

Lib of Cong  
Reel 461

~~SECRET~~

POSSIBLE/SUSPECT PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS  
AND BRIEFING BOARDS/NOTES

INTRODUCTION

There are 18 possible prisoner of war camps in North Vietnam. A possible or suspect PW camp is one in which there is some information or evidence that it might be, or could have been, used for the detention of American prisoners on a permanent basis. The words "possible" and "suspect" are used interchangeably.

The official names assigned to the possible camps are selected by DIA by the same process used for the confirmed camps: if the installation's name is known, that name is used; if it is not known, a placename near the facility is selected. Inasmuch as no known American prisoners have been held at the possible PW camps on a permanent basis, there are no nicknames for these 18 camps. The location of the 18 possible PW camps are shown on page 200.

This Section contains copies of all the briefing-boards and notes issued to date on the possible PW camps. The camps are listed in alphabetical order.

SECRET

Date: 29 October 1969

NORTH VIETNAM  
BRIEFING NOTES  
ON  
BRIEFING BOARD NO. 10-69-3

1. INSTALLATION: SON TAY Possible PW Camp, N-69
2. <sup>DMP</sup>
3. LOCATION : 21 08 36N 105 30 01E
4. This installation is located on the east bank of the SONG CON (River), 3.6 NM northwest of SON TAY (NIS 21 08N/105 30E) and 0.7 NM south of the SONG HONG HA (Red River).
5. The compound is <sup>DMP</sup> enclosed by a masonry wall about 10 feet high. Inside the compound are 3 quarters-type buildings, 1 latrine/shower, 1 shed and 2 guard towers. One building which appeared in 1967 <sup>was removed</sup> has been removed and its foundation is still visible on current <sup>map</sup>. Nine support buildings are located outside the wall on the east and south sides of the installation. <sup>map</sup> reveals the wall now enclosing the compound was constructed after 17 September 1967.
6. The location of this installation is remarkably close to that of a compound <sup>reported</sup> observed during the period January to September 1967. Source of this information reported seeing approximately 10 U.S. PWs inside the compound during his period of observation. Lack of collateral information precludes verification of this installation as a PW compound.

Date: 13 February 1970

NORTH VIETNAM  
BRIEFING NOTES  
ON  
BRIEFING BOARD NO. 1-70-6

1. INSTALLATION: SON TAY Possible PW Camp, N-69
2. DATA
3. LOCATION : 21 08 36N 105 30 01E
4. This Briefing Board supplements Briefing Board No. 10-69-3 and accompanying Briefing Notes dated 29 October 1969.
5. Photography of 12 December 1969 reveals significant new construction at this facility since 4 July 1969:
  - a. The masonry wall around the compound has been extended 50 feet northward so that it now encloses an area
  - b. Guard towers are located at the southwest and northwest corners of the compound. A possible guard tower is located at the center of the east wall. The guard tower located at the northeast corner of the compound before it was enlarged has been removed.
  - c. There is a gate in the east wall with a guard house at the south end of the gate.
  - d. Two new quarters-type buildings (Annotations 5D and 5E) have been constructed in the compound.
  - e. Outside the compound a thatched-roof support building (Annotation 8A) has been partially dismantled.
  - f. Also outside the compound, a quarters-type building (Annotation 7B) has been newly constructed.
6. The new construction strengthens the possibility that this installation is ~~used~~ for detention purposes, however, no additional collateral information has been received to

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substantiate this theory.

Date: 9 June 1970

NORTH VIETNAM  
BRIEFING NOTES  
ON  
BRIEFING BOARD NO. 5-70-1

1. INSTALLATION: SON TAY PW Camp, N-69
2. DATA
3. LOCATION : 21 08 36N 105 30 01E
4. Briefing Board Nos. 10-69-3 and 1-70-6 and accompanying Briefing Notes are superseded.
5. This installation was identified as a possible PW camp in October 1969 from a reported observation of a detention facility in this vicinity in September 1967. Source of this report described the camp as enclosed by a barbed wire fence on that date. Photo interpretation validated source's description and the existing walls around the compound were determined to have been constructed after September 1967.
6. Between 4 July and 12 December 1969, the compound was enlarged. The walls were extended 50 feet northward and two additional quarters-type buildings (Annotations 5C and 5D) were constructed inside the compound. The building annotated 5A was reported to be two buildings on previously issued Briefing Boards on this installation.
7. In April 1970, information was obtained which confirmed this facility as a currently operational PW camp.

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