

OUTGOING MESSAGE

CHANNELS

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CLASSIFICATION: **SECRET** MESSAGE HAND

DATE-TIME GROUP: **01A/02I**

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER: **740517**

SOURCE REF:

SECTOR	1		4		7		10
	2		5		8		11
	3		6		9		12

TO: IMMEDIATE

[REDACTED]

ITEM NO: [REDACTED] **~~SENSITIVE~~** DATE: **17 MAY 1974**

SUBJECT: LAOS--PATHET LAO POLICY ON PRISONER EXCHANGE

REF : [REDACTED]

THE LAO COMMUNISTS APPARENTLY INTEND TO USE SOME OF THE ALLIED PRISONERS THEY HOLD AS BARGAINING CHIPS TO FORCE CHANGES IN US [REDACTED] POLICY TOWARD LAOS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THE COMMUNISTS WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD CAPTIVE BEYOND THE JUNE 4 PRISONER EXCHANGE DEADLINE AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF US PRISONERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE CAPTURED AFTER THE FEBRUARY 1973 CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT. US CIVILIAN CONTRACT PILOT ENNET KEY IS THE ONLY AMERICAN PRISONER TO FALL WITHIN THE POST-AGREEMENT CATEGORY AND THE ONLY ONE THE

DATE: [REDACTED]
 ORIG: [REDACTED]
 UNIT: [REDACTED]
 EXT: [REDACTED]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
 DATE: DEC 2002

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RELEASING OFFICER: [REDACTED] COORDINATING OFFICERS: [REDACTED] AUTHENTICATING OFFICER: [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: [REDACTED] REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED [REDACTED]

OUTGOING MESSAGE

[Redacted]

CHANNELS

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

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CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~ [Redacted]

MESSAGE HAND [Redacted] DATE-TIME GROUP [Redacted] CITE [Redacted] MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER [Redacted]

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PATHE LAO HAVE ADMITTED HOLDING. ANOTHER 4 AMERICANS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN CAPTURED IN LAOS PRIOR TO THE AGREEMENT AND 314 ARE LISTED AS MISSING IN ACTION.

[Redacted] THE COMMUNISTS PLAN TO LINK THE RELEASE OF THESE PRISONERS TO THE CESSATION OF [Redacted]

[Redacted] TO THE DISBANDING OF

[Redacted] INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE THIN CAPITALS OF [Redacted] AND TO THE DISSOLUTION OF [Redacted] BASES.

[Redacted] SUGGESTS THE POSSIBILITY OF A STRONG NORTH VIETNAMESE HAND IN ITS PREPARATION. HEAVY STRESS IS PLACED ON THE CESSATION OF [Redacted] ALONG THE EASTERN TRAIL NETWORK [Redacted]

4 MOREOVER, [Redacted] PERSONNEL CAPTURED AFTER
 3 THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT ARE PROOF OF CONTINUED US AND [Redacted]
 2 "AGGRESSION" AGAINST LAOS, AND THAT THIS ARGUMENT MIGHT BE USED
 1 TO COUNTER ANTICIPATED ALLIED DEMANDS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL

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