THE ONE USED FOR THE
MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

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5. (FIELD COMMENT. ALTHOUGH ORDER OF BATTLE FILES CANNOT SUBSTANTIATE THE EXISTENCE OF FIVE SEPARATE TRAIL NETWORKS, HO CHI MINH TRAIL ROUTES GENERALLY ARE PARALLELED BY FOOT TRAILS. PRISONERS AND RALLIERS WHO HAVE INFILTRATED THROUGH THE SYSTEM GENERALLY REPORTED HEARING TRUCKS BUT NOT SEEING THEM, WHICH WOULD SEEM TO PARTIALLY SUPPORT THE EXISTENCE OF SEPARATE TRAIL NETWORKS.)

6. [REDACTED] SAID THAT SHORTLY AFTER RECEIVING THE ABOVE INFORMATION FROM [REDACTED] HE HAD OCCASION TO ATTEND A WEDDING IN THE VICINITY OF BAN SOPSOUNG /XD 312750/, 31 KILOMETERS NORTH OF TCHEPONE /XD 3445/. WHEN HE REACHED BAN MUANG-ANGKHAM /XD 196758/ HE WAS DIRECTED TO A TRAIL ABOUT TWO METERS WIDE WHICH GENERALLY PARALLELED THE NAM /STREAM/ SANGI TO BAN SOPSOUNG. BASED ON [REDACTED] DESCRIPTION, [REDACTED] HAD CONCLUDED THAT THIS WAS A SEGMENT OF THE INFILTRATION TRAIL USED BY [REDACTED] COMPANY. [REDACTED] SAID THAT HE COULD NOT BE CERTAIN OF THIS, HOWEVER. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] THE HO CHI MINH TRAIL NETWORKS ARE NOT NORTH-SOUTH TRAILS, BUT CONSTANTLY ZIG-ZAG FROM EAST TO WEST OR IN IN-BETWEEN DIRECTIONS. AT BAN MUANG-ANGKHAM

1A, B

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THE TRAIL VEERED TO THE NORTHWEST. AT BAN SOPSOUNG IT TURNED
TO THE SOUTH.

7. FIELD DISSEM. STATE ARMY AIR CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF
PACFLT MACV/JPRC 7TH AF 7/13TH AF TFA/NKP 7TH RRFS /ALSO

SENT

SAIGON

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BY: [REDACTED] AT: [REDACTED] 2

DISSEM BY: [REDACTED]

ACTION: [REDACTED] FILE: VR. [REDACTED]

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DIRECTOR INFO VIENTIANE [REDACTED] SAIGON, [REDACTED]

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TO PACOM, USMACV FOR JPRC, 7TH AIR FORCE AND TFA/NKP
ELECTRICALLY.

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Wrap-up

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CITE TDCS-314/12572-70

DIST 1 DECEMBER 1970

COUNTRY LAOS

DOI 25 NOVEMBER 1970 AND AS STATED

SUBJECT ENEMY PRISONS IN LAOS

ACQ LAOS, VIENTIANE /28 NOVEMBER 1970/ [REDACTED] D

SOURCE

[REDACTED]
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1. AS OF 25 NOVEMBER 1970 GROUND SOURCES CONFIRMED 45 ENEMY PRISONS AND/OR PRISONER OF WAR /POW/ CAMPS OR COMPLEXES IN LAOS. BASED ON ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION, AN ESTIMATED 1,000 ENEMY PERSONNEL WERE COMMITTED TO GUARDING AND MAINTAINING PRISON FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. SIX NEW PRISONS HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED SINCE AUGUST, WHILE THE PRISON FACILITY PREVIOUSLY CONFIRMED AT MUONG PHINE /XD 0927/ WAS DROPPED

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FROM THIS LISTING DUE TO RECENT GOVERNEMENT OPERATIONS IN THAT
SECTOR. PRISONERS PREVIOUSLY HELD IN THE IMMEDIATE MUONG
PHINE AREA PROBABLY WERE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER PRISONS.

