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     03/11/1992  
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 ..REPORT\_DATE:  
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 ..REPORT\_VOLUME:  
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 ..REPORT\_SERIES:  
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     [Text] The United States and Vietnam have just concluded an  
     investigation into a report that some Americans are still detained in Vietnam.

**APPROVED FOR RELEASE**  
**DATE: FEB 2001**

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Last week, American investigators found no evidences to the claim. In this connection, here is our radio comment:

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Last Thursday, 5 March, American experts in the delegation led by Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon, who were on a visit to Vietnam, informed us of a report sighting six years ago of live American prisoners still detained in Vietnam, and the U.S. side requested, at short notice, field investigation into this report. After receiving a one-hour notice from the U.S. side, an investigation team took off by helicopter from Hanoi for the destination. The team travelled to Xom Coc, now called Yen Son, in the province of Thanh Hoa, about 100 km south of Hanoi where the Americans were told there was a heavily guarded prisoner camp. These investigators, including Colonel Robert Destate and expert Emmeti Morgan from the U.S. MIA office in Hanoi, talked to local villagers and were helped to look into any places they wished to. The American investigators said they saw no prisoner camp, they also came to the conclusion that no foreigners had ever lived at the locality.

..TEXT:

In a press release issued in Bangkok on Monday, 9 March, the U.S. Information Service said the local villagers had little experience with foreigners and it was clear to the U.S. team that they were the first Americans the villagers have ever seen.

..TEXT:

Seeing is believing. The recent investigation at the Xom Coc determined that there were no Americans being held in this area and obviously the last [word indistinct] report has been fabricated.

..TEXT:

After the investigation, the American team members sent a report to the U.S. Government confirming that Vietnam no longer detains any Americans. This confirmation was revealed by the VOICE OF AMERICA in a broadcast on Tuesday, 10 March.

..TEXT: