



Intelligence Information Report

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REPORT NO. CS-311/07755-69

DATE DISTR. 28 August 1969

COUNTRY Laos

DOI 25 July 1969 ✓

SUBJECT Estimated Enemy Prison Order of Battle in Laos

CAT

ACQ Laos, Vientiane (27 July 1969)

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

1. As of 25 July 1969, there were an estimated 500 personnel committed to guarding, escorting, and providing support for prisoners of war (POW) in 54 confirmed enemy camps in Laos. These personnel are reflected as a portion of the command and support personnel for Laos, mentioned in the summary of estimated enemy order of battle for Laos as of 15 July 1969.

2. Living conditions. Generally, POWs receive humane treatment by Asian standards. ~~POW~~ comment: Some POWs have stated that they had received unhumane treatment or were subjected to various indignities.) Food, although often reported as minimal, unclean, and unseasoned, is sufficient for existence; however, it often leads to malnutrition and disease which claims a large number of POW casualties. Medical treatment, while not adequate by Western standards, is normally available in primitive form.

3. POW camps. POW are confined to a cave and/or stockade type structure during the night, but are permitted to go outside sometime during the day for exercise. POW

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Date 20 Aug 1975

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camp locations are changed frequently to provide better security. In some cases, all or part of the POWs are allowed beyond the prison confines under-light guard to forage for jungle foods. Prison guard forces are usually made up of personnel who due to their age or physical condition are unfit for regular military duty. Pathet Lao soldiers normally make up escort and guard forces. Many POW camps have full or part time North Vietnamese Army (NVA) advisors. NVA interrogators occasionally question POWs.

4. Political indoctrination. The enemy makes a concerted effort to indoctrinate POWs to the Communist cause through long periods of political training ("brain washing"). If and when a POW shows favorable improvement, he is released to become a soldier, a Farmer, or often a propagandist.

5. As of 25 July, enemy prisons were confirmed at the following locations:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Possible nationality and/or number of prisoners</u>
2.1 TK 0102	450 to 500 prisoners, complex surrounded by bamboo fence
2.2	
3 QD 5118	
4 QD 6455	
5 TJ 0134	
6 TJ 4210	
7 TJ 7449	300 to 500 Royal Lao Army (FAR) prisoners
8	
9 TJ 752449	FAR prisoners released
10 TJ 747500	100 FAR prisoners
11 VJ 1101	
12 RC 1290	Political prison
13 RC 1291	
14 TH 531773	17 crippled FAR prisoners
15 TH 6391	31 prisoners in a cave
16 VH 0157	American prisoners
17 VH 195545	Possibly 20 American pilots
18 VH 196558	Prison for American pilots
19 VH 1362	American prisoners
20 VH 1985 via	Possibly two Americans
21 VH 2048	Possibly 15 Americans

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STATE/INR DIA NMCC/MC (SECDEF JCS ARMY NAVY AIR)

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CITE TDCS-314/00217-70

DIST 6 JANUARY 1970

COUNTRY LAOS

DOI POSSIBLY LATE 1969 OR EARLY 1970 ✓

SUBJECT GENERAL LOCATION OF PRISON CAMP CONTAINING ABOUT 20 UNITED STATES AIR FORCE PILOTS IN THE BAN NAKAY REGION OF HOUA PHAN PROVINCE

ACQ

LAOS, VIENTIANE 75 JANUARY 1970

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

✓ 1. ABOUT 20 UNITED STATES AIR FORCE PILOTS WERE IMPRISONED IN A CONCEALED SECTION OF THE BAN NAKAY /VH 1955/ AREA OF SAM NEUA PROVINCE, ACCORDING TO TWO VILLAGERS WHO VISITED THE REGION TO BUY A RADIO ON AN UNSTATED DATE BUT POSSIBLY IN LATE 1969 OR EARLY 1970. WHEN THE NORTH

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VIENTAMESE ARMY /NVA/ GUARDS NOTICED THAT THE TWO VILLAGERS SAW THE PILOTS, THE GUARDS SEIZED THEM AND SAID THEY TOO WOULD BE IMPRISONED.

2. THE PATHET LAO FUNCTIONARY, WHO WAS SELLING THE VILLAGERS THE RADIO, INTERCEDED AND TOLD THE NVA GUARDS HE HAD TOLD THE VILLAGERS TO COME WITH HIM TO GET THE RADIO. THE NVA GUARDS RELEASED THE VILLAGERS, BUT DEMANDED THEY NOT TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THE LOCATION OF THE PILOTS PRISON CAMP.