FIELD COMMENT. THIS REPORT UPDATES [REDACTED] (TDCS-314/08361-70) D
/ISSUED

IN AUGUST. THE LIMITATIONS OF THE TECHNIQUES USED IN
COMPILING THIS REPORT ARE DISCUSSED IN THE FINAL PARAGRAPH./

2. POW CAMPS IN CONTESTED AREAS FREQUENTLY CHANGE THEIR
LOCATIONS TO INSURE BETTER SECURITY, ESPECIALLY FOLLOWING
SUCCESSFUL PRISONER ESCAPES. THE ENEMY STRESSES POLITICAL
INDOCTRINATION OF INDIGENOUS POWS, AND THOSE PRISONERS WHO
SHOW FAVORABLE PROGRESS OFTEN ARE INTERGRATED INTO REAR SERVICE
UNITS OR OTHER SUPPORT FACILITIES. MANY OF THESE PRISONERS
ARE RELEASED TO THEIR HOME VILLAGES IF THEY PROMISE NOT TO
SUPPORT THE ROYAL LAO GOVERNMENT /RLG/.

3. AMERICAN POWS. UNTIL RECENTLY THE BAN NAKAY NEUA
/VH 1956/ PRISON COMPLEX WAS THE ONLY PRISON FACILITY IN
LAOS KNOWN TO CONTAIN AMERICAN POWS. AMERICANS CAPTURED IN
NORTHERN LAOS WERE ESCORTED TO THIS FACILITY, WHERE THEY WERE
DETAINED ON A SEMI-PERMANENT BASIS. RECENT REPORTING INDICATES,
HOWEVER, THAT ALL FOREIGN POWS INCLUDING THE AMERICANS HELD IN

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THIS REGION MAY HAVE BEEN MOVED TO AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION NORTH OF BAN NAKAY NEUA. AMERICANS CAPTURED IN THE LAO PANHANDLE ARE NOT BELIEVED TO BE PERMANENTLY DETAINED IN LAOS, BUT RATHER ARE ESCORTED THROUGH THE INFILTRATION CORRIDOR TO NORTH VIETNAM. AMERICAN POWS ARE BELIEVED TO RECEIVE BETTER TREATMENT THAN THAT PROVIDED TO THE INDEGENOUS PRISONERS.

4. AS OF 25 NOVEMBER ENEMY PRISON FACILITIES WERE CONFIRMED BY GROUND SOURCES AT THE LOCATIONS LISTED BELOW. DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FACILITIES ARE BASED UPON THE BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION. THE MOST RECENT DATE OF CONFIRMATION IS GIVEN FOR EACH FACILITY.

A. PHONG SALY /TK 0102/ A LARGE PRISON, SURROUNDED BY A BAMBOO FENCE, APPEARS TO BE A PRISON FOR PATHET LAO /PL/ CRIMINALS AND POLITICAL PRISONERS. ABOUT 400 RLG PRISONERS ALLEGEDLY WERE RELEASED IN JULY 1968. /MAY 1970/

B. MUONG SING /QD 2344/ A DISTRICT PRISON FOR PL CRIMINALS AND POLITICAL PRISONERS. /APR 1970/

C. NAM THA /QD 5019/ POSSIBLY TWO PRISONS, ONE FOR PL CRIMINALS AND POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND ONE FOR POWS. /MAR 1970/

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D. BAN NAM THOUNG /QD 5320/ A SMALL PRISON, POSSIBLY A
LOCAL JAIL, CONTAINING 13-20 PRISONERS. PRISONERS ARE
ESCORTED TO WORK AT BAN THONG OM /QD 5122/ TO HUSK RICE.
/OCT 1970/

E. QD 6455 /CHINA/ A UNIDENTIFIED /U/I/ PRISON. /AUG 1969/
/FIELD COMMENT - THIS AREA APPEARS TO BE INHABITED BY LAO
ETHNIC GROUPS. THERE ALSO IS A LAO HOSPITAL AND STORAGE
FACILITY AT THE SAME LOCATION./

F. BOTENE /QD 7744/ A SMALL LOCAL PRISON POSSIBLY
CONTROLLED BY KHAMMOUANE NEUTRALISTS. A PRISON BUILT BY CHINESE
FORCES ALSO HAS BEEN REPORTED HERE. /APR 1970/

