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MAY 19 14 15 71 TDCS-314/05243-71

BY: [REDACTED] AT: [REDACTED] Z [REDACTED]

DISSEM BY [REDACTED]

ACTION UNIT [REDACTED] FILE. VR. ADDP. [REDACTED] DCI, D/DCI, DDP, [REDACTED]

ACTION NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 191208Z MAY 71 CITE VIENTIANE [REDACTED] SAIGON, [REDACTED]

PRIORITY DIRECTOR INFO [REDACTED]

INTEL [REDACTED] 19MAY IN337556

SUPDATA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OB COMMENT [REDACTED]

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Approved for Release
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Attachment 9



Intelligence Information Cable

• PRIORITY
IN 337556

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STATE/INR DIA NMCC/MC (SECDEF JCS ARMY NAVY AIR) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA SDO ONE CRS

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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

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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,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Was the [redacted] located?

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[redacted] I [redacted]

(classification) (dissem controls)

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.

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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)./

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3. IN [redacted] 1970 [redacted] [redacted] AN 85MM ARTILLERY COMPANY WHICH HAD JUST COMPLETED TRAINING IN NORTH VIETNAM, RETURNED FROM VINH LINH TO THE

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[REDACTED] I [REDACTED]
(clarification) (dissem. controls)

SOUTH LAOS TACTICAL REGION HEADQUARTERS AT THE FOOT OF
PHOU /MOUNTAIN/ PHATHONG /UNLOCATED/. [REDACTED] A
MEMBER OF [REDACTED] SAID THAT FOR SECURITY REASONS B
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.

4. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] FIVE SEPARATE TRAIL NET- A
WORKS COLLECTIVELY CONSTITUTE THE H O CHI MINH TRAIL.
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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(classification) (dissem controls)

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-ING 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

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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 [REDACTED] SAIGON [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

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H / LAOS
 LOCATIONS
 25-Nov 70
 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] B

1. AS OF 25 NOVEMBER 1970 GROUND SOURCES CONFIRMED 45 ENEMY PRISONS AND/OR PRISONER OR 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) /ISSUED D 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 /IJ 1034/ A U/I PRISON. /MAY 1969/

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

I. HOUAY KANG /IJ 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/

T. 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 MADENE/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 8805/ 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 ANG 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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[REDACTED]. 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 ATTOPEU 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/NXP CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACFLT /ALSC SENT

[REDACTED] SAIGON/ E

[REDACTED] I

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