3. [REDACTED] COMMENT. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] REPORTED ALL THE AMERICAN PRISONERS HELD IN LAOS WERE TAKEN TO NORTH VIETNAM IN LATE DECEMBER 1968. ^{SIC} THE 27 AMERICAN PRISONERS THAT HAD BEEN IN LAOS AT THAT TIME WERE ASSEMBLED IN THE BAN HANG LONG /VH 132629/ AREA ABOUT MID-WAY BETWEEN BAN NAKAY AND SAM NEUA /VH 009579/. THEY WERE TO BE USED IN A PRISONER EXCHANGE WITH THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. SEE [REDACTED] (TDCS-314/09796-69)

4. FIELD DISSEM STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE
CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC IFA/KXP [REDACTED]
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LOCATIONS OF PRISON CAMPS IN LAOS



- L-1 Ban Nakay Teu (VH 195559 20 24N 104 13E)
 - (a) (VH 196550), 6 Jan. 66, 3 US PWs.
 - (b) (VH 194566), Aug. 66, at least 1 US prisoner in cave.
 - (c) (VH 1957), prison in cave, 3-5 US, all reported dead, Dec. 66.
 - (d) (VH 196546), Dec. 66, 4 US.
 - (e) (VH 1955), Dec. 66, Cave with 3 US and 2 others.
- L-2 Muong Phine (XD 090270 16 31N 106 01E)
 - (a) NAMES Air America crew, 5 Sept. 63, held for 12 hours, taken to L-4.
 - (b) NAMES etc., Dec. 63- Mar. 64, held for 100 days, taken to L-12.
- L-3 Nong Hat (UG 946550 19 29N 103 59E)
 - Nov. 61- Feb. 62, 4 US PWs.
- L-4 Ban Thakhong (XD 310460 16 41N 106 13E)
 - NAMES etc., Sept.- Nov. 63, held for 79 days, taken to L-11.
- L-5 Khang Khay (UC 160560 19 29N 103 14E)
 - 10-12 Oct. 63, 1 US.
- L-6 Muong Phine (XD 160360 16 36N 106 05E)
 - Sept. 63, temporary
- L-7 Ia Hierre (YC 600750 16 02N 107 26E)
 - Apr. 66, 130 Special Forces troops receiving ideological reform training.
- L-9 Ban Mang Kham (WE 422323 17 26N 105 24E)
 - NAMES, Sept.- Jan. 67, held 5 months, set free by Lao guerrilla raid.
- L-10 Ban Tha Pha Chon (WE 875053 17 14N 105 49E)
 - (a) NAMES etc., Oct. 64, held for 12 days, taken to L-13
 - (b) NAMES etc., Dec. 64, 10 days for interrogation, taken to L-13.
 - (c) NAMES Sept. 66, held for 1 month, taken to L-9.
 - (d) May 65, US pilot held here by North Vietnamese.
 - (e) June 67, cave with 1 US, vic WE 876051.

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AFS CASUALTY

IN JAMES

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AFDPS Control No. 7246

- L-11 Ban Muong Ankhiam (XD 200760 16 58N 106 07E)
 (a) NAME etc., Nov.- Dec. 63, held for 17 days, taken to L-2.
 (b) NAME recaptured, Aug. 66, held 3 days, taken to L-16.
- L-12 Ban Lang Khang (WE 780410 17 33N 105 44E)
 (a) NAMES etc., 21 Mar.- 3 May 64, escaped, recaptured 7 May 64.
 (b) 7 May 64- Oct. 64, taken to L-10
- L-13 Ban Pa Tan (XD 130950 17 08N 106 04E)
 (a) NAMES etc., Oct.- Dec. 64, taken to L-10 for interrogation.
 (b) NAMES etc., Dec. 64- Dec. 65, Martin arrives 21 Dec. 65, all taken to L-14.
 (c) NAME Aug. 66, 2 nights, taken to L-10.
- L-14 Pha Kan (XD 312924 17 06N 106 14E)
 NAMES etc., Dec. 65- Mar. 66, Dengler arrives Feb. 66, all taken to L-15
- L-15 Houei Kat (XD 300840 17 05N 106 13E)
 NAMES etc., Mar.- June 66, all escaped.
- L-16 Thong Louang (XD 180440 16 40N 106 06E)
 NAME held overnight, Aug. 66, taken to L-17.
- L-17 Ban Houei Hang (XD 220840 17 02N 106 08E)
 NAME Aug. 66, held 4 days, taken to L-17.
- L-19 Lat Houang (UG 090445 19 35N 108 11E)
 May- Sept. 61, Sgt. Ballenger
- L-20 Nong Hat (UG 925560 19 30N 103 58E)
 April- Aug. 62, Sgt. Ballenger
- L-21 Dane Phao (VH 366534 20 23N 104 29E)
 (a) Nov. 66, 3 US PWs in cave.
 (b) Apr. 67, US PWs in cave.
- ✓ ~~L-22~~ Sam Neua (VH 366533)
 (a) July 67, 6 US PWs
 (b) Aug. 67, 6 US PWs
- L-27 Muong Nga (VH 1459)
 July 67, 6 US PWs held in a 2 story building.

(VE 143014)

Aug. 67, 3 US PWs in cave at junction of route 6 and route 65.

Bar Ma Khou

(WD 7683)

Dec. 66, 4 US and 9 Thai moved to Muong Phine (XD 0927).

Xiang Mene

(VE 314590)

April 67, cave with 3 US.



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

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CITE TDCS-314/12572-70

DIST 1 DECEMBER 1971

COUNTRY LAOS

DOI 25 NOVEMBER 1970 AND AS STATED

SUBJECT ENEMY PRISONS IN LAOS

ACQ LAOS, VIENTIANE /26 NOVEMBER 1970/ [REDACTED] I

SOURCE

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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 SALLY /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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