G. NAM NOA /TJ 1034/ A U/I PRISON. /MAY 1969/

H. HOUAY CHIK /TJ 6345/ A PRISON REPORTED TO CONTAIN
ABOUT 70 MILITARY AND CIVIL PRISONERS. /MAR 1970/

I. HOUAY KANG /TJ 7451/ A PRISON COMPLEX. SEVERAL
HUNDRED RLG TROOPS CAPTURED AT NAM BAC /TH 3583/ IN JANUARY
1968 WERE INCARCERATED IN THIS COMPLEX. MOST OF THESE
PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN RELEASED INTO REAR SERVICE UNITS, INTEGRATED
TO COMMUNIST TACTICAL UNITS, OR HAVE ESCAPED. /OCT 1969/

J. VJ 1101 A U/I PRISON. /FEB 1969/

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K. MUONG SAI /RC 1190/ A PRISON FOR CIVILIANS AS WELL AS POWS AND POLITICAL PRISONERS. /APR 1970/

L. RC 0788 VICINITY /MUONG SAI/ A TWO PRISONS IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA, ONE FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THE OTHER FOR POWS, 100-200 PRISONERS GUARDED BY 40-60 PL. /JUL 1970/

M. NAM BAC /TH 3886 VICINITY/ A POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION CENTER FOR POWS AND POLITICAL PRISONERS. /JUN 1970/

N. MUONG NGOI /TH 5891 VICINITY/ A THREE PRISONS IN THE MUONG NGOI AREA CONTAINING CIVILIANS, POWS AND POLITICAL PRISONERS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS /SEP 1970/ -

/1/ PHA KAO CAVE /TH 5990/

/2/ PHA PERNG CAVE /TH 6291 VICINITY/

/3/ TH 6591

O. SAM NEUA /VH 0157 VICINITY/ A POLITICAL PRISON FOR LAO. AS OF DECEMBER 1969 ONLY NON-LAO PRISONER REPORTED WAS A THAI POW. /DEC 1969/

P. BAN NAKAY NEUA /VH 1956/ A PRISON COMPLEX. /NOV 1970/

/1/ BAN NAKAY NEUA - MAJOR ENEMY PRISON. AS MANY AS 20 AMERICAN POWS HAVE BEEN REPORTED AT THIS LOCATION. UNCONFIRMED REPORTING AS OF 20 OCTOBER INDICATES ALL POWS,

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AMERICANS, THAIS, LAO AND MEO, MAY HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION NORTH OF BAN NAKAY NEUA. /OCT 1970/

/2/ HANG LONG /VH 1362/ A PRISON IN CAVE, AMERICAN, THAI AND LAO PRISONERS. RECENT UNCONFIRMED REPORTING INDICATES ALL POWS MAY HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED PRIOR TO MID-AUGUST TO AN UNKNOWN LOCATION NORTH OF BAN KAKAY NEUA. /NOV 1970/

Q. BAN CHAMUN /UG 7949 VICINITY/ - PRISON, POSSIBLY CONTROLLED BY DEUANIST NEUTRALISTS. /FEB 1970/

R. NAM KIAN /UG 9051/ A LARGE PRISON FACILITY REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN BUILT IN SEPTEMBER 1969 BY PRISONERS WHO WERE MOVED FROM KHANG KHAY /UG 1758/. /JAN 1970/

S. NONG HET /UG 9555/ A LARGE PL PRISON AT ONE TIME CONTAINED OVER 300 PRISONERS, MANY OF WHOM WERE TRANSFERRED FROM THE PLAINE DES JARRES DURING SEPTEMBER 1969. MANY OF THE POWS HELD HERE HAVE BEEN RELEASED INTO LABORER AND COOLIE GROUPS. /AUG 1970/

I. KHAM KEUT /VF 7016 VICINITY/ A PRISON COMPLEX LOCATED IN SEVERAL CAVES IN KHAM KEUT AREA CONTAINS BOTH CIVILIAN PRISONERS AND POWS. /JUN 1970/

V. BAN THA VENG /VF 9616/ A PRISON FACILITY, POSSIBLY
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ASSOCIATED WITH THE BORIKHAM SAI PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS.

