

TO: DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM,
CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS.

PASS: EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM;
NSA FOR ZKZK OO ZRL DE (EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, NSA);
STATE EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, INR;
DIA EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, DIA (DIA IS AUTHORIZED
TO PASS THIS INFORMATION TO THE JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION
CENTERS IN BANGKOK AND BARBERS POINT, HAWAII, FOR
COMMANDERS ONLY).

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DIST: 24 OCTOBER 1986

EXCLUSIVE DISSEMINATION TO ADDRESSEES LISTED AT END OF REPORT

COUNTRY: LAOS/VIETNAM

SUBJ: ALLEGED LOCATION OF LIVE AMERICAN POWS IN LUANG
PRABANG PROVINCE, LAOS

DOI: MID 1986

SOURCE:

TEXT: 1.

THERE WERE SEVEN AMERICAN POW'S AS OF MID-1986 BEING DETAINED AT A CAMP NEAR NAM BAC (TH 3683) TOWN, OUDOMSAI DISTRICT, LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (LPDR). THE PRESENCE OF AMERICAN POWS IN THIS GENERAL AREA WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

FORMER REEDUCATION CAMP INMATES FROM LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, HAVE REPORTED A REEDUCATION CAMP AT NAM BAC. THE CAMP WAS EMPTIED OF REEDUCATION INMATES ABOUT 1980 AND THE CAMP WAS OCCUPIED BY PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) TROOPS.) SIX OF THE AMERICANS WERE HISPANICS AND ONE WAS A CAUCASIAN AMERICAN. THERE HAD BEEN 12 AMERICAN POWS AT THE SITE BUT IN 1985 FIVE OF THE AMERICANS POWS WERE MOVED TO THE SOVIET UNION. ALL OF THE AMERICAN POWS HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN 1968 WHILE WORKING AT THE NAM BAC CAMP. (COMMENT: NAM BAC WAS THE SITE OF AN AIRFIELD DURING THE INDOCHINA WAR. NO AMERICANS WERE STATIONED THERE, BUT SOME AMERICAN PERSONNEL VISITED THERE OCCASIONALLY. NONE OF THEM WERE LOST.) THE CAMP WAS OVERRUN BY THE ENEMY AND THE AMERICANS WERE CAPTURED. IN ADDITION TO THE AMERICANS, THERE WERE 30 FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE PRISONERS AT THE CAMP.

2. THE PRISON CAMP WAS SURROUNDED BY A DOUBLE FENCE. THE INTERNAL AREA WAS FENCED WITH BAMBOO WHILE THE EXTERNAL AREA WAS FENCED WITH NINE WALLS OF BARBED WIRE, EACH ABOUT 170 CENTIMETERS IN HEIGHT. THERE WERE ABOUT SIX TO EIGHT BUILDINGS FOR PRISONERS IN THE

INTERNAL AREA. EACH PRISONER BUILDING WAS ABOUT 50X10 METERS IN SIZE, BUILT OF CEMENT WITH CORRUGATED-SHEET METAL ROOFING. THE TOTAL INTERNAL AREA WAS ABOUT 3 RAI IN SIZE. 2.5 RAI
EQUALS ABOUT ONE ACRE.)

3. THE AMERICAN POWS WERE GUARDED BY LAO PEOPLE'S ARMY (LPA) SOLDIERS AND HAD BEEN WORKING AS CONSTRUCTION FOREMEN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DISPENSARY AND LIVING QUARTERS BUILDING LOCATED ACROSS ROUTE SIX FROM THE CAMP WHICH WAS LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF ROUTE SIX. A PAVN SECURITY UNIT WAS LOCATED NEAR THE DISPENSARY/LIVING QUARTERS AREA AND A PAVN CHECKPOINT WAS LOCATED AT MUANG NGOY (TH 5891). THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE POWS HAD BEEN SERVING AS CONSTRUCTION WORKERS FOR THE PROJECT. THESE TWO BUILDINGS WERE COMPLETED IN 1985. THE PRISONERS WERE GUARDED BY LPA SOLDIERS WHEN THEY WORKED OUTSIDE THE CAMP, BUT WERE ALLOWED TO SPEAK WITH LOCAL VILLAGERS. THE LPA SECURITY CHIEF AT THE CAMP WAS ((SITHON)) (LNU).

4. THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE POWS WERE TERRIBLE. THEY WERE GIVEN MILLED BUT UNPOLISHED RICE TO EAT WHICH WAS SOMETIMES SUPPLEMENTED BY WHEAT OR BARLEY FROM CUBA. THE POWS WERE IN BAD HEALTH DUE TO MALNUTRITION.