/JUN 1970/

V. VF 9926 A PRISON FACILITY, POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH
PRISON AT BAN NAPE /WE 0823/. /JUL 1970/

W. NAM OM /WF 0429 VICINITY/ A POLITICAL PRISON, 10-20
PRISONERS. /JUL 1970/

X. BAN NAPE /WF 0823/ A A PRISON POSSIBLY CONTAINING
BOTH CIVILIANS AND POWS. /SEP 1970/

Y. MAHAXAY /WE 2224/ A U/I PRISON. /NOV 1969/

Z. WE 2639 A U/I PRISON GUARDED BY ONE GUERRILLA
COMPANY. /JUL 1969/

AA. PHA LABO CAVE /WE 4301/ A U/I PRISON. /MAY 1969/

BB. BAN NADENE/BAN NATHAN - KHAMMOUANE PROVINCIAL
PRISON COMPLEX, CONSISTING OF THREE SEPARATE PRISONS IN KARST
CAVES OVER 100 LAO, BOTH CIVILIANS AND POWS, ARE BEING
DETAINED IN THIS COMPLEX. NO AMERICANS OR OTHER FOREIGN
NATIONALS ARE CURRENTLY BEING HELD, HOWEVER, IN MAY 1965 AND
MARCH 1968 TWO AMERICAN PILOTS WERE REPORTED PASSING THROUGH
THE AREA, PROBABLY ON THE WAY TO THE PRISON AT BAN THAPAC
MONE /WE 8805/. THE THREE PRISONS ARE AT THE FOLLOWING

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LOCATIONS /AUG 1970/ A

/1/ BAN NADENE /WE 4334/ A PRISON IN A KARST CAVE,
50-80 PRISONERS. AMERICANS REPORTED PASSING THROUGH IN MAY 1965
AND MARCH 1968. /JUN 1970/

/2/ BAN NATHAN /WE 4032/ A PRISON IN CAVE, 50-90
POWS. NO AMERICANS OR THAIS IN THE AREA. /JUN 1970/

/3/ WE 4232 A PRISON FACILITY RAIDED IN 1967 BY RLG
FORCES, REPORTED IN AUGUST 1970 TO BE BACK IN USE. /AUG 1970/

CC. BAN THAPAC MONE /WE 6805/ A POW CAMP IN A KARST
CAVE. AT ONE TIME THIS PRISON HELD 10 FOREIGN POWS
INCLUDING AMERICANS, THAIS AND FILIPINOS. INFORMATION DATED
26 JULY 1969 INDICATED NO AMERICANS WERE THEN BEING HELD AT
THIS LOCATION. A REPORT DATED 25 MAY 1970 INDICATED THE PRISON
MAY HAVE BEEN ABANDONED FOR THREE-FOUR MONTHS. /MAY 1970/

DD. WD 7884 A U/I PRISON IN A CAVE. /MAR 1970/

EE. WD 8188 A PRISON CONTAINING BOTH POLITICAL PRISONERS
AND POWS. NO FOREIGN PRISONERS REPORTED. /AUG 1970/

FF. WD 8282 VICINITY - PRISON CONTAINING ABOUT 60 POWS.
/MAY 1969/

GG. WD 8582 A LOCAL PRISON IN A CAVE. /MAR 1969/

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HH. XD 0838 VICINITY - PL PRISON WITH CIVILIAN AND
MILITARY PRISONERS REPORTED. /JUL 1970/

II. MUONG ARNG KHAM /XD 1975/ A POLITICAL PRISON
POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SOUTH LAOS TACTICAL REGION
HEADQUARTERS. /AUG 1970/

JJ. XD 2179 VICINITY - PRISON WITH 30-70 POWS. /SEP 1969/

KK. BAN ANG KHAM /XD 3047/ A POW CAMP. /AUG 1970/

LL. XD 3244 A POW CAMP. /JUN 1969/

MM. XD 3650 A POW CAMP. /FEB 1969/

NN. XD 3457 A POW CAMP. FOUR AMERICANS ESCORTED THROUGH
THE AREA IN JUNE 1968. /JUN 1969/

OO. MUONG NONG /XD 6010 VICINITY/ A PRISON REPORTED TO
CONTAIN EIGHT-TEN AMERICANS DURING APRIL AND MAY 1970. /MAY 1970/

PP. XC 1606 A POW CAMP CONTAINING ONLY LAO PRISONERS.
/JUL 1970/

QQ. XC 7788 A SUSPECTED PRISON. /SEP 1970/

RR. XB 8405 A POW CAMP. /JUL 1969/

SS. XB 8832 VICINITY - PRISON FACILITY CONTAINING ONLY
LAO PRISONERS. /OCT 1970/

(5. FIELD COMMENT. [REDACTED] D
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THESE AREAS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING A

- A. PHONG SALY PROVINCE
- B. NORTHERN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE
- C. HOUA PHAN PROVINCE
- D. NORTHEASTERN XIENG KHOUANG PROVINCE
- E. EASTERN KHAMMOUANE PROVINCE
- F. EASTERN SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE
- G. EASTERN SARAVANE PROVINCE
- H. EASTERN ATTIOPEU PROVINCE.

ADDITIONAL ENEMY PRISON FACILITIES PROBABLY WERE LOCATED IN THESE AREAS, BUT AVAILABLE INFORMATION DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERIA FOR LISTING IN THIS REPORT.)

6. FIELD DISSEM - STATE ARMY AIR USAID USMACV JPRC
7TH AIR FORCE TFA/NKP CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACFLT /ALSO SENT

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1 COMMITTEE SENSITIVE
2 DEPOSITION OF MURPHY MARTIN
3

4 Wednesday, June 24, 1992
5

6 U.S. Senate
7 Select Committee on POW/MIA
8 Affairs
9 Dallas, Texas
10

11 Deposition of MURPHY MARTIN, the witness herein,
12 called for examination by counsel for the Select Committee on
13 POW/MIA Affairs, pursuant to notice, Room 757, Federal Office
14 Building, 525 Griffin Street, Dallas, Texas, commencing at
15 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, June 24, 1992, before Betty Morgan, a
16 Notary Public and Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the
17 State of Texas, and the proceedings being taken down by
18 Stenomask by her and transcribed by her or under her
19 direction.
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1 A. No, it was for ABC-TV.

2 Q. Okay. Were you doing stories related to the Vietnam
3 war?

4 A. Some of them were -- well, many of them were,
5 particularly stateside. All of those -- I lost count of the
6 number of anti-war demonstrations that were covered. But,
7 yes, in that vein we did a number of them, things that
8 pertained to the war stateside.

9 Q. Did those stories include stories on POW and MIA
10 family members?

11 A. Not at ABC. I don't recall having done any at the
12 network level with families. That happened after I got back
13 to Dallas and Channel 8.

14 Q. So until you moved back to Dallas in 1968, you had
15 had no professional contact with the POW/MIA issue?

16 A. No, I had not.

17 Q. Had you had any non-professional involvement in the
18 POW/MIA issue before the time that you moved back to Dallas in
19 1968?

20 A. No, sir.

21 Q. Okay. Then why don't you continue with what you did
22 when you moved back to Dallas.

23 A. Okay. I moved back to Dallas December of '67, went
24 to work at Channel 8 in January of '68 and worked there as
25 special projects director, producing and anchoring

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1 documentaries, half-hour public service interview type things.

2 As a part of that, there was a series that I did ..
3 once a week called "Face to Face." If I interpret your
4 question correctly, what led to the POW/MIA.

5 In August of 1969, I had in the interim also begun
6 anchoring their early and late news programs for the station.
7 Then in August of '69, continuing to do that program, I
8 interviewed four ladies, one of whom was a mother of a man
9 missing in Southeast Asia; the others were wives of men
10 missing or believed to be POW's -- in this weekly program.

11 They issued a plea for help and for someone to shed
12 some light on this problem that they were not getting many
13 answers about. That was my first exposure to that.