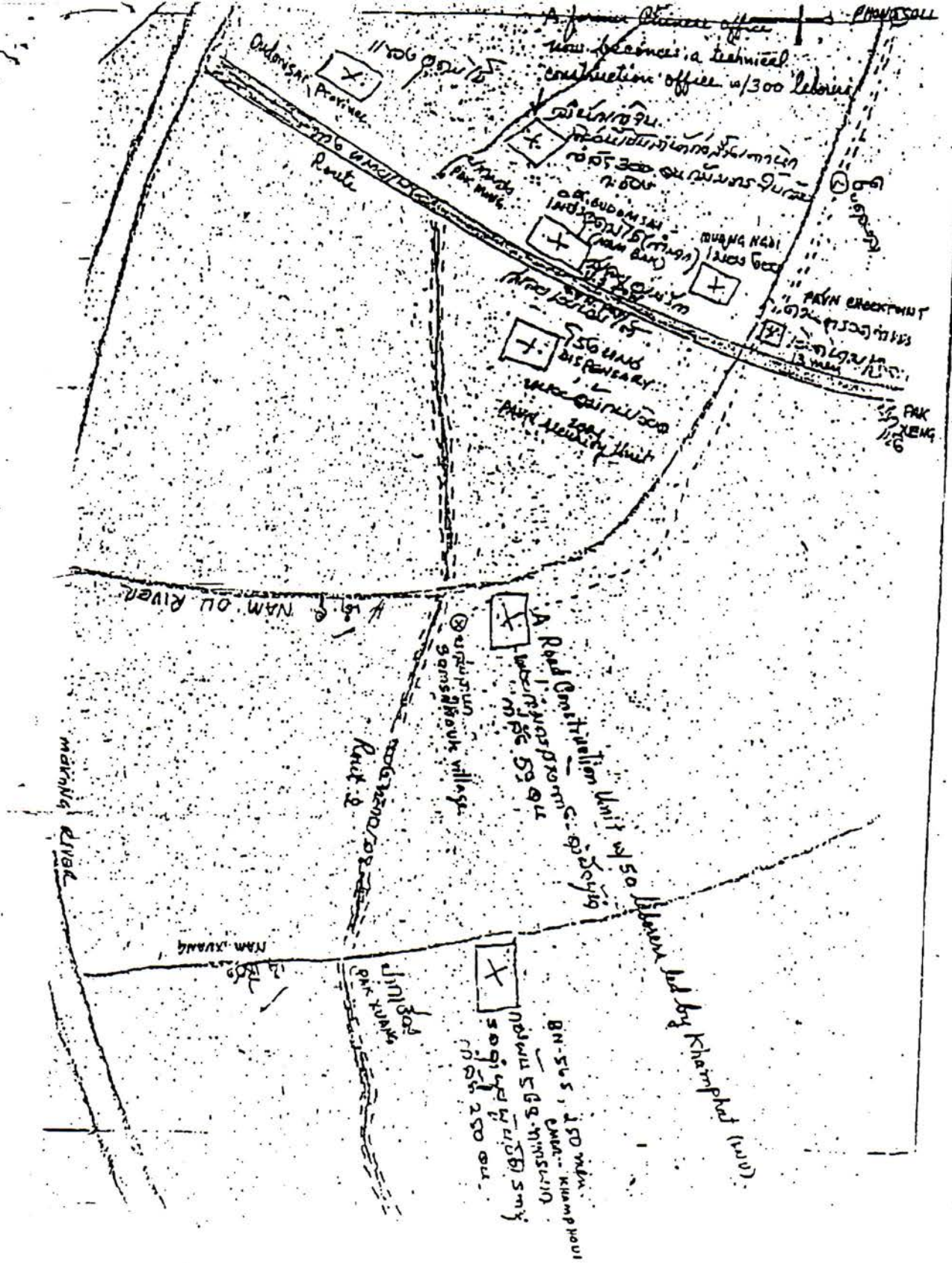
WASHINGTON DISSEM:
TO WHSITRM:

TO STATE:
TO DIA:
TO NSA:

EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM.
EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, INR.
EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, DIA.
EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, NSA.

5993

02



MAP OF NAM BAK POM CAMP

5993

03

NAME 3 : FIR 315/35655-86 ID # 2 : 5993
AKA 16 : CONFIDENTIALITY37:
BOAT NUMBER 34 : CONTACTED 32: 1A
CATEGORY:
CNTRY LOCATED 23 : STATE/CITY 15 :
CNTRY REPORTED 10: LA
TYPE SIGHTING 46 : POW-HSY
1ST SIGHTING 42 : TH360B30 11 203800N 12 1022700E
SUBSOURCES 27 :
ACTIONS 51 :
CURRENT ACT 45 : 5 US MOVED TO SOVIET UNION CAPTIVITY 39:
REMARKS 36 : FOLREG 7 PWS/LINGER/NAM BAC 86 ANALYST 13: KJ
DATE RECEIVED 8: 870306 DATE OF INFO 35 8606
ACT DATE 38: 0306 0 87 ADDRESS 25:
ORIGIN CODE 17: D
POLYGRAPH CATEGORY 53: 07 UNDER ANALYSIS
POLYGRAPH RESULTS 24:

5993

04

#5993

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005998

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