14 Q. Okay. We're going to come back to that in a lot
15 more detail in a few minutes. If you'll continue on with your
16 professional experience, and then we'll come back and talk
17 more about the POW issues in the late 60's.

18 A. All right. In the late 60's, through '68, '69, I
19 was at Channel 8, as I said, did documentaries, anchored
20 weekly programs and anchored the nightly news and did some
21 field reporting.

22 Continued to do that through until the fall of '69
23 when I became more involved in the POW activities and began to
24 do some traveling with some family members, trying to help
25 them get information about their missing people.

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1 In the course of that, it led to a trip in the fall
2 when we put together an attempt to get into Hanoi.
3 Subsequently, that effort led me to take a leave of absence
4 from my job at Channel 8 and go full time with an organization
5 called United We Stand, whose effort was focused on the
6 POW/MIA program.

7 I worked with that organization until late 1972, I
8 believe. When it looked as if things were coming to an end
9 over there and that the release of the men was imminent, I
10 then returned to Channel 8 again to my anchor job as a
11 newsman; continued that until 1975 at which time at the end of
12 my contract I opened a media consulting business, a small one-
13 man operation; continued to do that until '78, I believe.

14 For a 1-year period I -- Correction. When I left
15 there, I -- and I'm not sure of the dates. I want to say it
16 was in the '76-'77 time frame, I'm not positive about those
17 dates.

18 But I think '76 and part of '77, I again did some
19 work for Ross Perot, most of which was tracking people and
20 interviewing people that had touched his life or whose lives
21 he had touched and so forth, putting together kind of an audio
22 background for research purposes. I did that for, I think,
23 about 18 months. I'm not positive the length of that.

24 Then I took a job as executive vice president of the
25 Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce, which is an area of Dallas, the

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1 check with Hanoi and notify the next day, get him word back
2 the next day.

3 Q. Was Mr. Perot doing all of the negotiating on behalf
4 of your team?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Were other meetings held in Vientiane between
7 members of your team and anyone else?

8 A. Before we left, there was. We called following the
9 direction of the North Vietnamese, when they finally said, "If
10 you will get your goods to Moscow by midnight, the 31st," et
11 cetera, "the Russians will see that they are delivered into
12 Hanoi."

13 We called upon the Russian embassy, and they in turn
14 said they would contact -- We started working...

15 The other people -- Let's see. Did we meet with
16 other people?

17 Q. Did you have any contact with the U.S. Embassy in
18 Laos?

19 A. Oh, of course, yes. Jim Murphy and Mr. Godley
20 and... I'm trying to think who else might have been in that
21 embassy on that trip at that time. It's a little hazy, but I
22 know that we visited with Mr. Godley.

23 Q. Mr. Godley you've already described as the head of
24 the U.S. Embassy in Laos at the time.

25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. What was your understanding of Jim Murphy's position
2 at the embassy?

3 A. I don't know the official title, but whatever the
4 title is for the political officer. That seemed to be the
5 impression I recall of the role he carried out there.

6 Q. Was Mr. Murphy your point of contact in Laos or was
7 someone else in that position?

8 MR. BRYANT: On that trip?

9 MR. KRAVITZ: On that trip.

10 THE WITNESS: It seemed to me that -- I don't
11 recall if our first point of contact was Mr. Godley or Mr.
12 Murphy. I just don't recall.

13 BY MR. KRAVITZ:

14 Q. Was it actual face-to-face meeting between members
15 of your team and members of the U.S. Embassy?

16 A. Yes, yes. In fact -- I shouldn't say anything that
17 I'm not positive of, but I seem to recall that Jim Murphy was
18 at the airport when we brought the big plane up that second
19 day. I think, if my memory serves me correctly, he was at the
20 airport.

21 Q. You said that there was a face-to-face meeting. Was
22 there a face-to-face meeting with anyone other than Mr. Murphy
23 at the airport on that trip?

24 MR. BRYANT: You mean did they meet anybody else at
25 the airport, or did they meet anybody else any time on the

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1 COMMITTEE SENSITIVE

2 DEPOSITION OF THOMAS E. MEURER

3
4 Wednesday, June 24, 1992

5
6 U.S. Senate

7 Select Committee on POW/MIA

8 Affairs

9 Dallas, Texas

10
11 Deposition of THOMAS E. MEURER, the witness herein,
12 called for examination by counsel for the Select Committee on
13 POW/MIA Affairs, pursuant to notice, Room 757, Federal Office
14 Building, 525 Griffin Street, Dallas, Texas, commencing at
15 3:10 p.m., on Wednesday, June 24, 1992, before Betty Morgan, a
16 Notary Public and Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the
17 State of Texas, and the proceedings being taken down by
18 Stenomask by her and transcribed by her or under her
19 direction.

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1 A. As a trainee, yes.

2 Q.. How long did you stay in the training program?

3 A. I think I was graduated in like September of '69, I
4 think.

5 Q.. So the training program is about a year long?

6 A. In my particular case, about a year, year and a
7 half, yes.

8 Q. What did you do after you graduated from the
9 training program?

10 A. Basically, I guess, I went on Ross' staff, Mr.
11 Perot's staff, and was active in the POW activities that he
12 had instigated in 1969.

13 Subsequently, as on the staff, I handled a lot of
14 activities that were related to the chairman of the board
15 versus the corporate activity.

16 Q. How many people were on Mr. Perot's staff as of the
17 fall of 1969? When you say you were on his staff, what does
18 that mean?

19 A. Well, we didn't have titles but he had a couple of
20 secretaries; there were two of us kind of staff assistants;
21 and a bookkeeper I recall.

22 Q. So you worked on matters other than the prisoner of
23 war issue?

24 A. And prisoner of war issue, both.

25 Q. How much of your time -- Well, strike that.

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1 How long did you stay in that position, being on Mr.
2 Perot's staff?

3 A. Until I left EDS in 1975.

4 Q. During that time period between the fall of 1969 and
5 1975 when you left EDS, how much of your time did you spend
6 working on prisoner of war related issues?

7 A. I would say 70 percent. It's hard to quantify that,
8 because Mr. Perot was a pretty active person and was involved
9 in a lot of things, and I would go in and out of a lot of
10 things.

11 In 1969 and 1970 it was probably 95 percent. By '71
12 and '72 it dropped back; by '73 it dropped back a lot more; in
13 '74 it went off the scope.

14 Q. When you first assumed that position on Mr. Perot's
15 staff, that was in September of 1969 after you graduated?

16 A. No. It was really, I want to say, probably
17 somewhere in the late -- probably summer of '69. I can't give
18 you the exact date. I mean, I was in the training program and
19 I did a lot of activities in the training program. I got
20 involved in some political activities.

21 Then we had a special project on a talking computer.
22 Actually, it was a terminal that one of our engineers had
23 designed and Ross financed him to go ahead and see if we could
24 manufacture a piece of hardware. EDS was in the software
25 business.

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1 So I was assigned to him as basically a marketing
2 representative for this thing for about 4 or 5 months to see
3 if it worked while I was still in the training program.

4 The training program wasn't just a classroom but in
5 essence, the EDS training program was you'd have a certain
6 block of stuff you were to do and then you were thrown in OJT,
7 so to speak.

8 So that's why it's hard to quantify. You just got
9 out and went with this.

10 Q. What was Mr. Perot's involvement, if there was any,
11 with POW issues, POW matters, when you joined his staff,
12 either in late summer or early fall 1969, that you were aware
13 of?

14 A. I don't recall Ross getting involved or even
15 probably becoming aware of the POW's until the fall of '69.
16 It was with Murphy Martin and his TV program, I think, was
17 where that was initiated.

18 Q. So when you were tapped for that position on Mr.
19 Perot's staff after graduating from the training program, did
20 you know that you were going to be involved in POW-related
21 issues?

22 A. No. No.

23 Q. What was your understanding as to what you were
24 going to be doing?

25 A. Well, I had done so many other things. You know,

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1 meetings in some more detail, but why don't we start -- Well,
2 let me ask you this. Do you have any recollection as to the
3 order of those meetings?

4 A. No, I don't. I don't.

5 Q. Well, then let's just pick one of them. If at any
6 time while we're talking about these meetings, something
7 refreshes your memory as to the order of them, if you'd just
8 interrupt me and let me know, that might be helpful.

9 A. Okay.

10 Q. Why don't we talk about the meeting with the U.S.
11 Embassy personnel. Now we're talking about in Vientiane in
12 April 1970.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. Were you present during that meeting?

15 A. You're talking which one? With Devlin?

16 Q. Was there more than one meeting between members of
17 your group and U.S. Embassy personnel in Vientiane, Laos?

18 A. I'm sure there were. I'm sure there was a protocol
19 meeting with Godley. Jim Murphy, definitely I'm sure I had
20 some meetings with him. But I think the specific meeting
21 you're talking about is the night meeting with Devlin.

22 Q. Let's talk about the night meeting. Who was present
23 during that meeting?

24 A. I was. Ross. We might have had some wives in
25 there. I don't know who they would have been, but we might

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1 have had some -- because we had the POW wives on this trip
2 with us. I'm sure -- I think that was some of the reason for
3 the meeting is let them have some information on what was
4 going on. But I don't recall who...

5 Q. Do you remember if Murphy Martin was there?

6 A. I don't remember. Murphy might have been. I just
7 don't remember. He might have been in there.

8 Q. How about Mr. McKillop?

9 A. No, I don't think Harry would have been in there.
10 Harry was not a part of the group. Harry was handling the
11 logistics of the airplane. He would have been out making sure
12 that airplane was going to be ready to take off the next
13 morning.

14 Q. Okay. So it was you and Mr. Perot for sure?

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. Maybe Murphy Martin, but you don't remember?

17 A. Uh-huh.

18 Q. And maybe one or more of the POW wives, but you
19 don't remember?

20 A. Yes, I don't recall.

21 Q. Was there anyone else from your group who could have
22 been there?

23 A. Marquez might have been, but I don't recall if he
24 was there or not.

25 Q. Is he more likely to have been there than Mr.

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1 McKillop, just in terms of the general role that he was
2 playing?

3 A. Probably, yes. McKillop I know wasn't there. I say
4 that through deduction. His role was such that there would
5 have been no reason for him to be there.

6 Q. Who from the U.S. Embassy in Laos was at this late
7 night meeting?

8 A. Well, I remember Larry Devlin as the embassy
9 official. Jim Murphy might have been there. Again, I don't
10 recall. It was a late night meeting.

11 Q. What was your understanding as Mr. Devlin's
12 position?

13 A. I think he was chief of station there. I mean, you
14 can check that out. I don't know what his position was, and
15 at that time I probably didn't know what his title was.

16 Q. Did you understand that Mr. Devlin was involved in
17 intelligence?

18 A. Yes, I assumed that's what he was involved in, yes.
19 The whole embassy was involved in intelligence in Laos.

20 Q. A little CIA outpost.

21 A. Godley was proconsul. He was more than ambassador.
22 He ran everything from there. I mean, this is where the
23 action in Laos was. Everybody around that place was -- that
24 was their mission.

25 Q. Were you and Mr. Perot aware that Mr. Devlin was the

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1 CIA station chief?

2 A. I don't think so. That might have come years later
3 because I probably didn't know what a station chief was at
4 that time. Since I've been in international business for 20
5 years now, going into a lot of these crazy countries that we
6 go into, I understand a little bit more what that is.

7 I can't tell you what time that I came to that
8 realization. That time is foggy. To be real candid, I don't
9 think I could go to a lineup and pick out this Larry Devlin
10 from a lineup. So to say I could pick him out of a crowd...
11 I remember the name. I have a pretty good memory for names.

12 I think I... I just remember the specifics of the
13 meeting, and that's about it.

14 Q. You think that Jim Murphy might have been there, but
15 again you don't recall for sure?

16 A. He might have. I just don't know.

17 Q. Was Ambassador Godley at this meeting?

18 A. I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.

19 Q. You just don't remember?

20 A. I just don't remember. That's right.

21 Q. How did this meeting come about?

22 A. I don't recall that. I don't recall why it
23 happened.

24 Q. Do you remember about what time? You said it was at
25 night?

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